



### Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism





ANNUAL REPORT **2008-2009** 







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### STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



MARTIN O'MALLEY GOVERNOR

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Dear Fellow Marylanders,

I am pleased to present to you the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism's 2009 Annual Report, detailing the accomplishments of our Office as well as the leadership of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

The Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) promotes community and national service and is the State funding agency for the national AmeriCorps\*State grant program. Members of the Commission support the Office's promotional activities as service ambassadors, and they review and approve all Maryland AmeriCorps\*State funding applications each year. In all, our staff and Commissioners work together to invest and manage approximately \$5 million in federal resources across Maryland each year.

While the financial investment is significant, it is the impact on our communities that is most impressive. These grants support the tremendous service efforts of hundreds of AmeriCorps members, citizens who dedicate one year of their lives to intensive community service, and thousands of local volunteers. Together, AmeriCorps program staff, members, partners, and volunteers provide immeasurable human and environmental services. They tutor youth, deliver meals to homebound seniors, help restore the Chesapeake Bay and much, much more.

On behalf of entire O'Malley-Brown Administration, we look forward to continuing our efforts through the Office on Service and Volunteerism in partnership with the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism to provide vital services for all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley Governor



### A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives (GOCI) coordinates community and volunteer activities statewide and advises the Governor on policies to enhance and improve community programs. This office oversees the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV), Volunteer Maryland, and community outreach in cooperation with the Governor's Intergovernmental Affairs Office. The office also coordinates outreach to ethnic communities across Maryland through the Commission Division of GOCI, which includes the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Hispanic Affairs, the Governor's Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, the Governor's Commission on African Affairs, the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture.

House Bill 782 codified the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives and made the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism a unit of GOCI. Doing so demonstrated the importance of service and volunteerism in Maryland and underscores the commitment of the Governor's Office.

Barbara Ellen Reynolds is the Director of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism. Barbara oversees the day-to-day operations of the GOSV and works with Frank M. Johnson, the Chair of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, to support the full commission, oversee AmeriCorps grant-making activities, and promote and recognize outstanding volunteerism by Maryland citizens.

This report is reflective of the commitment and dedication of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism and the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism to the residents of the State of Maryland.

Israel C. "Izzy" Patoka Executive Director Governor's Office of Community Initiatives





### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, I am pleased to present this 2009 Annual Report. This report includes accomplishments and future goals of the Office on Service and Volunteerism, a state agency housed within the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, and the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, a diverse volunteer-body appointed by the Governor.

Our commission is passionate about volunteer service – and we are proud to work with the Governor as service ambassadors and AmeriCorps funders. As service ambassadors, all of our commission members promote service and volunteerism in our communities and networks, and we frequently attend local events to formally recognize outstanding volunteers and promote AmeriCorps service. As funders, we work with the Director of the Office on Service and Volunteerism to review and approve all AmeriCorps\*State grant applications.

This report summarizes our accomplishments in these two areas and presents an overview of our Maryland State Service Plan for 2010 – 2013. This plan was created and will be implemented in partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency that funds all AmeriCorps activities.

We thank Governor Martin O'Malley and Lt. Governor Anthony Brown for their vision, leadership, and continued support for the GOSV and the Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

Frank M. Johnson, Chair Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) creates, promotes, and supports volunteer service efforts that engage all Marylanders to strengthen our communities. Each year, the GOSV recognizes the individual contributions of volunteers and leads state-wide events to shine the spotlight on the importance of volunteerism to the State, in communities, and to individuals. This recognition is provided by the Governor, the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, and in partnership with M&T Bank and the Baltimore Ravens. In 2009, the GOSV honored more than 23,000 citizens and volunteer groups for their extraordinary service.

In addition, staff of the GOSV work with the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism to review and approve all AmeriCorps\*State funding in Maryland. AmeriCorps is a national program that provides human and financial resources to help tackle some of our country's toughest problems. In general, AmeriCorps projects improve our schools and other education programs, preserve and protect the environment, improve public safety, and help meet our basic human needs (food, shelter, employment, etc.). AmeriCorps is a resource for both organizations and individual citizens who want to make a real difference in our State.

In 2008 - 2009, the GOSV and Commission approved and managed \$4.5 million worth of AmeriCorps grants for 16 programs across the State. These programs engaged 800 citizens in AmeriCorps service and mobilized more than 17,000 local community volunteers. The GOSV and Commission also awarded \$50,000 in AmeriCorps planning grants to three local organizations.



2009 brought a number of new opportunities for the GOSV. These included:

- Maryland AmeriCorps Alumni marched with the national AmeriCorps Alums group in the Inauguration Parade on January 20 and participated in the national "I Am AmeriCorps" Campaign throughout the year.
- President Obama signed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act on April 21. This Act provides a compelling road map for strengthening and expanding AmeriCorps and community service in the years ahead.
- The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) brought \$1.1 million in AmeriCorps funding for 10 local and state organizations. The Maryland ARRA grants provide AmeriCorps service opportunities for nearly 200 citizens.
- The Corporation for National and Community Service released a report on national volunteerism trends.
   This report underscored the value of volunteerism to Maryland citizens and to the communities and organizations where they donate their valuable time.
   The report included data from 2006 2008; each year, 1.3 million Marylanders volunteer in hundreds of nonprofit agencies across the State. These volunteers contribute 192 million hours of service, and the dollar value of this service is nearly \$4 billion. Top volunteer activities in Maryland included fundraising, collecting and distributing food, and mentoring youth.
- The GOSV forged new partnerships with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations (Maryland Nonprofits). In May, the GOSV and CNCS led a Renew America Opportunities Fair for Maryland and Delaware AmeriCorps members and program staff. In November, the GOSV partnered with Maryland Nonprofits to host a Reception to Honor Service and Volunteerism at its' annual conference.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

### Franklin M. Johnson, Jr., Chair (Carroll County)

- Legislative Director and Senior Assistant County Attorney for Carroll County
- Secretary of the Carroll County Council of Governments
- President of the Carroll County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League

### Maurice "Mac" Nachlas, Vice Chair (Baltimore City)

- Business Development Manager for Pacific Star Communications, Inc.
- President of the Mount Washington Improvement Association

### Lucille Ann Blackman, Secretary (Baltimore County)

- Teacher at the St. Paul's School for Girls
- Founder of the Common Senses Foundation

### Crystal Biles (Federal Government)

- Director for Maryland and Delaware State Office of the Corporation for National and Community Service
- AmeriCorps\*Volunteers In Service To America/VISTA alumna

### Nancy Grasmick (State of Maryland)

State Superintendent of Schools

### Mark Heckman (Baltimore City)

- Principal at Marks, Thomas Architects since 1996
- Member of the Urban Land Institute and Congress of New Urbanism

### Catherine Chen Hester (Howard County)

- · Director of Services for FIRN, Inc.
- AmeriCorps alumna

### Melvin Hotz (Baltimore County)

- Licensed Professional Engineer (retired)
- Secretary of the Baltimore Chapter of the American Society for Technion University

### Margaret Kim (Howard County)

- President and Chief Operating Officer of AllCare of Maryland, LLC
- Vice President of the Korean American Community Association of Howard County, Inc.

### Cherie A. Krug (Allegany County)

- Director of Major Gifts for the Department of University Advancement at Frostburg State University
- Board Member of the United Way of Allegany County

### Betsy W. Lafferty (Baltimore County)

- Pastoral Associate for Faith and Justice Ministries with the Corpus Christi Catholic Church
- Volunteer Administrator for the Maryland Department of Human Resources and Catholic Charities

### Tonja Lark (Prince George's County)

- Grants Officer for the United States Department of Education
- Founder and President/CEO of Daughter for the Day, Inc.

### Fay Mauro (Anne Arundel County)

- Founding Executive Director of the Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County
- Chair of the Coordinators of Volunteers of Anne Arundel County

### Joseph V. Murray, Sr. (Howard County)

- Director of Community Relations for the Ascend One Corporation
- President Emeritus of the Board of Directors for the ARC of Howard County

### Lupi Quinteros-Grady (Prince George's County)

- Deputy Director of the Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers
- Member of the Prince George's County Board of Education Task Force on Suspension and Expulsion Reduction

### James L. Rapp (Wicomico County)

- Executive Director of Delmarva Low-Impact Tourism Experiences
- President of Assateague Coastal Trust

### Theresa Testoni (Montgomery County)

- Chair of the Board for the Menare Foundation, Inc.
- Member of the Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent's Advisory Board on Student Service Learning

### **Brady Walker (Worcester County)**

- Student at the University of Baltimore School of Law
- · Chair of the University System of Maryland Student Council

### **STAFF**

Barbara Ellen Reynolds

Director

Jennifer Bernhard

**Program Officer** 

Jeanne Hegarty

Special Projects Coordinator

**Deborah McClung** Program Officer

Kate Scherr

Nate Sellell

Grants and Resource Officer



### MARYLAND STATE SERVICE PLAN

The State Service Plan that follows is the current work plan for the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) as of December 2009. It was developed with public input via a survey of Maryland citizens conducted in October 2009. The State Service Plan includes areas of development and strategies for 2010 – 2013. The GOSV and the Commission will focus, in broad strokes, on these areas of development: resource development and grants management; sustainability of staff and operations; Commission training and development; and promoting and marketing national service and volunteerism across Maryland. Selected strategies and action items to support these areas of development include:

Strategy #1 Recognize extraordinary service of Maryland volunteers in all communities

Action Item: Create and lead annual volunteer recognition events

Action Item: Partner with M & T Bank and the Baltimore Ravens to honor outstanding youth service as part of the

Honor Rows Program

Strategy #2 Build the capacity of Maryland service organizations to effectively mobilize and manage volunteers

Action Item: Convene an annual conference on volunteer management

Action Item: Provide scholarships for training and conferences to build AmeriCorps program staff skills in

volunteer management

Strategy #3 Market available AmeriCorps funding resources in Maryland

Action Item: Publicize AmeriCorps\*State funding opportunities: Competitive, Formula, and Community Service

and Professional Development Grants

Action Item: Conduct technical assistance workshops on funding application procedures

Strategy #4 Expand awareness of national service opportunities and programs

Action Item: Provide on-line training workshops and public information sessions to promote all Maryland national

service and AmeriCorps programs

Action Item: Post marketing materials and information for all streams of national service on the web site

Strategy #5 Expand service opportunities for Marylanders age 55 and older

Action Item: Compile data on volunteer rates and opportunities for older adults in the state

Action Item: Conduct a marketing campaign on the benefits of volunteer participation for older adults





### **VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION**

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) works with a number of partners to provide opportunities for nonprofits, businesses, and schools to honor the contributions of local volunteers. From state-wide events, like the Governor's Volunteer Award Ceremony during National Volunteer Week, to 10,000 individual service certificates awarded to citizens, the GOSV shone the spotlight on the importance of volunteerism and honored the commitment and diversity of Maryland volunteers throughout 2009.

### Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

The Governor's Volunteer Service Awards is an annual recognition event for extraordinary volunteers across Maryland. Nominations are accepted in March, and a selection panel of nonprofit and business professionals, volunteers, and AmeriCorps members and alumni convene to review all nominations. The Awards Ceremony typically occurs during National Volunteer Week (the third week in April) in Annapolis; all nominees and nominators are invited, and each recipient is presented with an award. On April 20, the Governor's Office honored 38 individuals and volunteer groups for their dedication and service to Maryland.

### Governor's Volunteer Appreciation Day at the Marvland State Fair

Each year, the Governor honors Maryland's 1.3 million volunteers with a special invitation to enjoy the Maryland State Fair. The event includes a discounted entrance fee for up to five volunteers (per invitation) and discounts on rides and food. On August 30, 13,000 Marylanders came out to enjoy the Fair and celebrate the importance of volunteerism for local communities.

### **Honor Rows Program**

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism has partnered with M & T Bank and the Baltimore Ravens to honor youth service and youth-serving organizations through the Honor Rows program. Honorees are selected by a panel of youth service leaders with the assistance of the Baltimore Ravens, M & T Bank staff, and the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism. At each Baltimore Ravens home game during the 2009 regular season, honorees received: 100 game tickets for youth and chaperones, special ingame seating and gear, official in-game recognition of honorees on the SMARTVISION screen, and recognition on WBFF-Fox 45 and The CW Baltimore. In 2009, 15 youth groups and over 700 volunteers were recognized for their vital service as part of the Honor Rows program.







### **AMERICORPS IN MARYLAND**

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV) is the State agency that administers the Maryland AmeriCorps\*State grant program. AmeriCorps is a federal program funded and administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service. The program consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps\*State and National, AmeriCorps\*VISTA, and AmeriCorps\*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps).

The GOSV staff work with the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism to review, approve, and monitor all AmeriCorps\*State activities. In 2008 – 2009, the GOSV and Commission approved \$4.5 million in AmeriCorps\*State funding. This funding supported 16 AmeriCorps programs and three local planning grants and provided national service opportunities for more than 800 Maryland citizens.

Together, these organizations and AmeriCorps members tackled some of our State's toughest problems and engaged more than 17,000 local volunteers in community service. From preserving the Chesapeake Bay to serving meals to homebound seniors, these

AmeriCorps network made a big difference in the lives of our citizens and in the health of our communities.

In addition, the GOSV approved \$1.1 million in AmeriCorps American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding in July 2009. These additional funds, as part of the federal stimulus program, will provide nearly 200 additional AmeriCorps service opportunities.

In 2009, the GOSV awarded and administered \$25,000 in federal funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service to support local community service projects and staff development of AmeriCorps program and volunteer center directors. These funds helped local nonprofits across Maryland mobilize community volunteers at a variety of local, state, and national service events, including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Make a Difference Day, and National AmeriCorps Week. They also provided reasonable accommodations to help AmeriCorps members serve their communities, scholarships to local and national professional conferences, and outreach materials for AmeriCorps programs and volunteer centers.

### MARYLAND AMERICORPS\*STATE PROGRAMS 2008 - 2009

A STAR! In Western Maryland (Appalachian Service through Action and Resources) placed AmeriCorps members at various service agencies to provide support and assistance to youth, families, seniors, and more. (Allegany, Garrett, Frederick, Washington, and Carroll Counties)

AIM for Excellence (Achievement, Investment in Communities, Mobilization of Volunteers) AmeriCorps members provided classroom assistance and afterschool enrichment activities in Baltimore City and County Public Schools and Baltimore City Parks and Recreation Centers. (Baltimore City, Baltimore County) The Academy of Success, Inc. AmeriCorps members provided structured after-school programming for high-risk youth in southwest Baltimore. (Baltimore City)

Civic Works – Service Corps AmeriCorps members, ages 17 – 25, increased the ability of local nonprofit agencies to serve Baltimore citizens while learning life and citizenship skills. (Baltimore City, Baltimore County)

Community Art Corps AmeriCorps members developed hands-on art-making workshops, which helped community members address issues such as environmentalism and social justice. (Baltimore City)



Civic Works – Service Corps AmeriCorps members developed valuable life and work/career skills during their terms of service. They attended life and citzenship training sessions and staff coached them on job hunting skills and professional workplace behavior.



Community Mediation Corps AmeriCorps members worked with 10 community mediation centers throughout Maryland to resolve interpersonal, family, and community conflict.

Community Mediation Corps AmeriCorps members worked with 10 local mediation centers throughout Maryland and provided free or low cost mediation services. (State-wide)

Experience Corps – Baltimore City placed senior AmeriCorps members in Baltimore City Public Elementary Schools to improve educational and social outcomes for students while also promoting the health and quality of life of older adults. (Baltimore City)

Experience Corps – Baltimore County engaged older adults in four Dundalk area schools to provide classroom support for elementary students. (Baltimore County)

Habitat for Humanity AmeriCorps members provided stable, affordable housing to families in need. (Anne Arundel County)

**Loyola Counseling Corps** created an AmeriCorps program to provide college preparation courses, resources, and consultation for Baltimore City High School Students. (Baltimore City)

Maryland Conservation Corps AmeriCorps members restored, monitored, and enhanced public lands, conducted educational programs, and engaged citizens in conservation projects across the State. (State-wide)



A STAR! In Western Maryland
AmeriCorps members helped
the Garrett County Health
Department provide parenting
and healthy families trainings/
screenings, flouride treatments
and hand-washing lessons
to elementary students, and
presentations on current health
care issues for teens. Through
the Frederick Community Action
Committee, AmeriCorps members
provided weekend meals for
children and food and shelter
assistance.



Maryland Conservation Corps AmeriCorps members improved the health of the Cheseapeake Bay by planting forest buffers and grasses, restoring wetlands, and monitoring Bay waterways.





Partnership for Adolescents on the Lower Shore AmeriCorps members helped mentor 9,390 youth in eight counties. Many of these youth showed improvements in attitude, school attendance, grades, and test scores.

### Partnership for Adolescents on the Lower Shore

(PALS) AmeriCorps members provided tutoring, mentoring, conflict resolution, family support services, health education, and counseling services to families. (Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset, Talbot, Kent, Wicomico, Queen Anne's, and Worcester Counties)

**Project CHANGE** AmeriCorps members provided critical human services in Montgomery County communities with a high concentration of poor and/or transient residents. (Montgomery County)

**Teach For America – Baltimore** AmeriCorps members taught at public schools across Baltimore City, impacting the lives of nearly 11,000 K-12 students. (Baltimore City)

**Tri-County AmeriCorps Service Project** AmeriCorps members served in community-based organizations in southern Maryland to improve the quality of life for children, youth, and families through direct services. (Charles, St. Mary's, and Calvert Counties)

Volunteer Maryland AmeriCorps members served as volunteer coordinators at a variety of human and environmental service nonprofits across Maryland. (State-wide)



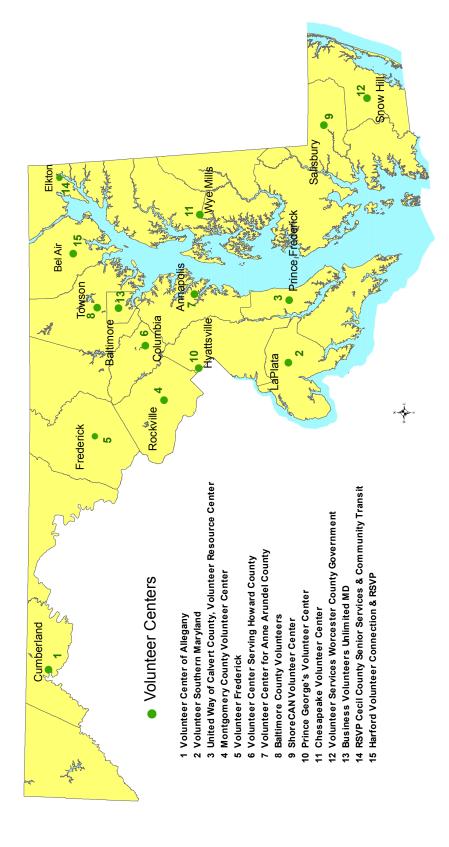




Volunteer Maryland AmeriCorps members helped older adults remain independent and living in their own homes by working with Partners In Care in Anne Arundel County. AmeriCorps members also worked to end child abuse and neglect by helping The Family Tree create Parent Anonymous® education and support groups in Anne Arundel, Howard, and Carroll Counties.

### **APPENDIX A**

## The Maryland Volunteer Center Network 2009

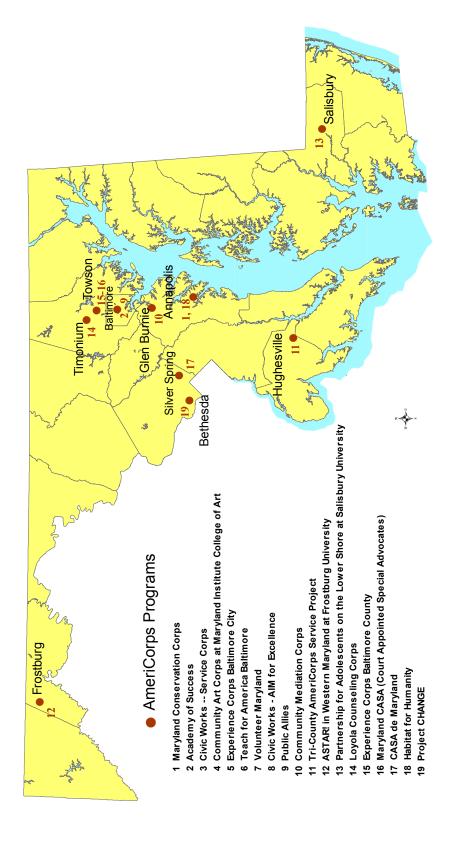


Map prepared for the Governor's Office of Coummunity Initiatives by the Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services



## APPENDIX B

# AmeriCorps State Programs in Maryland 2008 -2009



Map prepared for the Governor's Office of Coummunity Initiatives by the Maryland Department of Planning, Planning Data Services

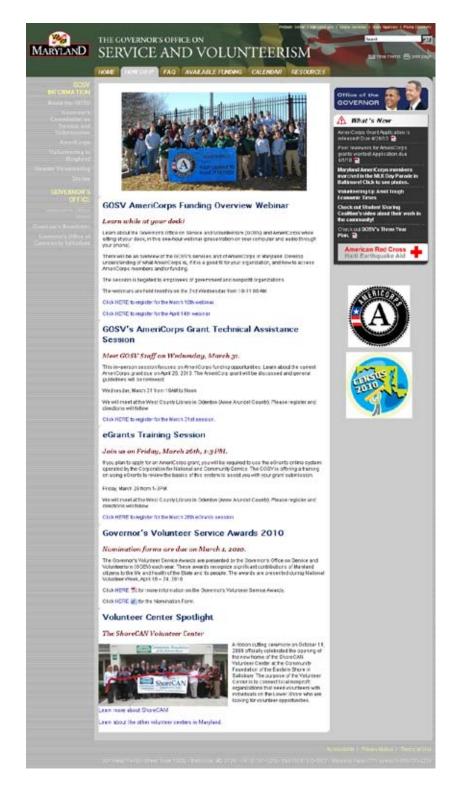
### APPENDIX C

### 2010 Calendar and National Days of Service

January	<b>18</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and Baltimore Parade						
February	9-15 Random Acts of Kindness Week	<b>10</b> Public Information Webinar	24 AmeriCorps State Formula Grant Application Instructions Available				
March	1 Nominations due to GOSV for Governor's Volunteer Service Awards	<b>10</b> Public Information Webinar	31 Public Information Session				
April	AmeriCorps Grant Peer Reviewer Applications Due to GOSV	Public Information Webinar	<b>18-24</b> National Volunteer Week	Governor's Volunteer Service Awards and Reception	22 Earth Day	23-25 Global Youth Service Day	AmeriCorps State Formula Grant Application Due to GOSV
May	1 Join Hands Day	<b>8-15</b> National AmeriCorps Week	<b>12</b> Public Information Webinar				
June	9 Public Information Webinar	28-30 National Conference on Volunteering and Service in New York City, NY					
July	<b>14</b> Public Information Webinar						
August	Public Information Session	29 Governor's Volunteer Appreciation Day at the Maryland State Fair					
September	8 Public Information Webinar	<b>11</b> National Day of Service and Remembrance	29 Public Information Session				
October	13 Public Information Webinar	23 Make a Difference Day		•			
November	5 International Volunteer Manager's Appreciation Day	<b>10</b> Public Information Webinar	22 National Family Volunteer Day	29 2011 Community Service and Staff Development Grant Applications Due to GOSV			
December	<b>5</b> International Volunteer Day						



### The GOSV's Website



www.gosv.state.md.us

### Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism

301 W. Preston Street, 15th Floor Baltimore, MD 21201 410-767-1216 (Phone) 410-333-5957 (Fax) 1-800-735-2258 (Maryland Relay) www.gosv.state.md.us (Website)

Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor Israel C. "Izzy" Patoka, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Community Initiatives Barbara Ellen Reynolds, Director, Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism

