

Child Welfare Research and Training Project

AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children

Purpose: Members strengthen families and protect children by building capacity of local communities to implement evidence-informed and evidence-based prevention strategies.

What Members Do	<p>AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children (APPC) members build organizational capacity for communities to support families and children facing the risk of abuse and neglect. They engage local partnership sites and stakeholders in rural and underserved areas at selected Iowa sites to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering in alignment with the mission of Volunteer Iowa ✓ Increase capacity to deliver a coordinated response to prevent child abuse and neglect ✓ Create new or improved tools, processes, and procedures to increase site effectiveness ✓ Develop engagement tools and processes to improve connections among community stakeholders, service providers, and parents/caregivers
Services Provided	<p>Members serve at host sites in Iowa to provide capacity-building support to achieve locally-identified goals within the four Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Shared decision making ✓ Family and Youth Centered Engagement ✓ Neighborhood networking ✓ Policy and Practice Changes
Skill Development Opportunity Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teamwork and communication ✓ Organization and networking skills ✓ Volunteer engagement and management
With Whom Members Interact during their Service Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Local agency host site supervisors and staff ✓ Community members and leaders ✓ Service providers and families/caregivers ✓ Other AmeriCorps members and alumni ✓ ISU's AmeriCorps leadership
Benefit for AmeriCorps Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Learn effective ways to collaborate with local communities ✓ Participate in valuable personal and professional development ✓ Build solid networks ✓ Develop an appreciation for community service ✓ Receive a stipend and educational award
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Operational grant from Volunteer Iowa and cost match from host sites to maintain current program using the CPPC strategies ✓ Planning grant from Volunteer Iowa to design a new ISU Child Welfare AmeriCorps program

