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Why did you join AmeriCorps?

The big picture—I serve because we live in a world filled with injustice and inequity and I want to help create positive change within the community. However, I initially began my service because I needed to earn practicum and internship hours for my M.S. in clinical mental health counseling and I wanted to work with youth who were faced with challenges they needed to overcome.

What I didn't realize is how my service with AmeriCorps would impact *me*. It really opened my eyes to the challenges many students face on a daily basis, and helped me realize who I really wanted to be.

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

Service with AmeriCorps provides you with the opportunity to make real and lasting changes in the lives of those you serve. You have the chance to cultivate the seeds of change in communities where it is most needed. In addition, serving with AmeriCorps helps you to learn who you really are and what you are capable of while doing something positive for others. In one year, you will develop valuable skills and connections that you will carry with you throughout your life, while making a real and lasting difference in the lives of those you serve. Really, it's a win-win situation, so if you're thinking about serving, stop thinking and start getting things done!

