

BARNSTABLE COUNTY



2016-2017

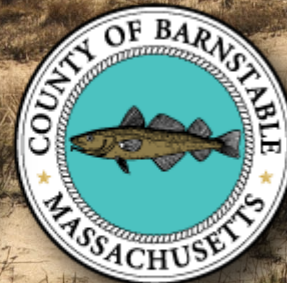
YEAR 18

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



OUR MISSION

THE BARNSTABLE COUNTY AMERICORPS CAPE COD PROGRAM IS DEDICATED TO SERVING THE CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMUNITY NEEDS OF CAPE COD THROUGH NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT.



Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

**21ST CENTURY
CONSERVATION
SERVICE CORPS**

AMERICORPS CAPE COD YEAR 18



Dear Reader,

On behalf of the Barnstable County Commissioners, Mary Pat Flynn, Ron Beaty, and Leo Cakounes, I would like to acknowledge and commend the efforts of the eighteenth corps of 32 AmeriCorps members who have passionately and energetically provided a year of service to the Cape Cod community. The AmeriCorps members' continued initiative, creativity, and dedication have enhanced our program's breadth and depth of service, raising the bar for the next year of member service to Barnstable County.

This year, AmeriCorps national is celebrating its 23rd anniversary. This past October marked the milestone of the one millionth member to have taken the AmeriCorps pledge to serve our country. Members have provided over one billion hours of service by educating our youth, protecting our environment, responding to disasters and strengthening our communities.

The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program is proud to be celebrating its eighteenth year of service to the Cape Cod community. Over four hundred and fifty men and women have served as AmeriCorps Cape Cod members, providing more than 780,000 hours of service to Barnstable County.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod is a four-time national award-winning program recognized by the United States Congress, Massachusetts State Senate and the American Red Cross as one of the most innovative and accomplished programs in the United States. The program has also received the National Association of Counties' "Acts of Caring Award" and twice won the Innovations in Civic Participation's "Transforming Communities through Community Service" award. This year, the program received the designation as a 21st Century Conservation Service Corps. The program has been awarded federal funds through the Massachusetts Service Alliance from the Corporation for National and Community Service to continue AmeriCorps Cape Cod programming over the next year.

In September, AmeriCorps Cape Cod will begin its 19th year. We are fortunate to have dedicated support comprised of service partners, advisory board members, alumni, volunteers, and staff. Barnstable County, Cape Cod National Seashore, and the American Red Cross continue to serve as key program partners. Barnstable County and the Cape Cod National Seashore annually donate AmeriCorps member residences to the program, without which we would struggle to find viable, affordable member housing. These organizations and individual leaders continue to be instrumental in strengthening our program and our connection to the community.

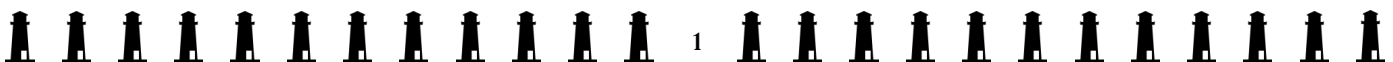
The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program was designed to provide quality year-round community service to protect and sustain the natural resources of Cape Cod for the use and enjoyment of future generations. The pages of this report reflect the immense impact this year's members provided to this fragile ecosystem. Our report begins by introducing key environmental needs of the community, elaborating on our natural resource management projects, the accomplishment and success of our Fire Corps initiative with the Cape Cod National Seashore, and advances in the field of disaster preparedness and response. The report also highlights our continued success in community education and our volunteer engagement events. Finally, the report concludes with a town-by-town listing of all the services our program has provided to the fifteen towns of Cape Cod.

AmeriCorps Cape Cod members and volunteers share a common spirit of service, dedication and idealism. Today, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program stands as a proud example of the power of community service and how it can help change and improve our community, and ultimately, our world.

In Service,

Daniel Schell
Program Coordinator
AmeriCorps Cape Cod

The AmeriCorps Cape Cod program is funded through grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Massachusetts Service Alliance and matching funds from Barnstable County. Housing is provided by Barnstable County and Cape Cod National Seashore. The Resource Development Office is responsible for the overall supervision and administration of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program.





ADVISORY BOARD

RON BEATY
Barnstable County Commissioner

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Town of Brewster

PHILIP BURT
Barnstable County Dept. of Health & Environment

LEO CAKOUNES
Barnstable County Commissioner

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Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

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MICHAEL LACH
Harwich Conservation Trust

RACHEL HUTCHINSON
Town of Chatham

HEATHER MCELROY
Cape Cod Commission

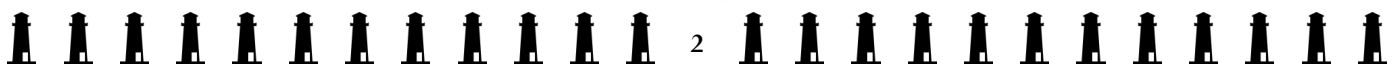
LAUREN MCKEAN
Cape Cod National Seashore

STEVE MCKENNA
MA Coastal Zone Management

JOHN OHMAN
Assembly of Delegates – Dennis

JESSICA ERICKSON WHRITENOUR
The 300 Committee Land Trust

On behalf of the Barnstable County Commissioners and the staff of the Resource Development Office, the AmeriCorps Cape Cod (ACC) program would like to thank the members of the Advisory Board for all their support and assistance they provided throughout this program year. As a driving force, they help advance and improve the benefits that ACC provides to the local community and its Corps members.



PROGRAM STAFF



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



JULIE FERGUSON
DIRECTOR



PRISCILLA ELLIS
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR

BOBBI MORITZ

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



SONJA SHEASLEY
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

QUAN TOBEY

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



AMERICORPS CAPE COD



DANIEL SCHELL
PROGRAM COORDINATOR



ANDREW PLATT
PROGRAM SPECIALIST

KAYLA BAIER

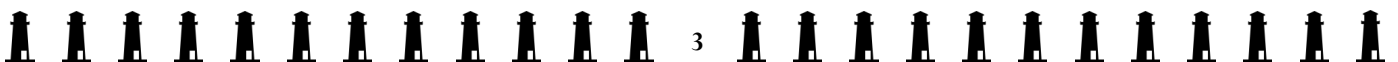
PROGRAM SUPERVISOR
WELLFLEET HOUSE



RICHARD ALEX SMITH
PROGRAM SUPERVISOR
WELLS HOUSE

OLIVIA MARTIN

PROGRAM SUPERVISOR
BOURNE HOUSE





RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

23 YEARS OF RESOURCES



The Barnstable County Resource Development Office was founded on the belief that common problems can be solved through regional solutions, and is committed to the advancement of grant programs and creative uses of existing resources on Cape Cod. Since 1994, the office has worked to build, strengthen, and expand the capacity and resources of Barnstable County Departments and the 15 towns they serve. The mission of the office is achieved through grant management, grant development, community outreach, and education.



RDO Staff (left to right): Quan Tobey, Sonja Sheasley, Priscilla Ellis, Bobbi Moritz, and Julie Ferguson

HIGHLIGHTS

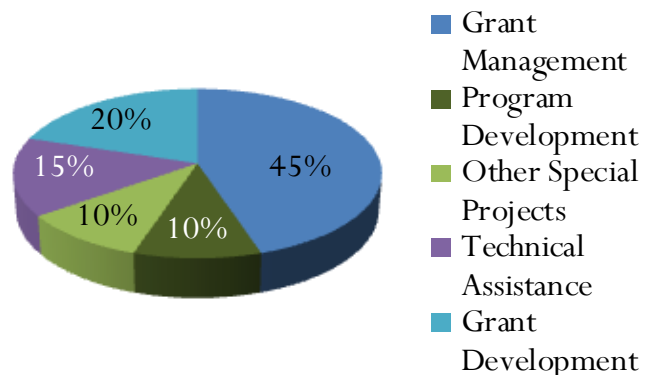
New staffing brought new talents and vision to the department and its website. Go to www.barnstablecounty.org to get up-to-date information, sign up for the RDO newsletter, and provide intake information if you require technical assistance.

Summer interns, funded by Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank, Cape Air, and matching funds from Barnstable County, joined the team and are working with RDO and the Human Rights Commission through early August 2017.

FUNDING

During fiscal year 2017, the Resource Development Officers successfully developed and managed local, state, and federal grants totaling over \$4,587,930.00 with nearly \$500,000.00 in grants pending notification by September 2017.

RDO RESPONSIBILITIES



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

23 YEARS OF RESOURCES



OVERVIEW

The Resource Development Office (RDO) staff is “cross-trained” to develop and manage grants, and provide county departments and towns with technical assistance in researching and writing grants funded by local, state, and federal sources. The RDO staff serve in partnership with AmeriCorps Cape Cod program staff to help develop and implement events each year, and promote visibility and networks throughout the county and municipalities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS



BARNSTABLE COUNTY AMERICORPS CAPE COD
Three year grant-funded regional program



2017 AIR NATIONAL GUARD/EXT. PARTNERSHIPS YOUTH CAMP

Summer program for military children and families.



Funded by:



CAPE COD HEALTHCARE



CHILDREN'S COVE

Grant funded by Massachusetts DCF to provide coordinated multidisciplinary services to child abuse victims and their families.



In partnership with:



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative
Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative

For several years, THE WHOI Sea Grant Program has named the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension as a sub-recipient of funds originating from NOAA (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration), to work in support of various programs. One such multi-year sub-recipient fund supports a Flood Plain Specialist focusing on efforts to educate homeowners, coastal resource managers, and the general public to the flooding risks that currently exist, and those projected into the future. Another multi-year fund supports Cape Cod Cooperative Extension staff for coastal geology and aquaculture programs.



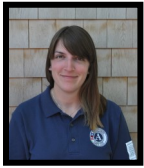
VISTA
Volunteers In Service To America

The Corporation for National & Community Service, through a competitive process, granted a VISTA member to Children's Cove to organize and implement an educational outreach program that raises awareness and mitigates the prevalence of child sexual abuse for Cape Cod and the Islands.

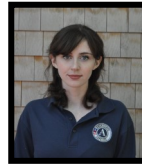


AMERICORPS MEMBERS

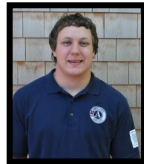
BOURNE HOUSE



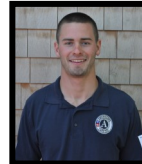
Melissa Allard
Brewster, MA



Jessica Hillman
Newport, RI



Michael Andranovich
Milford, CT



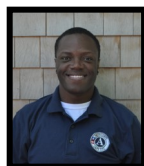
William Holden
Lunenburg, MA



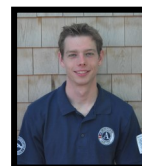
Robert Bennett
Wayland, MA



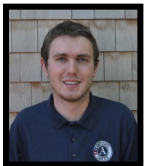
Keitaro Mikami
Roswell, GA



Bria Brown-King
Harrisburg, PA



Matthew O'Keefe
Glenside, PA



Dylan Davids
Royal Oak, MI



Tara Racine
Dennis, MA



Shane Dermanjian
Mount Olive, NJ



Sara Sperber
Bridgewater, MA



Audrey White
Champaign, IL

AMERICORPS MEMBERS

WELLFLEET HOUSE



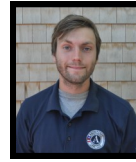
Victoria Babcock
Lakeland, FL



Roy Hawthorn
Ellisville, MS



Meredith Ballinger
Cincinnati, Ohio



Gerhard Jansen
Arlington, VA



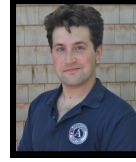
Corey Bray
Bristow, VA



Kathleen LeVander
Torrington, CT



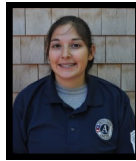
Derek Brudahl
Fairless Hills, PA



Teikyo Mowchan
Newington, CT



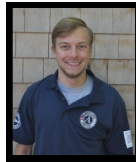
Thomas Bryson
Newton, PA



Lizabeth Rodriguez
Arvada, CO



Zed Glawe-Strom
Oronoco, MN



Joseph Cole Starr
Waldo, AR



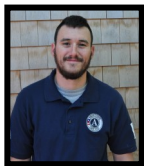
PJ Hakopian
Gaithersburg, MD



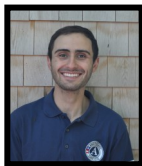


AMERICORPS MEMBERS

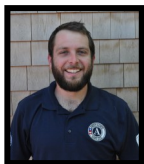
WELLS HOUSE



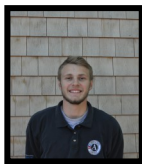
Joseph Bell
Jacksonville, FL



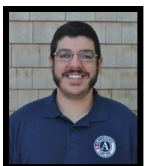
Samuel Gilvarg
Framingham, MA



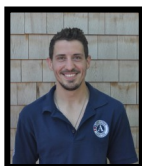
Bradley Falco
Stuart, FL



Hunter Moore
Gorham, NH



Julien Garcia
Miami, FL



Ryan Souto
Campbell Hall, NY



AMERICORPS CAPE COD

COMMUNITY IMPACT, 1999-2017



Since 1999, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have diligently addressed critical environmental and disaster preparedness and response needs within our community and expanded volunteering opportunities for our community members.

In the past 18 years, members have participated in the following activities:

Environmental Conservation Projects –

- Completed 3,726 land and water based conservation projects

Environmental Education

- Taught 2,182 environmental education activities to 57,281 students

Disaster Preparedness and Response Activities

- Taught 538 community disaster preparedness education classes
- Participated in 27 disaster simulations including the 2016 Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee Train Derailment Drill
- Staffed each of the Cape’s three regional shelters, as well as the Multi-Agency Coordination Center at Joint Base Cape Cod for the first 72 hours during the 2013 winter storm “Nemo”
- Staffed each of the Cape’s six regional shelters opened for public safety during 2013’s Superstorm Sandy
- Responded to the historic 2012 marine mammal stranding events affecting over 175 marine mammals

Community Events

- Organized and participated in annual events including: National AmeriCorps Week, National Volunteer Week, County Day of Recognition for National Service, Arbor Day, Earth Day, Harwich “Tour de Trash”, Cape Cod Canal Clean Up, Barnstable County Hazardous Waste Collections, Boy Scout Emergency Preparedness Fair, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Coast Sweep beach clean-up, Project WET Festivals, and Brewster Conservation Day

Fostering an Ethic of Service

- Engaged 11,942 community volunteers in over 39,726 hours of community service
- Delivered 271 presentations about AmeriCorps, national service, community service and/or civic engagement

Community Collaborations –

- Partnered with over 150 federal, state, county and/or town departments, schools, community groups, and non-profit agencies

Building Community

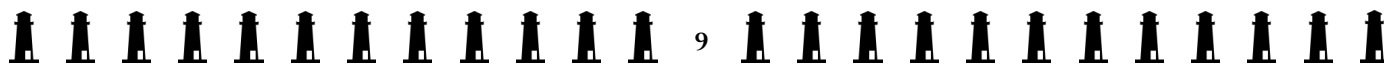
- 97% of AmeriCorps members have successfully graduated from the program.
- 109 Corps members have stayed or returned to the Cape after graduation to live and work for a period of time. Thirty-Eight alumni are currently living and working on the Cape; 14 are working for Barnstable County or a Municipal department.

*Estimated Value of Service
to the Cape Cod Community
September 1999 – June 2017*

= \$24,000,000*

- From Sept. 1999 to June 2017, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have served a total of 803,799 hours.
- Volunteers recruited, trained and managed by Corps members have served 39,726 hours.

** Source: The Independent Sector sets the State and National Volunteer Rate each year. (\$29.88 for 2016)*





VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE 2017

Beacons of Unity

Monday, January 16th, 2017

Shane Dermanjian, Bourne House Member

Hailing from New Jersey and never coming to Cape Cod until the start of my term of service, I had made many assumptions of what Cape Cod entailed. I expected beaches where everyone looked like JFK or Jackie O. Sure, that may have been hyperbolic of me, but I did not foresee community issues like an opioid epidemic or rising counts of homelessness being experienced on the Cape. There are plenty of serene, picturesque areas here, but to focus entirely on these vacation hot-spots and ignore the ever-present issues facing the year-round residents from Bourne to Provincetown would not be doing the Cape Cod community any justice.

The percentage of the Cape Cod population living in poverty more than doubled from 5.1% in 2006 to 11.3% in 2010. There are over 200 veterans and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. According to the McKinney-Vento Act's school district data, there are 248 homeless teens and 218 children on Cape Cod. The Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness reported findings from its 2016 Point in Time count, conducted on January 27, 2016. The number of homeless individuals on the night of the count was 394, an increase of 38 persons from the 2015 count. These are very real issues facing Cape Cod, which is why this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service focused on just that: homelessness.

We gathered on MLK Day, Monday January 16th, at Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School where over 220 volunteers alongside AmeriCorps Cape Cod members packaged donated toiletries in personalized tote bags to be distributed to homeless shelters and health agencies across the Cape. Groups

of volunteers came from Cape Cod high schools and organizations such as Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Dennis Union Church Youth Fellowship, Girl Scout Troops 80728 and 80252, John Wesley United Methodist Church Youth Group, AmeriCorps MassLIFT, Shea's Youth Basketball Association, and the YMCA Teen Achievers. Officers from the Yarmouth and Dennis Police Departments also came to show their support.

We had placed donation bins in high schools and police stations across Cape Cod starting in early December. Locations included: Bourne, Sandwich, Mashpee, Barnstable, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional, Monomoy Regional, and Nauset Regional High Schools and Barnstable, Dennis, Mashpee, and Yarmouth Police Stations. In these bins we collected deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, body wash and soap, razors and shaving cream, and hand sanitizer.

With the collected donations and our MLK Day grant, written by the Barnstable County Resource Development Officers and funded by the Massachusetts Service Alliance and Barnstable County, we were able to create over 300 tote bags that were distributed to health organizations and shelters throughout the greater Hyannis area. These organizations included Duffy Health Center, CHAMP Homes, the Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC), Catholic Social Services' St. Joseph's Shelter, Safe Harbor, and the Independence House.

Special thanks must go out to John Reed of the Zion Union Heritage Museum located in Hyannis for giving a moving speech about Martin Luther King Jr. and the virtues of service during our event. Many thanks to Principal Kenneth Jenks of Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School for allowing AmeriCorps to host our day of service in the school's cafeteria, and Matt Pitta from Cape Cod Broadcasting Media to allow AmeriCorps Cape Cod to come on his show to talk about our event.



Community members rally to help address homelessness on January 16, 2017.

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

17TH ANNUAL CANAL CLEANUP



The rain didn't stop the community from coming out for the seventeenth annual Canal Cleanup.



Members led educational booths for children who attended.



Alumni from St. Mary's College of Maryland attended.

Earth Day

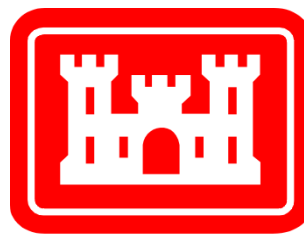
Saturday, April 22nd, 2017

Shane Dermanjian, Bourne House Member

Although it was rainy all morning, our spirits were not dampened as 128 volunteers joined AmeriCorps Cape Cod and the Army Corps of Engineers on Earth Day, April 22nd, for the 17th Annual Canal Cleanup. Volunteers walked all seven miles of the Buzzards Bay side of the canal, picking up trash and other debris. In my opinion, there is no better way to celebrate the Earth than beautifying it!

Volunteers came from the Cape Cod community and even as far as Boston for this day of service. Groups of volunteers included: Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Whole Foods in Hyannis, alumni from St. Mary's College of Maryland, YMCA Camp Burgess and Hayward, Mashpee Brownie Troops 62618, 62619, 62620, and 62621, Cub Scout Packs 51, 52, and 53, Mashpee Junior Honors Society, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Cape & Islands, and Wareham High School Junior ROTC. Special projects this day included beautifying the Herring Run and Buzzards Bay Recreation Areas, completed by the Wareham JROTC and Mass Maritime volunteers, respectively.

Special thanks go out to the following groups for providing us with educational booths for the volunteers: the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), the National Marine Life Center (NMLC), Sustainable Cape, the American Red Cross of the Cape & Islands, and Southeast Massachusetts, the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the Cape Cod National Seashore. Thanks must also be given to Army Corps Ranger Elisa Carey for coordinating the event and partnering with AmeriCorps Cape Cod to make Earth Day 2017 a day full of serving the community!



US Army Corps of Engineers®



VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2017



Members served alongside the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, VT at Coast Guard Beach removing invasive species.



Brush is brought to the pile-burn coordinated by the Fire Corps.

Service Unites!

April 23-29, 2017

Shane Dermanjian, Bourne House Member

While previous years' National Volunteer Weeks focused on a particular part of the Cape, this year's was taken in a different direction, spreading the service out among the towns. Initially stifled by the rain, we still were able to accomplish a great deal by engaging over 50 community volunteers throughout the week.

The week was kicked off on Monday, April 24th, by maintaining pollinator gardens throughout the Town of Mashpee with Katelyn Cadoret of the town Conservation Department. This first project brought our service in Mashpee full circle, since we were maintaining the gardens originally created by Year 14 AmeriCorps Cape Cod members during their National Volunteer Week. Volunteers joined us from The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington's youth group and were vital in weeding, pruning, and beautifying the pollinator gardens located at the Mashpee Community Garden, Pickerel Cove, and Jehu Pond.

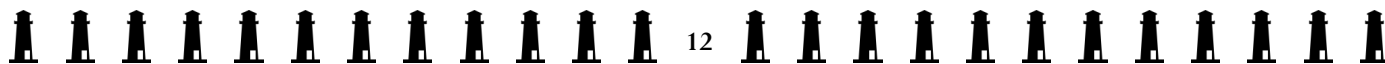
Tuesday was unfortunately cancelled due to rain. Luckily, the youth group from the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington remained on Cape until Thursday, April 27th, ready to serve alongside us. On Wednesday we reconvened at the National Seashore. Under the guidance of John DeFoe and Charles Aznive from the National Park

Service, volunteers cleared trees and shrubbery at Coast Guard Beach and painted lifeguard chairs for the entirety of the Seashore. Volunteers were also joined by FireCorps members Joseph Bell and Bradley Falco.

On Thursday we served with Matt Cannon of the Harwich Conservation Trust (HCT). We removed trees from a recently acquired property and cut trails through the surrounding woods. We also removed heaps of trash hidden throughout the vegetation.

On Friday, April 25th, we gathered again at the National Seashore. Serving at the Highlands Center in Truro, we were joined by 35 students from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School under the guidance of park planner Lauren McKean. Some AmeriCorps members helped with the FireCorps' pile burn at a nearby abandoned ballfield, while others led groups of students in special projects. Some examples include boarding-up broken windows, retreating pathways, clearing up the Woods Walk trail, installing fences, and painting murals. The service completed would prove to be critical in preparing the center for Highlands Fest in June.

Special thanks to our service partners without whom these projects would not be possible. Thank you Lauren McKean, John DeFoe, Charles Aznive, and Dave Crary of the Cape Cod National Seashore, Katelyn Cadoret and Drew McManus of the Town of Mashpee Conservation Department, and Matt Cannon of the Harwich Conservation Trust.



VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2017



Members served with the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, VT in Mashpee improving pollinator gardens.



Volunteers and members cut down encroaching invasive species.



Members with students from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School after a day of preparing the Highlands Center for the upcoming season.



AMERICORPS CAPE COD & THE CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE

Together We Serve

Victoria Babcock, Wellfleet House Member

The Cape Cod National Seashore and AmeriCorps Cape Cod have been partnering to engage and educate the community since the program's conception, and this year was no different.

Thirteen members from the Wellfleet house served with Seashore scientists, Sophia Fox and Steve Smith, along with park planner Lauren McKean, to protect and preserve Wellfleet's kettle ponds.

Members laid down jute netting to stop erosion on the shoreline and posted signs to remind the public to protect aquatic vegetation by being sensitive and aware of their foot traffic.

In April, members and students from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High school came together to serve at the Highlands Center for National Volunteer Week.

Students, National Park Service staff, and AmeriCorps members teamed up and together installed new fencing, painted buildings and posts, planted pollinator seedlings, and prepared the area of the Park's annual Highlands Fest. This year's National Volunteer Week was a celebration of pollinators and served as a reminder of the important role that pollinators play in our ecosystem.

The installation of new fencing will allow Payomet Performing Arts Center to have an area for their Children's Circus Camp. Children and parents from around the area will be able to appreciate the efforts of everyone present during the clean-up.



Before and after photos of Great Pond in Truro.



Preparing The Highlands Center at the National Seashore with students from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School.

DISASTER RESPONSE

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE



Members alongside IFAW rescuing a Risso's dolphin weighing in at about 1500 lbs.

A Different Kind of Disaster

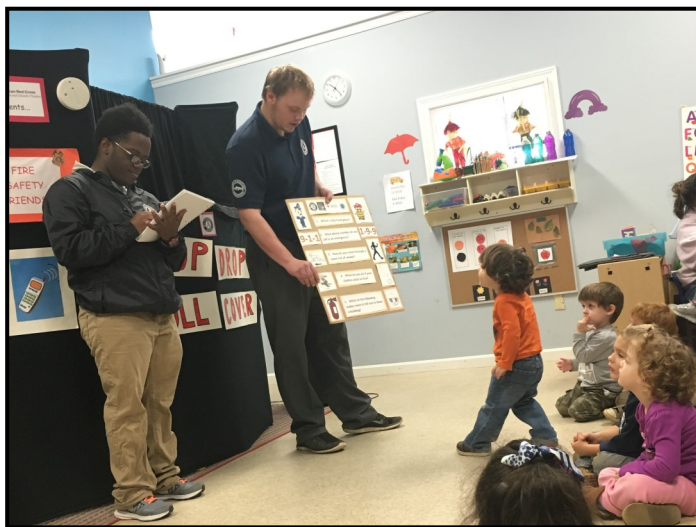
Audrey White, Bourne House Member

When someone thinks of a natural disaster they usually think of a hurricane or tornado, but the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) responds to a different type of natural disaster—marine mammal strandings. This past year, with AmeriCorps Cape Cod, I have been lucky enough to serve with IFAW in the Marine Mammal Rescue & Research (MMRR) department every Wednesday and Thursday and have been an active member of these disaster responses. Every winter season is known as the “busy season” for cetacean strandings but this past season has been especially remarkable. New Year’s Day kicked off these hectic months with a mass stranding of 10 Risso’s dolphins which can grow up to more than 1,000 pounds and 15 feet long! Over the next few months we responded to over 150 alive and dead marine mammal strandings. Through it all, AmeriCorps has been helping to rescue, release, and care for these animals.

As the AmeriCorps placement at IFAW, I have taken on the responsibility of recruiting, organizing, and directing

all the AmeriCorps members during these mass strandings. One weekend, seven common dolphins stranded in the Herring River Gut in Wellfleet. The report started as only two dolphins, but more were found quickly and the number kept rising. IFAW staff realized that they did not have enough manpower to rescue all the animals by themselves and I was asked to recruit as many members as I could, as quickly as possible. I was on the phone all day trying to get ahold of anyone who was still on the Cape for the weekend. It was a stressful, but ultimately, very rewarding experience that I was only able to have due to my time with AmeriCorps Cape Cod.

In addition to assisting with marine mammal responses, I have also taken on the long-term project of redoing, organizing, and revamping the outreach materials for MMRR. I designed a new magnet, new stickers and t-shirts. I also have been going to all the outreach events, talking to the public about the work IFAW does and making sure that they know what to do in the event of a stranding. IFAW does amazing work for marine mammal species and I am very grateful for the chance to serve with such a great organization.



Members teach fire safety and preparedness to a young audience.



Members educate Girl Scouts at the Annual Scout Fair.

The ‘Whole Community’ Approach to Disaster Preparedness

Bria Brown-King, Bourne House Member

AmeriCorps Cape Cod established a partnership with the American Red Cross (ARC) in its effort to educate the community on how to prepare and respond to local disasters. Through this partnership AmeriCorps Cape Cod members conduct fire safety puppet shows, community disaster presentations, and participate in teen wellness fairs all relating to disaster preparedness and response.

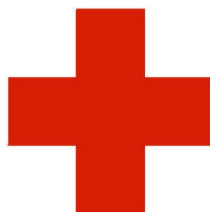
Common disasters most likely to impact this region include: hurricanes, nor’easters, and house fires. In helping with the latter, the American Red Cross installed 183 free smoke alarms in 2016 as a part of the Home Fire Campaign to make homes safer and reduce the number of fatalities caused by fires.

Bria Brown-King and Zed Glawe-Strom, the AmeriCorps members placed with the ARC, have presented to more than 550 community members across the Cape. Bria and Zed gave a Pillowcase Project presentation at Harwich Elementary School as a part of the “Be Red Cross Ready” initiative. The Pillowcase Project teaches students in third through fifth grade about personal and family preparedness skills and how to utilize coping mechanisms when experiencing a disaster. The students at Harwich learned about home fire preparedness because these are the most frequent types of emergencies that occur on Cape Cod.

Also, as a part of the disaster preparedness/response and community education focus areas, members conducted fire and winter safety puppet shows to children and presented to various Rotary and Lions clubs along with other adult organizations across the Cape.

In January of 2017, Bria and Zed, along with the other Corps members and community volunteers, organized and facilitated the 10th Annual Scout Preparedness Fair. More than 60 Boy and Girl Scouts from across the Southeast region participated in the fair. The Scouts rotated through different stations to learn about disaster preparedness techniques that were taught by the knowledgeable AmeriCorps members.

The partnership that AmeriCorps Cape Cod has with the American Red Cross is an integral part of ensuring awareness of local hazards and natural disasters because when disaster strikes, preparedness could save a life!



American Red Cross

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



Bee Diversity

Melissa Allard, Bourne House Member

Since I started my individual placement in the Resource Development and AmeriCorps office as the Education member of the Community Outreach and Development team, I have helped with several environmental education programs throughout Cape Cod.

One of the first proposals I received was from Kerry Bickford, Extension Educator at the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, to conduct STEM presentations at the Boys and Girls Club in Mashpee. With the help from other AmeriCorps members I could do one a month for five months. The topics ranged from groundwater to sustainable energy. We developed three stations for each topic and made them engaging for all ages since the children ranged from first to eighth grade. This program came with a few challenges and we had to learn to adapt, but the children and staff were always happy to see us come back.

I have also had the pleasure of serving with Francie Randolph, founder of the non-profit, Sustainable CAPE. I assisted her with their Truro Children's Community Garden program. Over the summer, before I had started AmeriCorps, the children were growing their own produce in the garden beds at the Truro Public Library

and learning about pollinators. From the beginning of November into January, I went to the library once a week and helped the children create their own pieces of artwork containing a drawing of a bee. The artwork was then displayed at the library along with facts about bees the children had learned. The artwork will also be shown at the Highlands Fest, Barnstable County Fair, Local Scoop, and other locations.

When spring arrived, I served with Stephanie Rein, who is also with Sustainable CAPE, during their Farmer in the School program. The program helps incorporate gardening and healthy eating into the children's daily lives. We went to the elementary schools from Brewster to Provincetown, where the children met a local farmer, tried some fresh produce, and lastly planted seeds to bring home and grow. I along with another AmeriCorps member managed the planting station. This year we helped the children plant two types of lettuce and taught them how to take care of their plants once they brought them home.

Overall it has been a very rewarding experience getting to serve my own community through my individual placement. I have met many inspiring people who truly love what they do and children who are excited to learn about the things they can do to help our environment and community.



Members hang artwork made by the Children's Community Garden at the Truro Library.



COUNTY DAY OF RECOGNITION

#NationalServiceWorks!

Meredith Ballinger, Wellfleet House Member

The fifth annual *Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service* was held on April 4th, 2017. This year more than 4,500 mayors and county officials nationwide participated in the event to spotlight the impact of national service on local challenges and show that #NationalServiceWorks! AmeriCorps Cape Cod celebrated the day with a bus tour of service sites. The bus was graciously provided by Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority. Tour members included County Commissioner Ronald Beaty, County Delegate, Linda Zuern, Chief of Staff for State Senator Julian Cyr, Pat Johnson, and staff from the Resource Development Office, as well as AmeriCorps Cape Cod members.

Stocked with snacks and juice boxes galore, we kicked off our bus tour at the International Fund for Animal Welfare, to visit AmeriCorps member, Audrey White. At IFAW, Audrey filled us in on what her day-to-day tasks looked like at her individual placement. Other AmeriCorps members have the opportunity to serve with IFAW throughout the year by responding to marine mammal strandings across the Cape. We also received a VIP tour of the IFAW facility, which included the trailers used to respond to mammal strandings and the mobile autopsy unit.



At the first stop touring IFAW's facility including the mobile autopsy unit.

Next the bus tour continued to the Outer Cape to visit a service site at Pilgrim Springs in Truro. Along the way AmeriCorps Cape Cod members provided insight into what their year of service looked like and how they hope to use this experience in their professional lives in the future. At Pilgrim Springs, the bus tour group braved the wind and rain to join Fire Management Officer, David Crary, General Corps member, Liz Rodriguez, and the FireCorps crew for some coffee and hot chocolate and a quick lesson about their service on the Cape conducting pile burns and prescribed burns.

Lastly, the tour concluded at the LeHac House in Wellfleet to highlight the importance of the residential aspect of the program. Thanks to the housing—provided by Cape Cod National Seashore, members can fully commit to their year of service without the additional stress of finding affordable housing on the Cape. Members are able to develop a sense of family and community by sharing the same residence. Overall the day was an informative success.



Joining up with the Fire Corps at the Seashore at our second stop.





A Collaborative Effort to Protect Brewster's Open Spaces

Corey Bray, Wellfleet House Member

AmeriCorps Cape Cod created a new and unusual collaborative individual placement for the organizations in Brewster that requested help from a member this year. The individual placement for Brewster has been unique, not only with the collaboration of three different organizations, but the way that they looked at a shared concept of land management, as well. The Brewster Collaboration partners consisted of the Brewster Conservation Trust, Brewster Ponds Coalition, and the Department of Natural Resources for the town of Brewster. Given the distinctive characteristics of the environment across the Cape, it has been incredible to see how two different environments between the land and water affect one another, with the town of Brewster being no different.

The Brewster Conservation Trust and Department of Natural Resources have been working individually and cooperatively to create areas throughout the town that allow visitors to experience different habitats for native plants and animals. The Conservation Trust's Eddy Sisters Property, which hosts the local community garden, consists of both a large meadow, and small forest consisting of pines and oaks. Nearby the Eddy Bay Trail gives hikers a view of

Cape Cod Bay from atop a sand dune. The largest continuous stretch of preserved land located in Brewster is the Punkhorn Conservation Area which is owned by the town and contains trails that bring hikers close to ponds and old cranberry bogs. The town and Trust recently finished the creation of a small trail behind Eddy Elementary School giving the students the opportunity to experience a variety of different species of trees and a few vernal pools to investigate. The Brewster Ponds Coalition has been providing pond walks that not only give its members more information about the pond, but also interesting characteristics of the land surrounding it, such as the location of old cranberry bogs and barrow pits.

Throughout the eighteenth year of the program, members have assisted in a variety of different land stewardship projects from continuing to maintain fire breaks along the roads in the Punkhorn Conservation Area, to the maintenance of popular walking trails through the removal of invasive species, and restoration of boardwalks at locations like Wing Island and the Lee Baldwin Trail. In all, the work completed by members of the community, as well as AmeriCorps members, has provided Brewster with numerous trails to be walked by people of all ages and plenty of habitat for the gradual reintroduction of native plants and animals.



A beautiful view of a stream found at one of Brewster's open spaces



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

On Fire and Disturbance

Sam Gilvarq, FireCorps Member

Ecological disturbances, which can be broadly understood as forces that reshape the physical makeup of the environment, are important factors in the maintenance of all biomes. Some habitats, like those found high above tree lines in the mountains, can only sustainably tolerate disturbance on a limited scale. Other ecosystems, like the Pitch Pine- Oak community that thrives here on Cape Cod's barren, glaciofluvial soil, needs an almost constant regimen of disturbance in order to survive. Disturbances hit the metaphoric 'reset' button, providing a catalyst for the dynamism that these habitats need to function in a stable manner.

For a myriad of ecosystems located across the globe, fire has been a ready and powerful source of environmental disturbance since the Cambrian geological epoch, when photosynthetic algae and early plants began to first release great quantities of oxygen into the atmosphere—some 500 million years ago. Then, artificial ignition sources, like lightning and volcanoes, provided the spark that set fire loose. But, significantly, beginning with the evolution of our hominid ancestors nearly 1.6 million years ago, a biological source began to use fire in a new way—as a tool to shape the environment. With this anthropogenic fire serving as a mold, countless other biotic and abiotic associations developed over the course of evolutionary time. Fire became an ingredient necessary for these ecosystems to develop—without it, these environments simply would not function.

Cape Cod is no exception to this. In fact, archeological data suggests that without Native American fire (purposefully set to promote the growth of useful plant species), cooling temperatures around 4,500 years ago could have dramatically altered the flora found in contemporary Barnstable County to mirror more northern climes.

A misguided policy of fire suppression, adopted when humans of European descent assumed geopolitical control

of Cape Cod, has caused this carefully cultivated environment to become degraded. Putting out fires led to an accumulation of fuels, which only stoked larger fires later. Plant and animal populations that depended on fire maintained landscapes began to decline. But, a methodical use of Prescribed Fire (controlled burns set under the watchful eyes of professional land managers) by the Fire Management Office at Cape Cod National Seashore is beginning to correct this. The FireCorps of AmeriCorps Cape Cod is a critical partner in this effort. After undergoing intensive wildland fire training, members are entrusted with not only the task of participating in these burns, but of planning them out and leading them on the fireline as well.

With fire being restored, bird species that have not been seen in decades are reappearing around the fields and meadows of Fort Hill, globally endangered fire dependent plant species are getting a second lease on life, and, perhaps most importantly, the wildland of Cape Cod National Seashore are becoming safer for both the residents and visitors of Barnstable County.



Member Lizbeth Rodriguez uses her drip torch to light a fire.

¹Stephen J. Pyne. *Vestal Fire: An Environmental History, Told through Fire, of Europe and Europe's Encounter with the World*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 1997. 16.

²*Ibid.*, 25.

³See Stephen J. Pyne's masterful work, *Vestal Fire*, for an in depth discussion of this idea. Perhaps no other scholar has so shaped my understanding of fire as he.

⁴Brian Donahue. *The Great Meadow: Farmers and the Land in Colonial Concord*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT. 2004. 38.



Bringing Back Oysters to Mill Creek Boardwalk

Michael Andranovich, Bourne House

“Excuse me, but what are you guys doing down there?” On an average Tuesday, we could hear that question (or one of its twelve-thousand variations) shouted at us from the Boardwalk above seemingly all day. On a busier afternoon, we might just give the curious passerby a simple answer about oyster propagation; however, since we’re in no particular hurry, a chance for conversation emerges. Rather than dominate the conversation with jargon like denitrification, OysterGro cages, diploids vs. triploids, etc., we explained to the small group which had formed that we were bringing back oysters to Mill Creek.

“Historically-speaking,” Dave DeConto, Assistant Director of the Sandwich Department of Natural Resources and my service partner, begins to explain, “This area was populated with oysters as recently as the 1970s. Unfortunately, due to overfishing and storm water runoff, the habitat was not able to sustain them. That’s where we come in.”

When I moved to Cape Cod to complete a year of national service with AmeriCorps, I had very little knowledge on how to cultivate, propagate, or harvest shellfish. However, since the last week of October, I have been thrust into a project that is just now finishing its second year and preparing to begin its third cycle. With nothing more than a few college classes on aquaculture under my belt, Dave has been an incredible teacher and project manager to me, although he’ll be the first to admit that this is a learning experience for him too! Starting in late January, we started the beginnings of what we hope-to-be the next iteration of the historic oyster reef by transplanting 50,000 or so juvenile oysters that had been growing in our equipment since the summer.

During this upcoming growing season, the department plans on propagating a new set of 100,000 oysters in our easily-identifiable trawls in the middle of the creek until they are ready to be added to the reef. With more monitoring and maintenance, the town hopes to have harvestable oysters for permits holders by 2018.



Members spend a significant amount of their year of service propagating shellfish.



Members can be seen here filling oyster cages.



Once shellfish have reached a certain size, they are broadcast.





2016-2017 SERVICE PARTNERS

Mark Adams, CCNS Geographic Information Officer / Coastal Geography Technician

Bill Allen, Wellfleet Mass Audubon

Kristin Andres, Association to Preserve Cape Cod

Wendell Bailey, CCNS Maintenance and Utilities Supervisor

Red Bansfield, Barnstable Land Trust

Emily Beebe, Town of Truro

Kerry Bickford, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Lonni Briggs, Wellfleet Recycling Committee

Pat Brophy, The Family Pantry of Cape Cod

Ryan Burch, Brewster Department Natural Resources

Philip Burt, Barnstable County REPC

Katelyn Cadoret, Mashpee Conservation Department

Tom Cambareri, Cape Cod Commission

Matt Cannon, Chatham Conservation Foundation & Harwich Conservation Trust

Dave Carlson, Yarmouth Parks and Recreation

Joel Carlson, Northeast Forest Fire Management Principle Consultant and Owner

Elisa Carey, Army Corps of Engineers

Nancy Church, WBNERR

Nina Coleman, Barnstable Marine and Environmental Affairs

Dan Connolly, Orleans Tree Department

David Crary, Jr., CCNS Fire Management Officer

Amy Croteau, Barnstable Marine and Environmental Affairs

Dave DeConto, Sandwich Dept. of Natural Resources

John Defoe, CCNS Roads and Trail Supervisor

Dick Delaney, Red Lily Pond Association Inc.

Sherry Dranch, Provincetown Conservation Trust

Kalliope Egloff, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Vivian Esswein-Leary, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Ethan Estey, Wellfleet Herring Warden

Brian Everett, Dennis Department of Natural Resources

Mary Everett-Patriquin, Housing Assistance Corporation

Alfred Famiglietti, B-Street Community Garden

Katherine Garofoli, Dennis Conservation Trust

Judith Giorgio, Chatham Department of Health & Environment

Chris Gonella, Barnstable Department of Public Works

Kelley Grant, Yarmouth Conservation Commission

Hilary Greene, American Red Cross

Hilary Greenberg-Lemos, Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department

Chris Greim, West Barnstable Fire Department

Doug Guey-Lee, Wellfleet Health and Conservation Department

George Heufelder, Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment

Dick Hilmer, Town of Orleans

Jason Holm, Chatham Department of Health & Environment

Rachel Hutchinson, Chatham Shellfish Department

Karen Johnson, Town of Dennis

Kathryn Kmiec, Wellfleet Elementary School

Farley Lewis, Barnstable Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee

Liz Lewis, Barnstable Shellfish Department

Cris Luttazi, Coastal Waterbird Program Mass Audubon

Margot Madden, National Marine Life Center

Tom Marcotti, Barnstable Shellfish Department

Laura McCullough, The Family Pantry of Cape Cod

Jennifer McKay, Town of Falmouth

Lauren McKean, Cape Cod National Seashore

Drew McManus, Mashpee Conservation Department

Gloria McPherson, Provincetown Planning Department

Elizabeth Migliore, Orleans Conservation Trust

Hal Minis, Brewster Collaboration

Martin Murphy, Taylor Bray Farm

Joelle Mushel, Town of Falmouth Shellfish

Mary Nichols, Chatham Community Garden

Misty Niemeyer, IFAW

Joshua Nigro, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

Russ Norton, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Nicole Paine, Eastham Department of Natural Resources

Timothy Parsons, Town of Yarmouth DNR

Gwen Pelletier, Brewster Collaboration

Matt Penella, MA Army National Guard, Natural Resources Office

Les Perry, Shawme Crowell State Forest MA DCR

Jeff Pollock, Nantucket Land Bank Property Foreman

John Pribilla, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Heinz Proft, Harwich Natural Resources Department

Francie Randolph, Sustainable CAPE

Stephanie Rein, Sustainable CAPE

Mark Robinson, The Compact of Cape Cod

Becky Rosenberg, Wellfleet Recreation Department

Stuart Smith, Chatham Harbor Master

Diane Speers, Valley Farm Community Garden

Kate Sullivan, CCNS Fire Technician / Northeast Forest Fire Management

Jill Talladay, CARE for the Cape and Islands

Gabriella Tetelman, South Shore YMCA Camp Burgess and Hayward

Jeff Thibodeau, Brewster Conservation Trust

Amy Usowski, Harwich Department of Conservation

Emily Wolfe, Wellfleet Mass Audubon Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Richard York, Jr., Mashpee Shellfish Department

Alexandra Zollo, Town of Falmouth



2016-2017 INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS



BOURNE HOUSE

American Red Cross - Cape Cod and Islands Chapter
Preparedness Education AmeriCorps Member

Association to Preserve Cape Cod
Volunteer & Outreach AmeriCorps Member

Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment
Waste Water Research AmeriCorps Member

**Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment:
Regional Emergency Planning Committee**
Emergency Planning AmeriCorps Member

Barnstable Land Trust
Boundary Monitor AmeriCorps Member

Cape Cod Commission
Water Quality Projects AmeriCorps Member

Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
WET Festival and Hazardous Waste Mitigation AmeriCorps Member

**International Fund for Animal Welfare Marine Mammal
Resource & Research Program**
Response and Education AmeriCorps Member

National Marine Life Center
Marine Animal Rehabilitation and Environmental Education
AmeriCorps Member

**Town of Barnstable: Department of Public Works- Structures
and Grounds**
Ways to Water, Conservation and Land Bank AmeriCorps Member

Town of Barnstable: Shellfish Department
Shellfish Propagator and Educator AmeriCorps Member

Town of Falmouth: Conservation Commission
Land Management Program AmeriCorps Member

Town of Mashpee: Natural Resources: Shellfish
Shellfish Water Quality Restoration AmeriCorps Member

Town of Sandwich: Department of Natural Resources
Scorton Creek Shellfish Restoration AmeriCorps Member

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Environmental Education AmeriCorps Member

WELLS HOUSE

Cape Cod National Seashore
FireCorps AmeriCorps Members

WELLFLEET HOUSE

American Red Cross- Cape Cod and Island Chapter
Preparedness Education AmeriCorps Member

**Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment:
Regional Emergency Planning Committee**
Emergency Planning AmeriCorps Member

Brewster Conservation Trust
Brewster Natural Resources Collaboration AmeriCorps Member

Cape Cod National Seashore
Fire and Safety Management AmeriCorps Member

Cape Cod National Seashore
National Seashore Planning AmeriCorps Member

Brewster Ponds Coalition
Brewster Natural Resources Collaboration AmeriCorps Member

Dennis Conservation Trust
Land Management AmeriCorps Member

Dennis Natural Resources
Natural Resources Public Outreach AmeriCorps Member

Orleans Conservation Trust
Land Stewardship and Community Outreach AmeriCorps Member

Town of Brewster: Department of Natural Resources
Brewster Natural Resources Collaboration AmeriCorps Member

**Town of Chatham: Department of Natural Resources:
Shellfish**
Chatham Coastal Shellfish Survey AmeriCorps Member

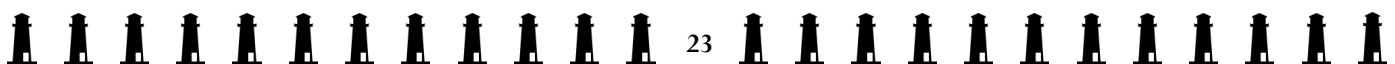
Town of Harwich: Department of Conservation
Harwich Conservation Land Management AmeriCorps Member

Town of Orleans: Tree Department
Tree Inventory AmeriCorps Member

**Town of Provincetown: Planning and Conservation
Department**
Land Management and Maintenance AmeriCorps Member

Truro Conservation Department
Vernal Pool Certification Project AmeriCorps Member

Town of Wellfleet: Health and Conservation Department
Community Health and Disaster Preparedness AmeriCorps Member





YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS

Water Education Festivals (WETFest)

Taught over 1,165 students about groundwater, water quality, and other water issues relevant to Cape Cod through experiential learning activities.

Bournedale Elementary School	Wellfleet Elementary School
Peebles Elementary School	Barnstable Intermediate School
Monomoy Middle School	Quashnet Elementary School
Oak Ridge School	Eastham Elementary School

Barnstable

American Red Cross

Helped setup and clean up for the 15th Annual Red Cross “Heroes Breakfast” that took place at the Cape Cod Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis.

Barnstable Shellfishing Department - Department of Natural Resources

Constructed protective nets for quahogs with student volunteers from the Sturgis Charter School; constructed shellfish propagation gear; tidied up the maintenance yard to organize all of the gear for the upcoming season.

Cape Cod Child Development

Performed AmeriCorps Cape Cod’s Fire Safety Puppet Show for younger students

East Beach

Served with Barnstable Department of Public Works - Structures & Grounds Division to remove poplar trees and invasive weeds from the reclamation project area.

Greeter Island

Planted beach grass plugs with the Barnstable Department of Public Works - Buildings and Grounds.

Sandy Neck Beach

Erected shorebird fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and protect and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Suni Sands

Planted beach grass plugs with the Barnstable Department of Public Works - Buildings and Grounds

Meetinghouse Farm

Pruned dead and diseased branches, maintained rhododendrons, took down smaller trees, and planted woodland species.

Red Lily Pond Coalition

Performed extensive phragmites removal in herring run and along river banks.

Scudder Lane

Set oysters with Barnstable Shellfish Department.

County Tree Farm

Maintained trees at the farm and improved accessibility to trees; removed natural debris and invasive species.

Cape Cod Pathways

Served with the Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee to blaze a portion of the Red Trail in the Pathways System running through Barnstable for better visibility and navigation. Served on a portion of the Blue trail by removing debris and trees that had fallen over from a previous storm.

Osterville Rain Gardens

Served with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod in order to prepare site for a future project that will engage the public in learning about storm water management and native plants.

Bourne

Camp Edwards

Cut-down and removed shrubbery and marked plants to be treated with herbicide in efforts to restore the natural grasslands habitat.

Cape Cod Canal

Educated Army Corps Junior Rangers about water quality and safety.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and protect and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Sandplain Grassland & Heathland Vegetative Maintenance

Served with the Army Corps of Engineers to remove sucker sprouting black oak, pitch pine and other shrubs that, if allowed to grow, would convert a rare heathland habitat into a forested woodlot environment.

Bournedale Herring Run

Served with the Army Corps of Engineers to clean Bournedale Herring Run to promote a suitable environment for herring to run and spawn.

Dyke’s Creek

Served with the Army Corps of Engineers to clean, widen, and deepen Dyke’s Creek in order to promote a suitable waterway for herring to use in order to reach a spawning pond.

Erosion Control Fencing Removal

Served with the Army Corps of Engineers and removed approximately 2,500ft of snow fencing that was installed along Mashnee Village Road to control and prevent erosion as the trails have healed and the fencing is no longer necessary.



YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.



Brewster

Baldwin Property

Removed all woody plants underneath the power lines in efforts to stop herbicides from being sprayed; served with Brewster Conservation Trust.

Brewster Children's Community Garden

Members taught children a lesson pertaining to the importance of worms in farming.

Drummer Boy Park

Removed invasive species and other unwanted plants to clear up the park for better public access and to maintain an open meadow habitat.

Eddy Elementary School

Assisted Sustainable CAPE with their Farmer in the School program which integrates gardening and healthy eating directly into the school's curriculum.

Kingsbury Matthews Farm

Cut and chipped invasive plant species to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, historical environment; managed encroaching pitch pine and black locust management; trail maintenance and fuels reduction.

Little Breakwater Landing

Placed cultch bags near Little Breakwater to create new growing habitat for Oysters. Served with Brewster Conservation Trust.

Matthew's Conservation Area

Cutting and chipping to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and historical environment, encroaching pitch pine and black locust management, trail maintenance, keeping trees for a conservation project at Rock Harbor in Orleans, and fuels reduction.

Mother's Bog

Performed brushcutting, and prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, restoration of the bog, and fuels reduction .

Nickerson State Park

Pile burn to remove man-made and natural debris for park safety and fuels reduction.

Nickerson State Park

Served with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Forest Fire Control to remove dead red pine trees.

Punkhorn Conservation Area

Used brush cutters and chainsaws to cut and pull logs on either side of the main road (150ft). This helped to create safety areas for firefighting apparatus; served with Brewster Department of Natural Resources.

Punkhorn Conservation Area

Utilized recycled shells from restaurants to make cultch bags, in effort to create habitats for juvenile shellfish to grow.

Stony Brook Elementary School

Assisted Sustainable CAPE with their Farmer in the School program.

Stony Brook Grist Mill Herring Run

Served with Brewster Department of Natural Resources to remove blockages from the run and to increase water flow.

Wings Island

Cut brush for prescribed burn prep, in order to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, improve vista, and fuels reduction.

Chatham

Barclay Pond Trail & Frost Fish Creek Trail

Maintained trails by widening them to four feet and removing any hazardous trees. This service was an effort to enhance recreational use and promote a healthy and active community.

Chatham Community Garden

Installed chicken wire in an L-shape, 12'' below the existing fence to lessen the number of varmints eating crops.

Oyster Pond Beach

Removed oysters from out of cages already in water and re-bagged oysters in cleaner bags to float in cages for the summer.

Chatham Airport Cleanup

Removed metal, rubber, and other waste from airport to prevent the area being used as a dump. Removed trees on either side of the road and among various lots to improve usability.

Morris Island Road

Dug up quahogs with the Chatham Shellfishing Department.

ShoreBird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and protect and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Dennis

Association to Preserve Cape Cod

Participated in a gardening workshop; made labels for plants in new garden out of invasive twigs, planted seeds and shrubs, and maintained the general appearance of the garden.

Black Flats Road Trail

Maintained the trail by removing invasive species and adding signage; served with Dennis Department of Natural Resources.





CONT. YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS

Cape Cod Child Development Dennisport Preschool

Members performed the Fire Safety puppet show.

Clipper Lane Conservation Area

This land is a wetland and a very valuable conservation asset. Picked up debris and litter with Dennis Department of Natural Resources.

Cove Road

Raked and harvested quahogs to be relocated with the Dennis Department of Natural Resources

Cross and Pond Street Blueberry Patches

Trimmed blueberry bushes and removed invasive species to improve plant growth, added mulch to the bushes, and improved general accessibility to both blueberry patches.

Dennis Wood Lottery Preparation

Stacked wood into piles for distribution to Dennis residents that need wood to heat their homes.

Dennis Transfer Station

Fabricated oyster cultch bags through a joint operation between multiple towns' shellfishing departments.

Paddocks Path

Removed invasive species and brush with the Dennis Conservation Trust.

Scargo Tower

Cleared tall trees and shrubs including invasive species to improve visibility at the scenic view overlooking Scargo Lake; served with Dennis Department of Natural Resources.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Vernal Pool certifications

Searched for Vernal Pools in various conservation areas throughout Dennis with the Dennis Department of Natural Resources.

Eastham

Bridge Pond Herring Run

Served with Eastham Natural Resources to prepare the Herring Run by shoring up erosion hot spots with gabion structures and clearing any obstructions of water flow.

Doane Rock and Great Island (Wellfleet) Picnic Area

Removed woody debris and trash from the picnic area; lopped invasive species to maintain the area's pathways.

Eastham Elementary School

Assisted Sustainable CAPE with their Farmer in the School program and performed the Fire Safety puppet show on a separate occasion.

Richardson Property

Partnered with City Year and the National Seashore to maintain this land. Removed invasive species and hazardous trees; created, ignited, and monitored burn piles.

Salt Pond

Culled, cleaned, and broadcasted oysters at Salt Pond with Eastham Department of Natural Resources.

Wiley Park

Served alongside Eastham Natural Resources to remove vegetation along an area of beachfront at Wiley Park Swim Area. Also, removed invasive species along conservation trails within Wiley Park Conservation Area.

Falmouth

Beebe Woods

Brought Falmouth Elementary students on educational tours around the Beebe Woods property. The tour focused on how the Cape Cod landmass was created by glaciers.

Nobska Lighthouse

Installed locks on fences, removed invasive species, and maintained the main walkway leading up to the lighthouse as a part of CARE for the Cape and Islands' CARE Day.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Breivogel Conservation Area

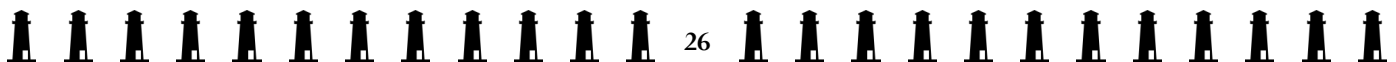
Removed and bundled Phragmites so that it could be treated with herbicide at a later date. Created a new overlook trail.

Coonamessett Reservation

Assisted with the removal of shrubs and woody invasive species in order to create a meadow habitat that is important for rare and protected bird species.

Falmouth Rod and Gun Club

Planted a pollinator meadow on Rod and Gun Club's property through a partnership with The 300 Committee, Friends of Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge and the Town of Falmouth.



YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.



Harwich

Family Pantry of Cape Cod

Prepared the garden for the growing season by weeding, planting, and re-aligning the watering hoses.

75 Kendrick Road Archeological Site

Invasive management to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, improve archeological accessibility, and fuels reduction.

Harwich Herring River

Cleared the river with Harwich Natural Resources Department to allow herring to migrate.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Texeira Conservation Lands

Removed old wooden steps and blocked the existing path to create a new path that is safer and easier to access. Removed invasive species. We served with the Harwich Conservation Department.

Thompson's Field

Conducted brushcutting, cut and pile burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, historical native landscape through pitch pine thinning, invasive management, trail maintenance, and fuels reduction.

Mashpee

Besse's Bog

Cleared and maintained trails for community usage.

Boys and Girls Club

Presented STEM lessons relevant to Cape Cod for children from 1st grade to 8th grade once a month for five months.

John Johansen Conservation Area

Cleared and maintained trails for community usage.

Mashpee River Herring Run

Cleared the herring run of trash and other unnatural debris while maintaining natural woody debris and overhead vegetation.

Mashpee River Woodlands Trail

Removed invasive species, added stairs and widened the trail.

Mashpee Shellfish Department

Constructed oyster trays with the Mashpee Shellfish Department.

Quashnet River

Built-up the banks of the Quashnet River to deter passage across by All Terrain Vehicles and other restricted vehicles; Served with Mashpee Conservation Department.

Santuit Pond Preserve

Cleared trails of encroaching branches and vegetation, created and installed directional trail signs, installed bench at overlook, and installed stairs to make trails more accessible.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Orleans

Arbor Day

Partnered with Orleans Conservation Trust and Orleans Tree Department to plant numerous plants for Arbor Day.

Boland Pond

Conducted cutting, chipping, and stump grinding to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, invasive management, trail maintenance, and fuels reduction.

Ice House Pond

Built a new trail extension to the current walking trail at Ice Pond Conservation Area with Orleans Conservation Trust.

Mauch Gift Property

Removed invasive species and widened the walking trail through the Orleans Conservation Trust property.

Meredith's Canyon

Served with Orleans Tree Department to continue the forest restoration project by selective thinning and removed invasive species.

Mill Pond Valley

Removed a contingency of garlic mustard among other invasive plants, constructed a small boardwalk over mud, and repainted a bridge.

Namequoit Bog

Pile reconstruction and burning to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, invasive management, natural debris removal, and fuels reduction.

Sarah's Pond

Removed invasive species in efforts to restore the ecological health of the conservation property that is part of the Three Ponds Conservation Area. We served alongside Orleans Conservation Trust.

Terrapin Cove

Removed debris from bordering wetlands vegetation to assure turtles can access the nesting habitat; served with Eastham Natural Resources and Mass Audubon.

Provincetown

B-Street Community Garden

Constructed five ground beds and two elevated garden beds; weeded and spread wood chips throughout the garden.





CONT. YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS

Provincetown Elementary School

Assisted Sustainable CAPE with their Farmer in the School program.

52 Creek Road

Cleared brush to install split rail fencing; served with Provincetown Conservation Trust.

Sandwich

Joint Base Cape Cod

Prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, hazard management, and fuels reduction.

Sandwich Community Green

Arranged gravel to fill in rodent habitat under the community garden's shed and planted new pollinator plants in existing garden beds.

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Shawme Crowell State Forest

Felled dead Red Pine trees to reduce potential hazard trees from falling across roadways and onto buildings.

Sandwich Herring Run

Served with the Department of Natural Resources to clean the stream and culverts of debris to better aid herring migration; removed plants from earthen dam to protect its structural integrity and performed trail maintenance to improve trails for public use.

Murkwood Conservation Area

Assisted the Department of Natural Resources by demolishing and removing an illegal hunting camp created on Murkwood Conservation land; helped to widen a trail in order for larger debris to be removed mechanically.

Weebles Daycare Center

Performed both the FiresSafety and Winter Safety puppet show.

YMCA Camps Burgess and Hayward

Utilized wood splitters to stock fire wood for the upcoming summer and spread wood chips for the low ropes course; general prep work completed before large public volunteer day.

Truro

Great Pond-Truro

Installed jute netting, split rail fencing, and native plants with Cape Cod National Seashore.

Truro Children's Community Garden

Assisted Sustainable CAPE with children during an after-school program to create artwork based on what they had learned over the summer about pollinators.

Wellfleet

Dyer Pond & Spectacle Pond

Jutted and planted native species in efforts to mitigate erosion. Served with Cape Cod National Seashore.

Fox Island

Removed brush and cut-up logs that were disturbing the wetlands in the area; served with Wellfleet Health & Conservation Department.

Omaha Landing & Field Point Landing

Installed and repaired kayak racks to help reduce the number of people leaving their boats on the dunes and damaging the vegetation; served with Wellfleet Health & Conservation Department.

Powers Landing

Constructed kayak racks for residents of Wellfleet to use instead of placing their kayaks on dunes; served with Wellfleet Health & Conservation Department.

Wellfleet Conservation Trustees

Cleaned various WCT sites in addition to trail widening and maintenance.

Gull Pond

Raked and spread hay at Gull Pond to encourage plant growth up the embankment and installed post-hole fencing; served with the Cape Cod National Seashore.

Yarmouth

Shorebird Fencing

Erected fencing with signage which aided in the ongoing efforts to restore habitat areas and conserve Piping Plovers, Least Terns, and Common Terns; served with Mass Audubon.

Taylor Bray Farm Preservation Association

Served with Taylor Bray Farm clearing brush and invasive species back three feet from the pasture fence line.

Yarmouth Woodlands

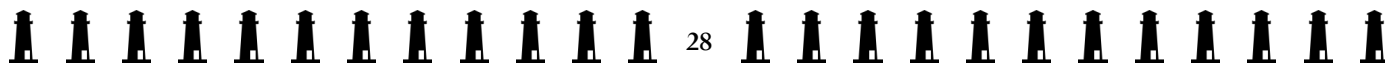
Conducted prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and fuels reduction.

Sandy Pond Herring Run

Served with Yarmouth Department of Natural Resources to clear out the herring run of leaf litter and large debris, deepened the run with shovels, and created trail farther from the bank of the stream to prevent erosion.

Sea Holly Park

Served with the Department of Parks and Recreation to remove invasive plants and promote the growth of native plants at this scenic park.



YEAR 18 SERVICE PROJECTS CONT.



Cape Cod National Seashore

Long Point Outwash

Pile burn to remove both natural and manmade debris that gets washed up during high tides.

Highlands Center

Service focused on invasive management, fuel reduction, habitat restoration, as well as general upkeep and beautification based on long term Cape Cod National Seashore goals.

Lombard-Paradise Hollow Fire Management Research Area

Long term fire ecology research plots alongside UMASS Amherst.

Great Pond

Removed hazard trees from the pond access and trail.

Richardson Property

Cut and pile burn for invasive management, fuels reduction, and the removal of natural debris.

Cape Cod National Seashore Helipad

Cut and Pile burn to remove fuels that are encroaching on the Helipad, creating fire risk as well as safety risk for helicopters.

Marconi Site Road

Cut and pile burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and fuels reduction.

Marconi Beach Road

Cut and pile burn, and prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and fuels reduction.

Hemenway Landing

Cut and pile burn, and prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and fuels reduction.

Nauset Light Beach

Built long term beach access for a long-term erosion solution that is wheelchair accessible; cut and pile burn for employee accessibility.

Tomahawk Trail

Cut and pile burn for fuels reduction, trail maintenance, and hazard tree removal.

Fort Hill

Conducted Brushcutting, cut and pile burn, and prescribed fire to promote long term habitat restoration for native plants and animals, historical native landscape, invasive management, and fuels reduction.

Doane Rock

Prescribed burn to promote habitat restoration for native plants and animals, and fuels reduction, and trail maintenance.

Coast Guard Beach

Pile burn to promote and fuels and debris reduction.





SPECIAL THANKS

PROJECT DONATIONS

- Cape Cod Bagel
- Dunkin' Donuts
- Hole in One Donuts (Eastham)
- JoMama's Bagels (Orleans)
- Roche Bros (Mashpee)
- Star Market (Harwich)
- Star Market (Hyannis)
- Stop and Shop (East Falmouth)
- Stop and Shop (Marstons Mills)
- Stop and Shop (Mashpee)
- Stop and Shop: Sandwich (Quaker Meetinghouse Road)
- Stop and Shop: Sandwich (6A)
- Stop and Shop: South Yarmouth (Station Ave.)
- Trader Joe's
- Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority

MEMBER TRAINERS

- Mark Adams
- Phil Burt
- Nancy Church
- Nina Coleman
- Dave Crary, Jr.
- Joe Daigle
- Larry Dapsis
- Kat Garofoli
- CT Harry
- Rachel Hutchinson
- Shannon Jarbeau
- Margot Madden
- Tom Marcotti
- Mike Maguire
- Liz Migliore
- Bobbi Moritz
- Russ Norton
- Patrick O'Neil
- Breanne Penkala
- Matt Pitta
- Rick Porter
- Liz Thomas



AmeriCorps Cape Cod Year 18 Members

DEPARTING STAFF



AMY HENDERSON

PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Amy Henderson served as an AmeriCorps Cape Cod Member in Year 7 of the program. Amy came back to work for the program in Year 14 and assisted with creating and implementing the AmeriCorps Cape Cod FireCorps Program. Amy spent almost four years as a Program Specialist with the program. In addition, to overseeing the FireCorps Program, Amy oversaw the Individual Placements. In February, Amy left to take over as the Director of the Senior Corps program, operating out of Elder Services of Cape Cod.



OLIVIA MARTIN

BOURNE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Olivia served two years in AmeriCorps*NCCC before joining AmeriCorps Cape Cod as a member leader in year seventeen. Over the past year, Olivia has served as the Bourne House Supervisor. Olivia is looking forward to starting a career in the trades and heading back to her home state of Connecticut.



KAYLA BAIER

WELLFLEET PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Kayla is originally from Ocean City, MD. She recently graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland with a degree in Sociology. Through college she was heavily involved with Title IX advocacy and is looking to pursue this again. Kayla will be staying on Cape for the foreseeable future.



DARLENE JOHNSON-MORRIS

*DIRECTOR OF RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE & AMERICORPS
CAPE COD*

Darlene Johnson-Morris is an inspiration and champion for Barnstable County. Darlene’s expansive thinking brought the national concept for AmeriCorps to Cape Cod, one of the most highly regarded AmeriCorps programs in Massachusetts, where it endures and thrives after 18 years of dedicated service performed by countless educated members. Her vision and remarkable commitment to Cape Cod has brought value-added services that continue to preserve and protect the natural resources that make the Cape a distinctive place to live, visit, work and play.

As the Director of the Barnstable County Resource Development Office, Darlene applied her resourcefulness and forged key partnerships with local, state, federal and non-profit organizations. She linked schools, land trusts and thousands of volunteers with the goal of facilitating a variety

of natural resource management projects, many on town-owned conservation lands.

Superintendent of the United States Department of the Interior, George E. Price, Jr. writes that, “Darlene has established an extensive legacy of the AmeriCorps Cape Cod program since 1999. We have received over 70,000 volunteer hours via numerous group service projects, annual individual placements, and more recently, the FireCorps. The entire county and 15 municipalities benefited from over 787,000 volunteer hours to date for 120 town, county, state, federal and non-profit and community-based departments and organizations.” These volunteer hours have been valued at a staggering \$21,616,290.00.

“As a mentor, steward, and visionary, Darlene has paved the way for hundreds of people from across the country to make Cape Cod’s environment and community a better place,” said Mike Maguire, Director at the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension and alumnus and former staff member of AmeriCorps Cape Cod. “Darlene’s dedication and passion for environmental conservation and service are both exemplary and inspirational.”

Through her insight, transformational leadership, and an ability to guide and motivate others to engage in community service, AmeriCorps Cape Cod members have provided essential services throughout Barnstable County, with many AmeriCorps members choosing to remain on Cape Cod and establish careers here. Moreover, her capacity to mentor and encourage young people to not only recognize how communities can be transformed through service, but how service can equate to purpose for oneself. Many past members continue to be aware of the personal impact of their AmeriCorps experience. A former AmeriCorps member writes, “I am awed to think about the number of service projects completed and life trajectories altered, all because [Darlene] decided to do the hard work to bring this program into existence.”

Darlene’s outstanding contributions also include Cape-wide education projects that have inspired community leaders and the public. Her efforts there have led to appreciation for the restoration and the protection of our valuable natural resources, to be well-prepared to respond to natural disasters, and to make affordable housing a priority. By educating the public and commissioners, she has encouraged the implementation of significant legislation throughout Cape Cod.

Darlene’s influence over the years has been vast and positive. She has contributed both directly and indirectly to countless people’s lives. After 23 years of service, Darlene is retiring this year. We would like to recognize and honor Darlene Johnson-Morris as an exemplary public servant, a true community leader. Therefore, we are dedicating an award in her honor, called the Darlene Johnson Award. This award will be presented each year to a member who exemplifies what it means to serve the community.

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