



2010-11 Meaning of Service Program *Application Period Now Open!*

The New York Council for the Humanities offers a **free program for AmeriCorps sites** called [The Meaning of Service](#), using short readings and facilitated discussion to help AmeriCorps members deepen their service experience and their community engagement. The Council for the Humanities is accepting applications for their 2010-11 [Meaning of Service](#) program and invite you to apply to host this impactful program for your members. *The Meaning of Service* is currently hosted by twelve AmeriCorps programs across New York State, from Buffalo to Long Island.

Please read over the [guidelines and application](#) and contact Anna Links, Program Officer with the Council for the Humanities with any questions at 212-233-1131 or by email at alinks@nyhumanities.org.

Of the 2009-10 AmeriCorps members that participated in the Meaning of Service program....

- ✓ **93%** said it challenged them to think more deeply about their impact on others
- ✓ **91%** said it helped them examine the complexities of service
- ✓ **81%** said it improved their AmeriCorps experience
- ✓ **78%** said it helped them make more sense of their AmeriCorps experience
- ✓ **75%** said it improved their relationship with other AmeriCorps members
- ✓ **74%** said it increased their commitment to service

The impact is tremendous, and it is positive. For the program, **it means that more members stay to the end of their year of service** and earn their educational award. The retention rate goes up.

- Irina Miagkova
Future Leaders of Westchester

Meaning of Service is very valuable because I want to know the thoughts and opinions of my members . . . I want to understand their experience so that I can aid them in **getting the most out of their time with the AmeriCorps program.**

- Melissa Gelber
Red Hook Safety Corps

It was a moment where I really did reflect on what I was doing in my position and how it influenced the larger community and even the world. This was really beneficial to me, to **help me stay motivated.**

- Rochester AmeriCorps

(Meaning of Service) has **helped them develop relationships with each other** . . . They have drawn on these relationships outside their Meaning of Service sessions to help strengthen their service experience and address challenges.

- Olivia O'Hare
Community HealthCorps