



MONTANA CAMPUS COMPACT

IMPACT

REPORT
2019-
2020

Why Our Work Matters

We **ENGAGE STUDENTS** in their communities

We **CATALYZE CAMPUSES** to meet community needs

We **REVITALIZE DEMOCRACY** through community engagement



Montana Campus Compact is a higher education network that advances the public purposes of colleges and universities to improve community life and educate students for civic and social responsibility. In collaboration with our affiliated campuses and community partners:

- ▶ **WE EMPOWER** students, faculty, and staff to co-create mutually beneficial community partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable world.
- ▶ **WE PREPARE** students to be effective and informed citizens in our democracy with the capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.
- ▶ **WE EMBRACE** our responsibilities to contribute to the health of our communities—economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.

INITIATIVES, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

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ELECTION ENGAGEMENT



MTCC was awarded over \$50,000 in 2020 to support nonpartisan election engagement work on MT campuses. With the support of grants from the Students Learn Students Vote Coalition and the Campus Election Engagement Project (CEEP), and in partnership with MontPIRG and the Forward Montana Foundation, MTCC was able to:

- Enroll Rocky Mountain College, MSU Billings, the University of Montana and Flathead Valley Community College as Montana's charter institutions in the All-In Democracy Challenge, which encourages higher ed institutions to help students form the habits of active and informed citizenship, make democratic participation a core value on their campus, and cultivate generations of engaged citizens who are essential to a healthy democracy.
- Support campuses in recruiting five CEEP Student Fellows who registered new student voters, educated students about the election, and spread the word to students about the importance of participation.
- Facilitate a bi-weekly Election Engagement Community of Practice where MTCC campus affiliate staff and faculty shared resources and best practices.
- Host a statewide Election Debrief following the election and provide information to students about engaging with Montana's Legislature.
- Outcomes: Our campuses reported that they worked with well over 3,000 students, directly supporting voter registration, providing nonpartisan information about candidates and issues, and getting students out to vote!

Nationally, CIRCLE (the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement) reported that the 2020 Election had a 52-55% youth voter turnout, up from 42-44% turnout in 2016, and early data from Montana mirrors that trend.



Campus Compact is founded on a commitment to democracy. As a network of college and university campuses, we work together to build a democratic civic culture that values openness, human dignity, diversity, equity, inclusion and truth; that prepares students to be democratic citizens who act on behalf of humane values and the most vulnerable in our midst.

COVID-19 INNOVATIONS

Faced with COVID-19, MTCC staff and AmeriCorps and VISTA members continued serving in new and innovative ways

Beginning in early 2020, MTCC's staff began convening three Communities of Practice to support COVID-19 relief efforts, campus election engagement, and campus food pantries/hunger relief. These three spaces saw diverse participation from campuses, and provided valuable opportunities to share resources, contacts and information.

Aware of equity gaps, members worked hard to engage youth in new and creative ways including educational videos, phone calls, texts, emails, virtual Facebook events, and online meeting platforms. When one member realized she had no way to access her students, she sent them letters via snail mail! Teleservice was not always easy, but members were determined to make it work, and students benefited from their dedication.

Some of the ongoing COVID-19 relief alternative activities include delivering Meals on Wheels; donating homemade masks to tribal elders and members, medical centers, and nursing homes; distributing kids' take home educational materials, developing Facebook Live Story Time; developing STEM educational online videos, and making compassion calls with vulnerable populations.

I M P A C T

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarships: 11 students from 11 Montana campuses received \$1000 for their exemplary community service
- Newman Civic Fellows: 8 students from 8 Montana campuses honored
- Youth Serve Montana Scholarships: 100 Montana high school students were each awarded \$1000 scholarships to Montana Institutions

INITIATIVES

- MLK Read for Peace: 5,461 K-12 youth participated in 18 communities
- Montana Athletes in Service: 14 students from 14 institutions honored
- Montana Student Volunteer Award: 13 students from 13 Campuses honored
- MTCC's Community Building Institute and Building Engaged Citizens provided professional development for 78 individuals

COLLEGE STUDENT VOLUNTEER IMPACT*

- 2,774 students served 18,554 hours with 241 organizations
- Positive economic impact to state of Montana: \$504,669**
- Top 3 Benefits of community engagement as ranked by Students:
 - Made a difference in the community
 - Felt valued and needed in the community
 - Increased communication skill
- Top 3 Community needs being met through student service
 - Education • Human Services • Environment
- Top 3 Motivations for students to volunteer as ranked by students:
 - Help Others • Required for class/group • Build résumé

* From MTCC Student Engagement Survey at 8 Campuses

** IndependentSector.org: Value of a Volunteer Hour \$27.20

VISTA

CAPACITY BUILDING



MTCC matches AmeriCorps VISTA members with colleges, universities, schools, and nonprofit organizations throughout Montana. In their role, AmeriCorps VISTAs work to promote educational equity and eliminate poverty through assessment of community needs, bolstering local initiatives, leveraging local and federal funding, developing and implementing new programming and curriculum, and expanding resources available to veterans. In addition to hosting full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members, MTCC also hosts a Summer Associate class. These members are placed in ten-week terms focusing on mitigating summer learning loss, ensuring food security, and supporting veterans services.

In 2019-2020, 15 MTCC AmeriCorps VISTA members served across seven communities building capacity through mentorship programs, establishing K-12 schools and college partnerships promoting college readiness, and focused on projects around retention and completion at Montana colleges geared toward Native American and Veteran students. 31 Summer Associates served in six communities, engaging youth in academic summer programming and combating food insecurity through planning and preparing healthy meals.

“Since becoming a VISTA, I have been able to peek into a courageousness, resourcefulness, and determination I never knew I possessed.”

— Chloe Weber, MTCC VISTA Member at UM Western

AMERICORPS

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

“I serve because students deserve someone who believes in them.”
— Lana Petrie, MTCC AmeriCorps Senior Leader

MTCC AmeriCorps members serve a diverse population of K-12 students including BIPOC (black, indigenous, people of color), refugees, and veterans and military family members. MTCC AmeriCorps members support educational equity with first generation and low-income students by helping them overcome individual barriers. Members strive to ensure that every child has an equal opportunity for success through providing coaching and support to first generation and low-income K-12 students and families. AmeriCorps members provide a variety of direct service activities such as supporting youth-focused programming, offering college application nights, support with completing FAFSA applications, and normalizing the idea and practice of going to college. MTCC AmeriCorps teams are placed with existing campus-based programs such as those supported with TRiO funding.

One in six Montana children struggle with food insecurity and MTCC AmeriCorps members support hunger alleviation efforts as a key part of educational equity. Over the past year members facilitated weekend crockpot and backpack programs; served at community gardens and campus food pantries; and, during COVID, delivered groceries to students along with recipes the students had to find online and convert to family size portions using math skills.



IMPACT

VISTA

- 15 yearlong VISTAs served either directly or in partnerships with MTCC affiliate campuses; 31 summer VISTAs served across Montana
- 49,434 individuals were served through VISTA supported projects
- 762 individuals mentored through MTCC VISTA summer programming
- 11,895 service hours performed by 1108 recruited volunteers
- 16,611 disadvantaged children and youth served
- 3,488 veterans and military family members received assistance
- 198 nonprofits, schools, colleges and universities received capacity building services
- \$630,217 in cash resources leveraged



AMERICORPS

- 15 AmeriCorps leaders and 46 college student team members served in 20+ communities, including 4 Tribal Nations: Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, Crow and Northern Cheyenne Nations, Blackfeet Nation
- 2,588 youth and 621 tribal members served
- 465 mentor/mentee matches
- 94 high school students received scholarship support
- 834 youth participated in college campus visits
- 47 high school students received FAFSA support
- 86 students engaged in financial literacy training

WHO WE ARE

OUR CAMPUSES

Blackfeet Community College • Carroll College • Dawson Community College • Flathead Valley Community College • Fort Peck Community College • Helena College UM • Little Big Horn College • Miles Community College • Montana State University • MSU Billings • Great Falls College MSU • MSU Northern • Montana Tech • Rocky Mountain College • Salish Kootenai College • University of Providence • University of Montana • University of Montana Western

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Seth Bodnar, President, University of Montana • Russ Cargo, Principal, Third Sector Services • Waded Cruzado, President, Montana State University • Dan Edelman, Chancellor, Montana State University Billings • Jane Karas, President, Flathead Valley Community College • McCall Flynn, Education Policy Advisor, Montana Governor's Office

CEO COUNCIL

Executive Board Members plus: Sandra Boham, President, Salish Kootenai College • John Cech, President, Carroll College • Les Cook, Chancellor, Montana Tech • Fr. Oliver Doyle, Interim President, University of Providence • Dan Edelman and Rolf Groseth, Chancellors, Montana State University Billings • Haven Gourneau, President, Fort Peck Community College • Greg Kegel, Chancellor, MSU Northern • Ron Slinger, President, Miles CC • Sandra Bauman, Dean, Helena College UM • Scott Mickelsen, President, Dawson Community College • Karla Bird, President, Blackfeet Community College • Beth Weatherby, Chancellor, UM Western • Robert Wilmouth, President, Rocky Mountain College • Susan Wolff, Dean, Great Falls College MSU • David Yarlott Jr., President, Little Big Horn College

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joshua Archey, Great Falls MSU • Randy Bachmaier, MSU Northern • Shayla Brown, Rocky Mountain College • Pete Buchanan, MSU Billings • Ilene Cohen, UM Western • Richard DeShields, Miles Community College • Dan Durglo, Salish Kootenai College • Jennifer Glowienka, Carroll College • Elijah Hopkins, Fort Peck Community College • Wendy Jeschke, Flathead Valley CC • Angela King, Helena College of UM • Jon Langlois, Dawson CC • Christa Merzdorf, Montana State University • Stephanie Schnider, University of Providence • Amy Verlanic, Montana Tech • Patricia Whiteman-Pickett, Little Big Horn College • Katie Wilkins, University of MT • Heidi Worley, Montana State University

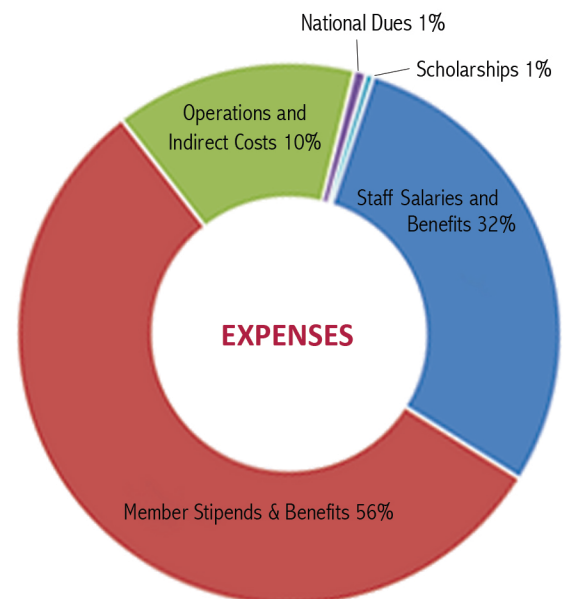
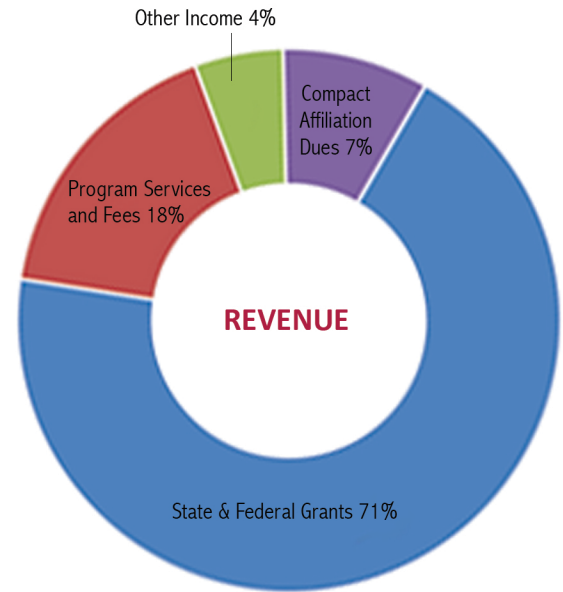
MTCC STAFF and NATIONAL SERVICE LEADERS

Eli Bowe, AmeriCorps Leader • Dannette Fadness, AmeriCorps Program Manager • Claire Foley, AmeriCorps Program Specialist • Callye Foster, VISTA Program Manager • Laura Fellin, Finance Coordinator • Paxton McCausland, VISTA Leader • Kathy Peters, Program Coordinator • Josh Vanek, Associate Director • Andrea Vernon, Executive Director

FUNDING PARTNERS



FINANCIALS



REVENUE

State and Federal Grants	\$ 743,525
Fee for Service/Program Support	\$ 188,375
Compact Affiliation Dues	\$ 67,949
Other Income, Reimbursement, Funds Carried Forward	\$ 46,409
Revenue Subtotal	\$ 1,046,258

EXPENSES

Staff Salaries & Benefits	\$ 314,038
Member Stipends & Benefits	\$ 567,558
Operations & IDC	\$ 96,240
National Dues	\$ 8,224
Scholarships	\$ 5,500
Expenditures Subtotal	\$ 991,560

BALANCE

\$ 54,698