

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA # *A-2b

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE April 28, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Proclamation of the Week of May 10 - 16, 2009 as AmeriCorps Week in Stanislaus County-Community Services Agency

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Proclaim the Week of May 10 - 16, 2009 as AmeriCorps Week.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-258

On motion of Supervisor Monteith, Seconded by Supervisor Grover
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

DISCUSSION:

Sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps Week is a nationwide event designed to bring more Americans into service, salute AmeriCorps members and alumni for their powerful impact, and thank the community partners who make AmeriCorps possible. 2009 marks the 3rd annual AmeriCorps Week nationwide.

AmeriCorps Week provides an opportunity for AmeriCorps members, alumni, grantees, program partners, and friends to shine a spotlight on the work done by members in communities across the country—and to motivate more Americans to join AmeriCorps or volunteer in their communities.

AmeriCorps provides opportunities for 75,000 Americans to give back in an intensive way to their communities and country each year. It consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, whose members serve with more than 2,600 national and local nonprofit and community groups; AmeriCorps VISTA, through which members serve full time fighting poverty; and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based residential program for young adults 18-24 who carry out projects in public safety, the environment, youth development, and disaster relief and preparedness.

AmeriCorps members do a wide range of things: They recruit, train, and supervise community volunteers, tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after-school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and build the capacity of nonprofit groups to become self-sustaining, among many other activities.

In exchange for a year of full-time service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college or graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. Awards are pro-rated for part-time service. Some members also receive a living allowance and health care.

In Stanislaus County, since 2005 the Community Services Agency has partnered with California Volunteers, Prevent Child Abuse California, Sierra Vista Child and Family Services, Center for Human Services, and Ceres Partnership for Healthy Children to bring AmeriCorps members to the forefront in our agency's commitment to both lower the risk of child abuse and neglect, and prevent the recurrence of maltreatment in children across our county. In this capacity, AmeriCorps members provide services and support to families as Family Advocates and Parent Mentors. In the 4-½ years since the programs inception, AmeriCorps members have provided over 48,000 hours of service at their host sites, supporting the Family Resource Centers and programs within the Community Services Agency to strengthen the capacity and enable children and families to become healthier and self-sufficient.

The Community Services Agency is recommending that May 10 – 16, 2009 be proclaimed AmeriCorps Week in Stanislaus County

POLICY ISSUE:

Proclaiming May 10 – 16, 2009 as AmeriCorps Week in Stanislaus County promotes community awareness of service opportunities and support available to children and families, and confirms the Agency's effort to meet the Board's priority of ensuring a safe community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact associated with this request.