

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 1, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Vought:

As members of bipartisan Senate National Service Caucus, we write to express our strong support for AmeriCorps and urge you to faithfully implement the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025, which President Trump signed into law and includes \$1,262,806,000 for AmeriCorps. This funding is critical to ensure AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Senior Volunteers can continue to deliver services in communities around the country, which include supporting veterans, responding to hurricanes and flooding, fighting wildfires, tutoring in schools, combatting the fentanyl epidemic, and much more.

Over the past several months, AmeriCorps grantees have navigated a series of events that have made it difficult to plan or operate effectively. In mid-April, the AmeriCorps agency abruptly terminated AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) field operations and announced mass layoffs, affecting approximately 85% of the agency's staff and leaving grantees with little to no communication or support. On April 25th, the AmeriCorps agency terminated nearly \$400 million in active grants. These actions placed the agency's statutorily required grantmaking and oversight functions in flux, resulting in slow processing and significant delays in releasing FY25 grant funds.

Most recently, hundreds of grantees received award notifications that their FY25 applications have been approved for funding "pending release of FY25 appropriated dollars." However, it is our understanding that OMB does not intend to release the remaining FY25 funding for AmeriCorps Seniors grant renewals, nor for AmeriCorps State and National new grants and renewals. We urge you to reverse this decision immediately and release all appropriated funds to execute awarded FY25 grants.

Further delays in grantmaking will have immediate and irreversible consequences for programs, AmeriCorps members, and communities. For example, contracts for over 130 AmeriCorps Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs expired on June 30th, and no timeline has been provided for releasing FY25 funds appropriated by Congress for these programs. These established programs are eligible for \$50,749,000 to support more than 6,000 senior volunteers in 35 states. These programs ceased activities on July 1st, and if congressionally appropriated AmeriCorps funding for FY25 is not released soon, they will permanently lose staff and other contracts that will make it impossible to efficiently restart programming.

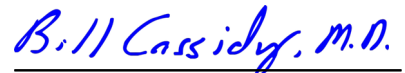
For more than thirty years, AmeriCorps has been our nation's leading provider of grants that support and promote national service and volunteerism. Through programs like AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors, more than 200,000 Americans participate in results-driven service projects at more than 35,000 locations across the country each year. Working hand in hand with thousands of nonprofit, faith-based, and community organizations, these dedicated Americans recruit and manage millions of additional volunteers as they work to promote employment opportunities, prepare a better-trained workforce, and provide essential services to veterans, children, and seniors.

National service has long enjoyed bipartisan support from governors, mayors, and members of Congress because it delivers measurable value to communities, helps strengthen local workforces, and offers young Americans a meaningful pathway into public service. We have seen firsthand the critical impact AmeriCorps programs have across the states we represent. We urge the administration to release all remaining funding for AmeriCorps as appropriated by Congress under the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 so that this important work can continue.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator

CC: Jennifer Bastress Tahmasebi, Interim Agency Head, AmeriCorps