

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julie Houghton
425 921 3401 | julie.houghton@wdcsc.org

Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program accepts host site applications

April 22, 2009 - Everett, WA—Workforce Development Council Snohomish County (WDCSC) is excited to announce the opening of the Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program host site application process for the 2009-2010 service year. Host sites must be alternative schools, high schools, government agencies, or non-profit organizations that serve Snohomish County. New organizations are encouraged to apply.

WDCSC anticipates expanding its long-running program to sponsor twenty AmeriCorps Members for the 2009-2010 service year, and has already seen a spike in member interest, especially among recent college graduates who are answering President Obama's call to service. The announcement of federal stimulus funds aimed at expanding AmeriCorps nationally has also piqued local interest.

AmeriCorps Program host sites contribute \$8,900 for each full-time member they host. This payment goes directly toward the member's \$13,000 living allowance and program administration costs. In return, host sites gain access to a committed volunteer who serves at their agency for ten months, addressing community issues and connecting the agency to the national service movement. AmeriCorps Members serve at-risk youth and adults throughout Snohomish County, providing leadership and development skills while fostering an ethic of service throughout our county.

Applications are due May 29, 2009 and can be found with additional information at www.wdcsc.org.

Snohomish County AmeriCorps Program

The AmeriCorps Program of Snohomish County has a ten year history of getting things done in our community. Every year 20 members of all ages and from many backgrounds volunteer at high schools and non-profit organizations to provide at-risk adults and teens with leadership and development skills. Members provide mentoring, tutoring, job preparedness, enrichment activities, service-learning, etc. Members also recruit and work with youth and adult volunteers.

Members serve full-time for 10-months starting in September. 80% of a member's time is spent working with adults, youth and volunteers; 20% is spent receiving professional development from AmeriCorps Program staff and other trainers. AmeriCorps members make significant

contributions to host sites, the individuals served at host sites, and the community - contributions that extend beyond their 10-month service year.

Workforce Development Council Snohomish County (WDCSC)

WDCSC invests government and private funding to continuously increase the global competitiveness and prosperity of county workforce and businesses, fill current and emerging jobs, and provide full employment. Investments are made through effective business, labor, community-based, educational, and service provider organizations for the opportunity, economic well-being, and benefit of our entire community.

###