

2025

Annual Impact
Report

MONTANA

CAMPUS NETWORK
FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

MCNCE's mission is to educate students for civic responsibility and partner with communities to inspire, empower and promote community service and civic engagement.

Somehow, 2025 is in the books. And what a year it was. In many ways, it marked a year of firsts for the Montana Campus Network for Civic Engagement (MCNCE), created in 2024 by college and university presidents across Montana to expand community engagement and student service in higher education. Our team supports staff and faculty statewide who ensure Montana's college experience reflects our shared values of community, engaged learning, and service. We measure success by campus participation and partner support, and in 2025, both were stronger than ever.

Among our firsts: welcoming a student from Chief Dull Knife College, Amelio Blackhorse, to the Montana Athletes in Service Awards; hosting Lieutenant Governor Juras at our student gathering; and launching our first and second College Service Grants, supporting 14 students in the College Leaders Cohort. We also received an AmeriCorps Planning Grant from the Governor's Office of Community Service and, for the first time, supported AmeriCorps placements with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Montana Department of Agriculture after funding loss, that temporarily halted our VISTA projects.

Additional highlights: new Advisory Committee leaders Jenah Mead (UM) and Rich Deshields (MCC); Executive Board leadership from Chancellor Hicswa (MSU Billings) and Dean Bauman (Helena College UM); and gratitude to President Cech (Carroll College) for his service. In partnership with the Governor's Office of Community Service, we awarded 84 \$1,250 Youth Serve MT Scholarships, supported 25

AmeriCorps members in summer roles, and honored 15 Student Volunteer Award recipients. We welcomed staff members Daniele Vickers (MCNCE AmeriCorps alum,) Dan Corradini, and Lizzy Daly; completed our fourth Centering Indigenous Knowledge series with Dr. Karla Bird, supported by Humanities Montana; and celebrated our final class of AmeriCorps College Coaches and a dedicated VISTA cohort, including Tammy King and Nick Bennett, who returned to serve after the Federal Government shutdown. As we begin 2026, the need for student service across Montana remains great, and so does our commitment. If you've been part of this work, thank you. Our best is yet to come!

Josh Vanek, Executive Director



CDKC's Don Asbury and Amelio Blackhorse (R) wearing a Cheyenne Dog Soldier cap

Winter Highlight

“I met dozens of students during resource fair event who were struggling with finding housing, or didn't even know where to start when it came to finding an apartment or getting off campus. This fair ended up giving a little over 400 students the knowledge and resources to successfully search for housing and move off campus, which will certainly take a great deal of stress off of them for the remainder of the semester, allowing them to focus more on their classes and college related activities.”

-Vincent Feeley, Full Time AmeriCorps College Coach at Montana State University in Bozeman



Summer Highlight

“Our service is focused on kids. Providing access to food has allowed us to help the community. Summer staff volunteers aim to minimize food insecurity for diverse populations throughout Missoula county. Through resources provided by the food bank community members have been able to have increased access to food security and other resources.”

-Eve Christensen, Summer AmeriCorps member at the Missoula Food Bank and Community Center

Spring Highlight

“Over the course of my time there, I helped run the SMART Schools Challenge program with over 10 schools' and provided administrative and technical assistance that boosted school engagement across the program. Even though it didn't end the way I planned, I'm proud of what I was able to do and the connections I made. It showed me that even short seasons of service can leave a lasting impact—and that's something I'll carry forward into whatever comes next.”

-Emma Burck, Full Time VISTA at the MT Department of Environmental Quality in Helena



Autumn Highlight

“I have been able to support my supervisor with the Elder-in-Residence program, which has been amazing. I am so honored to have been asked to be part of such a fantastic program! I have participated in planning meetings to ensure that the Elder-in-Residence program gets off to a smooth start. My role is to help ensure the program runs smoothly and to ensure that both faculty, staff, and participants have everything they need for a successful week with our elders.”

-Tammy King, Full Time VISTA member at the Native American Achievement Center at MSU Billings

REVENUE	\$
State & Federal Grants	\$690,370
Service Site fees	\$158,170
Campus Affiliation dues	\$54,827
Other Income & Carried forward	\$361,327
Total	\$1,264,694

EXPENSE	\$
Payroll & benefits	\$484,358
Member stipends & benefits	\$262,390
VISTA cost share	\$19,774
Operations & IDC	\$95,016
Scholarships	\$8,000
Total	\$869,538

Financials for Fiscal Year 25
(July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)

BALANCE	\$395,156
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Advisory Committee Members

Kim Barrows, Aaniiih Nakoda College; Elaine Little Plume, Blackfeet Community College; Laurie Rodriguez, Carroll College; Morgan King, Chief Dull Knife College; Daisy Nyberg, Dawson Community College; Wendy Jeschke, Flathead Valley Community College; Elijah Hopkins, Fort Peck Community College; Joshua Archey, Great Falls College; Katelynn Eberhardt, Helena College; Jade Three Irons and Patricia Whiteman, Little Big Horn College; Richard DeShields (Vice Chair), Miles Community College; Kim Cleary and Christa Merzdorf, MSU; Madeline Thomas, Montana Technological University; Rebecca Manna, Montana Western; Bailee Stenger, MSU Billings; Randy Bachmeier and Taryn Wallon, MSU Northern; Dustin Hutchins, Salish Kootenai College; and Jenah Mead (Chair), UM.

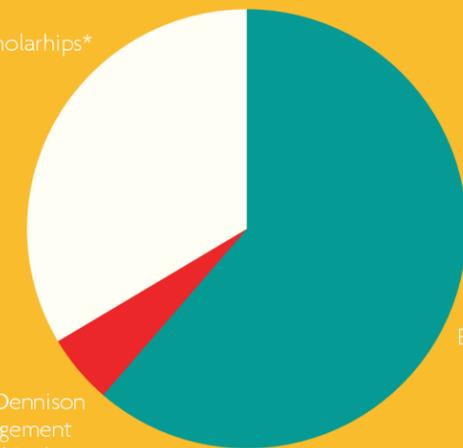
MCNCE Staff

Josh Vanek, Executive Director; Daniel Corradini, Associate Director; Daniele Vickers, Operations Manager; Lizzy Daly, Planning Grant Coordinator; Isabella Culver, Student Engagement Associate; Tierra Iron Shirt, Student Work Study; Layla Riggs, Student Work Study

Scholarship Impact

*Awarded in partnership with Reach Higher Montana and the Governor's Office of Community Service

Youth Serve MT Scholarships*
\$105,000



AmeriCorps Education Awards
\$191,958

George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarships*
\$16,000

National Service Impact

16

Full and Part Time AmeriCorps Service Members

13 college communities benefitted from member service and mentoring.

- 8,768 Hours Served
- Members helped 31 students receive **\$88,805** in scholarships

24

AmeriCorps Summer Members

9 non-profit and educational institutions were served, increasing their capacity for summer educational programming

- **4481** students participated in out-of-school enrichment, college access and success activities
- 1737 students received food and nutrition assistance

5

Full-Time VISTA Members

VISTA members researched, wrote grants, fundraised, and built up capacity for their non profit and education based organizations

- **\$24,197** grant funds were obtained from VISTA members for their organizations, despite a shortened year, due to federal grant cuts

Our Campuses

