



**Andy Beshear**  
GOVERNOR

## CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

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**Statewide News Release**

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### **Gov. Beshear: Kentucky Secures Nearly \$25 Million To Support Education, Basic Needs of Kentuckians**

*\$13.8 million in AmeriCorps grants combine with more than \$6 million matching funds, \$4.9 million in education awards*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 4, 2024)** – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced that more than \$24.7 million is on the way to support the educational and social needs of Kentucky children and families.

“AmeriCorps-funded programs embody what Team Kentucky is all about – being there for our neighbors, our fellow Kentuckians,” said **Gov. Beshear**. “This funding plays a vital role in providing essential services across the state, including support for aging Kentuckians, disaster relief, K-12 tutoring and mentoring, college readiness, housing assistance, environmental education, public health initiatives and food support services.”

The funds include \$13.8 million in AmeriCorps federal grants, combined with more than \$6 million in private and public matching funds to provide help with housing, clothing and food to Kentuckians in need, and to provide tutoring, teaching and other educational services for students in all grade levels through post-secondary education. Funds also help health departments, senior centers and hospice facilities meet the basic needs of Kentuckians.

The AmeriCorps federal agency will make available \$4.9 million in education awards for program participants. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members are eligible for \$7,395 for college, postsecondary education or to pay back student loans. Learn more about AmeriCorps in this one-minute national [PSA](#) that was filmed in Louisville last year with local members and staff.



Click here to view the [AmeriCorps grant recipients](#). The funding breakdown includes more than \$10.2 million in national competitive grant funding for 10 AmeriCorps programs, including two Public Health AmeriCorps programs; nearly \$3.6 million in formula grant funding to support 11 additional state programs and six planning grants; AmeriCorps program sponsors are also contributing \$6 million in local cash or in-kind match; and the AmeriCorps federal agency will make available \$4.9 million in [education awards](#).

Examples of awardees include [PartnerCorps PRI](#), where 66 AmeriCorps members mentor and tutor high school students to increase math achievement in Bell, Clay, Harlan, Knox, Leslie, Letcher, Perry and Whitley counties. Additionally, the AmeriCorps members will leverage 80 volunteers who will be engaged in connecting students with postsecondary information and career experiences.

“In Eastern Kentucky, schools are the heart of community,” said Partners for Rural Impact President and CEO **Dreama Gentry**. “Our AmeriCorps program, known as PartnerCorps, strengthens schools in Bell, Clay, Harlan, Knox, Leslie, Letcher, Perry and Whitley counties by providing them with local talent to mentor and tutor students and to engage families. We have run PartnerCorps since 2013 and know that it and other AmeriCorps programs are a solution to the teacher crisis Eastern Kentucky schools are facing. Many PartnerCorps alumni are now teachers and counselors in the same schools where they served.”

Through the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), [Serve Kentucky](#) currently administers 22 AmeriCorps program grants with more than \$14.3 million in federal funds, along with supporting other statewide community service programs.

“This funding is a critical part of the work we do to create a commonwealth where every Kentuckian reaches their full human potential and all communities thrive,” said CHFS Secretary **Eric Friedlander**. “Every Kentuckian has a unique talent that can be shared, and our AmeriCorps-funded programs help unlock these special gifts that create better, more resilient communities and lives for all.”

“AmeriCorps members harness their talents, vision and boundless energy to create both immediate and enduring positive change in Kentucky,” said Serve Kentucky Executive Director **Joe Bringardner**.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations that mobilize members to strengthen communities. This is achieved through partnerships with faith-based and nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, local government entities and state agencies.

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Information on how the state is working to improve the lives and health of our people is available at [CHFS.ky.gov](https://chfs.ky.gov). Follow the cabinet on [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).