



MONTANA CAMPUS COMPACT

# IMPACT REPORT

## 2022-2023

## WHY OUR WORK MATTERS

**WE ENGAGE STUDENTS** in their communities

**WE CATALYZE CAMPUSES** to meet community needs

**WE REVITALIZE DEMOCRACY** through community engagement



Montana Campus Compact (MTCC) is a CEO-led network of colleges and universities that collectively work to advance the public purposes of higher education to improve community life and educate students for civic and social responsibility. Together, as campuses united behind this joint mission:

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*"We empower students, faculty, and staff to co-create reciprocal community partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable world;*

*We prepare students to be effective and informed citizens in our democracy with the capacity to deliberate, listen, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good;*

*We embrace our responsibilities to contribute to the economic, social, environmental, educational, and political health of our communities."*



# 2022-23 HIGHLIGHTS



*Miles Community College AmeriCorps members, student volunteers, and Public Library staff create care packages for veterans.*

## New Programs, Affiliates and Strategic Plan

Academic Year 2022-23 saw AmeriCorps members with the network coaching over 17,000 young people in postsecondary attainment and over 5,000 college students on college success. We won a new competitive AmeriCorps grant, whose budget (including federal, nonfederal, and Education Awards) totaled \$1,124,223. This followed the closure of a successful grant cycle of our college access AmeriCorps program. The grant award is notable because it bolsters campuses capacity for community service and engagement and aligns with the core mission of cultivating civic participation while supporting student success. These new AmeriCorps resources support student engagement, address community needs, and support our campuses' cultures of service and volunteerism.

With former Blackfeet Community College president and UM's Tribal Outreach Specialist, Dr. Karla Bird, we debuted the eight-part "Centering Indigenous Knowledge" series. The well-attended series focused on the work at Montana's seven tribal colleges to advance indigenous knowledge. They featured a roundtable with Montana's founding administrators and leaders in the tribal college movement.

Our campus network expanded to welcome Chief Dull Knife College (CDKC) this year. This expanded the network's reach and underscored our commitment to advancing higher education and community engagement. Soon after joining, CDKC's Burt Medicine Bull presented the institution's work to promote the Cheyenne language and culture.

We spent time this year listening to stakeholders across the state, coding response data, and drafting an ambitious network strategic plan for 2023-25. It presents a well-defined blueprint for our future undertakings and paves the way for sustained growth in their pursuit of civic engagement and service. This accomplishment exemplifies our unwavering commitment to long-term success and sustainability in fulfilling our mission.

Finally, we said goodbyes to several long-time colleagues whose careers brought them to exciting new places: We thank Dannette Fadness, Robyn Michalec, and Jonathan Carter for their significant contributions to this work and wish them well!

## Student Awards, Programs, and Scholarships

### George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarship:

- 15 students were awarded \$1,000 each

### Montana Athletes In Service (MAIS):

15 student-athletes honored at the Brawl of the Wild

### Montana Student Volunteer Award (MSVA):

- 12 student-volunteers awarded

### Newman Civic Fellowship:

- Six Montana student Fellows

### Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards

- Approx. \$380,000 awarded for student loans and tuition

### Youth Serve MT Scholarships:

- 50 freshmen were awarded \$1,000 each (50-99 hrs)
- 49 freshmen were awarded \$1,500 each (100+ hrs)



## AmeriCorps College Coaches

### Supporting College Access and Success

In 2022-2023, fourteen full-time MTCC AmeriCorps College Coaches engaged in service at fifteen sites across Montana, including six projects in partnership with tribal entities. MTCC also had thirty-six part-time AmeriCorps College Coaches involved in service from twelve campuses across the state. These members mentored over 8,500 first-generation and low-income students in college access, success, and career development.

MTCC AmeriCorps College Coaches engaged in activities such as youth-focused out-of-school time activities, food insecurity alleviation, college application nights, FAFSA workshops, STEM career exploration, and college and career planning. In addition, MTCC AmeriCorps College Coaches recruited 268 community volunteers to mentor students and grow the capacity of their campuses and schools.

*"Increasing educational equity among children is critical because even tiny words of affirmation can bring insurmountable confidence [to] kids. Seeing children happily learn and grow also helped to quell my personal imposter syndrome as I realized that I was making a demonstrable impact on these children. Even one phrase of affirmation could be something a child carries with them for a lifetime."*

Zainab Jamal, AmeriCorps College Coach

- 50 AmeriCorps members engaged in service
- 17,825 youth coached in postsecondary attainment
- 5,165 College students were coached in college access and success
- AmeriCorps members leveraged \$58,238 in in-kind resources
- 101 mentor/mentee junior and senior high school student matches
- 268 volunteers provided 837 hours; an estimated economic value of \$26,617
- 1,400 lbs of food and hygiene products donated to campus food pantries
- 262 veterans' military family members served, and five veterans served as AmeriCorps members

## Network Strategic Plan

### 2023-25 Goals

1. Support and expand campuses work to actively address their students and community partners most pressing needs.
2. Support and expand campuses work to prioritize and recognize public service, community, and democratic engagement.
3. Amplify support for Montana's tribal nations and their ways of knowing and being.

## AmeriCorps VISTA

### Building Capacity to Address Poverty

MTCC's VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America), a legacy national service program, placed service members with campuses and their partnering non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies to address poverty and build partners' service capacity.

Twenty-two full-time MTCC AmeriCorps VISTA members swore to serve in ten communities, establishing K-12-college partnerships, creating climate action plans, and developing projects to boost student retention and success at Montana colleges and universities.

During the summer of 2023, eighteen VISTA Summer Associates served with MTCC Affiliate Campuses, nonprofits, local state government agencies, and school districts in seven Montana communities.

*"Service with the Montana Campus Compact network has multidimensionally shaped my life trajectory, sending me in a direction I could not have imagined one year ago...Service helped me receive a fellowship that is sending me to a university I never imagined attending, getting a degree in something I had never imagined studying, with a job...at the intersection of my passions and professional goals."*

Robyn Michalec, VISTA Leader

- \$134,274 of cash and in-kind resources leveraged
- 276 community volunteers engaged in community service
- 802 hours performed by community volunteers
- 22,410 disadvantaged youth served through the 2023 VISTA Summer Associate term

# WHO WE ARE

# FINANCIALS

## Affiliate Campuses



## Executive Board

Seth Bodnar, UM; John Cech, Carroll College; Waded Cruzado, MSU; Stephanie Erdmann, Great Falls College MSU, McCall Flynn, Montana Board of Public Ed.; Haven Gourneau, Fort Peck Community College; Stefani Hicswa, MSU Billings; Jane Karas, Flathead Valley Community College.

## CEO Council

Sandra Bauman, Helena College UM; Brad Hall, Blackfeet Community College; Seth Bodnar, UM; Sandra Boham, Salish Kootenai College; John Cech, Carroll College; Les Cook, Montana Technological University; Waded Cruzado, MSU; Eva Flying, Chief Dull Knife College; Haven Gourneau, Fort Peck Community College; Stefani Hicswa, MSU Billings; Jane Karas, Flathead Valley Community College; Greg Kegel, MSU Northern; Justin Villmer, Dawson Community College; Ron Slinger, Miles Community College; Mike Reid, The University of Montana Western; Stephanie Erdmann, Great Falls College MSU; David Yarlott, Little Bighorn College.

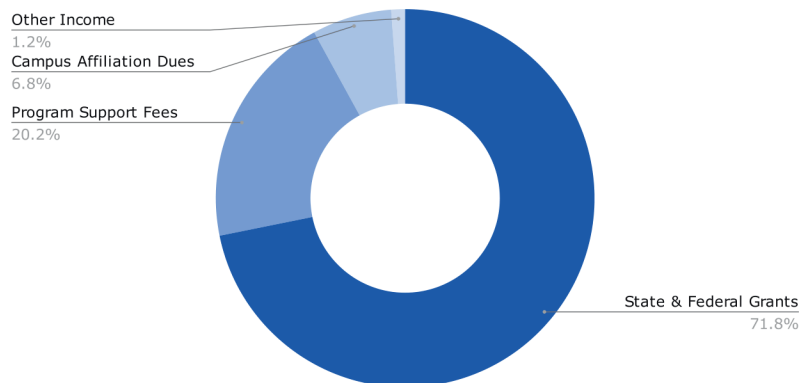
## Advisory Committee

Kim Barrows, Aaniiih Nakoda College; Elaine Little Plume, Blackfeet Community College; Laurie Rodriguez, Carroll College; Henry Thompson, Chief Dull Knife College; Joshua Engle, Dawson Community College; Wendy Jeschke, Flathead Valley Community College; Olivia Headdress, Fort Peck Community College; Joshua Archey, Great Falls College MSU; Emily Schuff (vice chair), Helena College; Jade Three Irons, Little Big Horn College; Richard DeShields, Miles Community College; Kim Cleary and Christa Merzdorf, Montana State University; Jodie DeLay, Montana Technological University; Randy Johnson, Montana Western; Parker Scott, MSU Billings; Randy Bachmeier and Corey Kopp, MSU Northern; Dan Durglo, Alana Bahe, Salish Kootenai College; and Emily Lynch (chair), University of Montana.

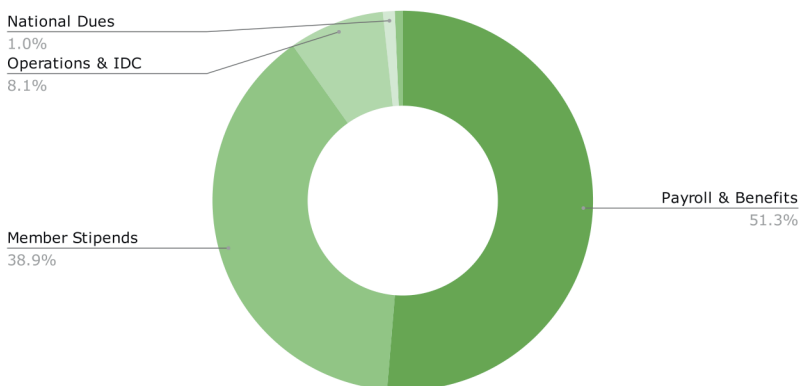
## MTCC Staff & Leaders

Eli Bowe, Program Specialist; Pete Buchanan, Associate Director; Addison Brown, Brie Daniels, and Josey Diaz, Student Staff; Jonathan Carter, AmeriCorps Senior Leader; Dannette Fadness, Program Director; Callye Foster, Director of Programs; Robyn Michalec, VISTA Leader; Josh Vanek, Executive Director; Adrienne vanHeumen, AmeriCorps Program Manager.

### Revenue



### Expenditure



### REVENUE

State & Federal Grants	673,381
Program Support Fees	190,300
Campus Affiliation Dues	63,975
Other Income & Carried Forward	11,179
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 941,835</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Payroll & Benefits	382,076
Member Stipends & Benefits	289,476
Operations & IDC	60,468
National Dues	7,511
Scholarships	5,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 744,531</b>

### BALANCE

**\$ 197,304\***

*\*The budget does not include several items leveraged through the network, including \$380,000 in AmeriCorps Education Awards, \$123,500 in Youth Serve MT Scholarships, and matching funds for George M. Dennison Civic Engagement Scholarships. These additional items have a net positive economic impact on the network and the members.*

### PARTNERS

