

**Chasity Hurd  
Widen Elementary  
Austin, Texas**

**Why did you join AmeriCorps?**

I could never imagine my life without serving. I joined AmeriCorps because it gave me the chance to do just that. I was able to connect with so many different people, so many of whom were like-minded in that we all had the same end goal—to give all we could in the time we had. I believe that no matter what, this mindset will make way for progress regardless of the arduous challenges ahead. Being a part of a program which is built on serving, selflessness, and genuine care for the community, is truly a privilege. I thank AmeriCorps and God for giving me a solid ground to build wisely, allowing me to grow my skills/abilities, taking what I've learned and sharing it with the world.



**What would you say to someone who is interested in joining but not sure?**

It's a gateway. Serving with AmeriCorps allots one entrance into a nationwide networking partnership. Those who serve come from various backgrounds and experiences. After serving, members are better able to go on to grow their professional experience, in anything from law school or business, education or counseling, or from high school to college. Beyond this, AmeriCorps shapes you in some of the most phenomenal ways. It challenges you to build yourself and allows you the opportunity to make the experience as amazing as you want it to be! Not sure about joining? Hey, the commitment is typically 1 year. What's one year that could change the rest of your life for the better?