

2009 State and National AmeriCorps Grantee Meeting

September 2009

Documentation from Newsprint at Closing Plenary

What can CNCS do to support the field in implementing the SAA?

- Commission must come together to dialogue on SSA
- Commission must BE made aware: PDAT funds are for training of staff and AC members
- List of national directs in my /all States
- Tips for how to collaborate for training with state commissions and national programs
- Continue sharing best practices
- More direct training at the sub-grantee level
- Direct training in eGrants (have live site open during training, Q & A sessions)
- Need a push from CNCS to get VISTA & Senior Corps to play with AmeriCorps State. Perhaps Senior Corps & VISTA should be required to collaborate with AmeriCorps State and National
- Put our home pages online, add Training Officer/PDAT Coordinator and Program Officer to home pages, and make it searchable
- Not have to buy gear
- Assist programs with national training, certification, whereby they support national interventions (HIV testing & counseling training)
- Programs have community discussion board for AC Members only
- Help facilitate discussion between National Programs and State Commissions, especially, with those commissions who have been less quick to respond
- Need examples of state commission/national direct successes! What some benefits have been; for example, PennSERVE Commission and Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council
- Provide contact information of state commission staff & national program staff to each other (local contacts in each state)
- Need advisors' support as we begin expansion of UNM Service Corps (health corps, tribal service corps, civic corps)
- Allocations for administrative, PDAT, and Disability by October 2009
- Amount & Location of Senior Corps and Learn and Serve Training Resources
- How do we leverage resources from national programs?
- Clarification of application/Changes between 2009 - 2010? (Please highlight changes)
- Release of final performance measures and guidance to assist applicants by October 2009
- Online directory of homepages (Maybe keyword/searchable)

- Knowing 1 year in advance of conference (that they will happen & approximately when) this is necessary for budgeting
- More in-person training & more training that encompass 7 ways of learning
- National performance measures sooner than later
- Guidance on matching performance measures to program design & coaching others to do so
- Time!!!
- Person Power
- WANTIVATION
- Commitment to the Project
- Ability to share information with those back home
- Return phone calls
- Provide TA as needed
- Keep clear communication
- Make sure to follow-up
- Recognize concerns, fear of the unknown & take steps to alleviate
- Continue dialogue, CNCS should do more reaching out
- Time....for communication, to refine processes, etc. within packed fall schedule!
- Staff, commissioner and program director retreat (small group) to get everyone on the same page
- Information on state programs and national programs searchable by STATE
- More specific TIMELINE and guidelines and expectations on how to communicate between state and national programs (within the greater timeline for grant application due dates/deadlines)
- Admin, PDAT/Disability Allocations
- More time/more money
- eGrants (portal) training for Commissions
- Clarity on actual impact of Commissions' recommendations of national programs' applications
- Date of completion of rulemaking
- Stronger linkage of national service to social innovation fund
- Fast track communication with Senior Corps/Learn & Serve to facility planning @ commission of PDAT/Disability funds
- Post as early as possible all deadline dates, guidelines, instructions, etc.
- Need allocation charts ASAP
- Provide mechanism for conversations re: grantmaking/partnerships to take place (ex: connect rural states with national programs)
- Full, reliable & accurate database that captures who is doing what where plus needs in a geographic area & resources/programs available to address them
- One-year calendar of conferences, meetings published in advance for state budgeting processes
- Statement that attendance at CNCS meetings is required, not strongly encouraged
- Provide most (if not all) material on thumb drives or post online

- Continue to support conversations around national performance measures
- Increased connections by subject matter
- Hold regional trainings – portal
- POs have quarterly calls with state commissions with the latest CNCS updates
- Set response time standards and follow them (e.g. return calls within 24 hours, emails within 4 hours, etc) PLEASE
- Communicate, communicate, communicate, and tell us again
- Have copies of handouts for sessions especially when unrolling big new initiatives
- Updates on national performance
- Measures and combined competition
- More \$ for new background checks
- Announce \$ MSY for fixed amount grants
- An agenda prior to the meeting
- Additional funds (PDAT/DISA) to support Senior Corps/Learn and Serve, or assistance with incorporating the additional training/inclusion needs
- Meeting with CNCS leadership, Dept of Education and teacher corps programs to discuss performance measures