**Idaho HealthCare for Children & Families**  
*AmeriCorps Program Fact Sheet*

**What is the Idaho Healthcare for Children & Families?** The IHCF is a State AmeriCorps program—funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service. IHCF members provide health outreach to children and families, assist with advocacy needs, provide health education, and serve as a link between the community and the placement site. For 2017-2018, each full-time stipend member receives a living allowance of $12,630 for 12 months of service. Other available benefits include basic health insurance, childcare, and a $5,815 educational award that can be used to pay off student loans or for future educational expenses. The education award is good for seven years.

**Who administers the program?** The IHCF program is administered at the Idaho State University, Institute of Rural Health. Members are then placed in Head Start and Early Head Start or non-profit programs throughout the state of Idaho that can greatly utilize the skills and abilities that an IHCF AmeriCorps member can provide. IHCF AmeriCorps members are not allowed to displace current employees at the various sites, and are required to provide Direct Service for the majority of their hours.

**How long has the IHCF been in operation?** This is the 8th year of the IHCF AmeriCorps program!

**What is expected of IHCF AmeriCorps members?** Each member is expected to complete 1700 hours of service during one full program year (900 for part-time or 450 for quarter time slots). All members are required to participate in a Pre-Service Training, which takes place towards the beginning of their service year. Various conference calls and other training opportunities are also conducted throughout the year. Members are also expected to act as professional AmeriCorps members at the service site they have been appointed to. The four goals of AmeriCorps are: 1.) getting things done, 2.) strengthening communities, 3.) encouraging responsibility, and 4.) expanding opportunities. Members are also required to extensively document their hours and activities each day while in service. This information is then reported back to the funding agency.

**Why do individuals join?** IHCF members receive tremendous training and experience which will look good on any resume. As an AmeriCorps member, the focus is on “getting things done”; it is an experience in which each member receives tremendous work experience in a new, creative, innovative, and meaningful position at each service site. Members understand the meaning of “being involved in their community,” are integral in community service through the various team related volunteer service projects they are engaged in throughout the year, and are encouraged to provide presentations and attend professional health-related conferences to further themselves, their knowledge, and career.

**Who funds and administers the program?** The Institute of Rural Health receives funding from Serve Idaho who receives their funding from the Corporation for National & Community Service.

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“This material is based upon work supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service under AmeriCorps Grant No. 15AFHID0010002. Opinions or points of view expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of, or a position that is endorsed by, the Corporation for National and Community Service or the AmeriCorps program.”