



Civic Works Baltimore's Service Corps

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Civic Works

At a Glance

Founded in 1993, Civic Works is Baltimore's leading urban service corps and an AmeriCorps program. Its mission is to build a future for Baltimore's youth through community service and skills development. Training emphasizes employment skills and learning a trade, and incorporates the concepts of teamwork; education as a tool for success; and the individual's responsibility to his/her community.

Civic Works accomplishes its goals by forging strong partnerships among local government agencies, community-based organizations and private and public funders.

Chair, Board of Directors Marc G. Bunting
Executive Director -Dana M. Stein

An AmeriCorps Program

As an AmeriCorps program, each year Civic Works places about 200 AmeriCorps members who transform communities by tutoring and mentoring children, building community parks and gardens and rehabilitating houses for low-income residents. In exchange for their service AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance, an education award that can be applied to college or vocational school and the job readiness and life skills needed to secure and maintain employment.

National Recognition & Accomplishments

Civic Works has earned numerous accolades over the years including the prestigious Standards for Excellence designation presented by the Maryland Association of Nonprofits. The Standards for Excellence Seal is awarded to a select few nonprofits that are deemed to be ethical and accountable in their program operations, governance, human resources, financial management and fundraising. Less than 1 percent of all Maryland non-profits are certified.

In addition, Civic Works has been recognized nationally as an "Innovative AmeriCorps Program" by Innovations in Civic Participation, an international social change non-profit that focuses on using community service as a solution to a wide range of social issues.

Through the commitment of its volunteers and community partners, Civic Works has made numerous major accomplishments including:

- Removing more than 2.1 million lbs. of trash from Baltimore City streets and vacant lots;
- Engaging 29,048 volunteers in community service projects;
- Planting 23,477 trees and 13,479 flowers in Baltimore City neighborhoods;
- Providing tutoring and mentoring services to 25,711 students;
- Providing 1,328 AmeriCorps members with career and/or college counseling, as well as training 1,247 in conflict resolution and communication, training 526 in construction or landscaping and assisting 153 in earning their GED.
- Placing 369 graduates of B'more Green and Healthcare Careers Alliance workforce development programs in full-time jobs.

Volunteer Opportunities

Each year Civic Works organizes more than 1,500 volunteers to work alongside corpsmembers and make lasting improvements in Baltimore neighborhoods. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available for individuals, and civic and business groups. The annual Day of Service in honor of Ricky Myers, which is held in October, draws 500 volunteers each year to participate in community-based projects. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, please contact Earl Millett, Community Development Director at (410) 366-8533, ext. 214 or volunteer@civicworks.com.

Financial Support

With an operating budget of \$4.6 million Civic Works is responsible for generating income to provide programs, training and support of volunteers. Funding is provided through a variety of sources including individual donors, cash and in-kind donations from businesses, community associations, grants from the state and private foundations and support from several federal agencies including the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Environmental Protection Agency.

“*With a strong work ethic and a focus on education and skills training, Civic Works continues to kindle positive change in the lives of Baltimore's young adults and in our communities.*”

- Martin O'Malley

Our Programs

Civic Works' program areas reflect the organization's overarching ideal vision for Baltimore as a safe, clean and physically attractive city of thriving neighborhoods and stable families who are prepared for the future and have the resources they need to nurture children.

Programs include:

Community Revitalization and Workforce Development

- **Baltimore Conservation Leadership Corps:** A seven-week summer program for Baltimore City high school students offered in partnership with Johnson Controls and the Student Conservation Association. Participants work on outdoor conservation projects while learning job readiness and leadership skills.
- **Community Lot Team:** AmeriCorps members transform vacant city lots into parks and community gardens and make improvements to other public spaces. They work with neighborhood residents to identify, plan and maintain projects.
- **Healthcare Careers Alliance:** A partnership between Civic Works and four leading Baltimore hospitals that prepares youth, ages 18-21, for entry-level jobs in the healthcare industry.
- **Landscaping Teams:** Civic Works operates several landscaping programs, sponsored by Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, the Mayor's Office on Employment Development, and the National Park Service that provide job skills training for Baltimore residents.
- **Neighborhoods for All Ages:** Operated in partnership with the Coldstream-Homestead-Montebello Community Corporation, this program assists older adults (ages 60 and older) in accessing social services and home repairs, allowing them to remain in their homes and active in the community.
- **YouthBuild:** Young adults, ages 18-25, are provided with construction skills training and GED preparation while rehabilitating abandoned houses in Baltimore City. Participants also work with Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity and the Empower Baltimore Management Corporation.

Education

- **Baltimore County A.V.I.D.:** A partnership with the Baltimore County Public School system, A.V.I.D is a college-prep curriculum that encourages high school students to prepare for and succeed in college. AmeriCorps members work with students in schools on organization, note taking, study skills and time management.
- **Baltimore Education Network:** Organizers work in 10 Baltimore City Public Schools, supporting families, youth, and communities in creating the agenda for how their schools can improve.
- **Goodnow Community Center:** AmeriCorps members provide literacy instruction, homework assistance, enrichment and recreational programming for students at the Goodnow Community Center. Members also serve students at Furley Elementary and W.E.B. DuBois High School.

Green Programs

- **3E Energy Solutions:** 3E Energy Solutions weatherizes existing residential buildings to create living spaces that are more energy efficient, affordable, safe, and comfortable. The program puts teams of trainees to work providing air sealing and insulation services and installing Cool Roofs.
- **B'more Green:** An environmental job training program that combines classroom study with hands-on skills training to prepare participants for entry-level careers in the field of environmental construction and technology.
- **Project Lightbulb:** Promotes energy conservation for low-to-moderate income homeowners in Baltimore City communities. AmeriCorps members conduct energy efficiency assessments and install energy-saving fixtures.
- **Real Food Farm:** Civic Works' new urban agriculture program will utilize high tunnel greenhouses to produce organic fruits, vegetables, and herbs for Baltimore residents. The project will provide job training for community residents and educational opportunities for students.

Clifton Mansion Restoration

- **Clifton Mansion Restoration:** Civic Works is headquartered in the historic Clifton Mansion, the former summer home of famed philanthropist Johns Hopkins, and is restoring portions of the building. The Clifton Mansion features an 80-foot tower and exhibits on philanthropy and the life of Samuel Hopkins.

REACH! Partnership School

- **REACH!:** This Baltimore City transformation school, serving grades 6-12, provides a comprehensive educational experience centered on careers in healthcare and construction. Partners include Johns Hopkins Medical System, Associated Builders and Contractors of Maryland, Stevenson University, Johnson Controls and Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition (HEBCAC).

For More Information

To learn more or to volunteer, please call (410) 366-8533 or visit Civic Works at www.civicworks.com.