

THE READING PARTNERS EXPERIENCE

REPORT 1: Alumni reflections on their service year(s)

COMMISSIONED BY:



pathways as well as their attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs related to civic engagement. Reading Partners' AmeriCorps program is designed to impact members during and after their service terms. While in service, members cultivate in-depth relationships and witness the impact they have on students, while also engaging in a year-long training schedule that

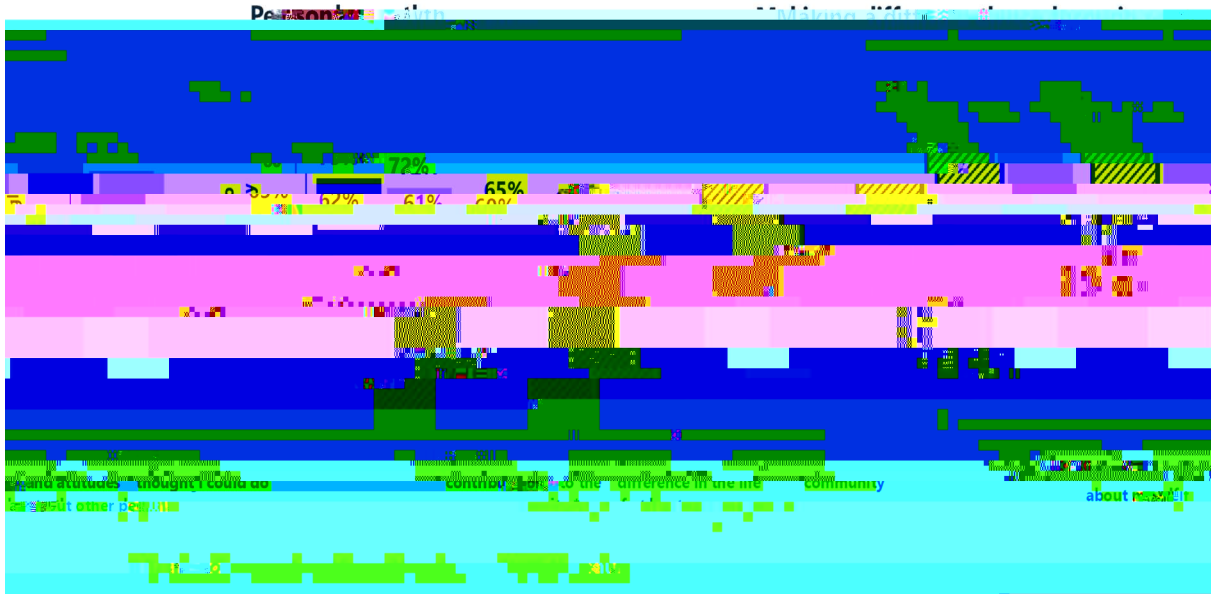
Key findings

Almost all (87 percent) Reading Partners AmeriCorps alumni were satisfied with their Reading Partners service experience and were more likely to report their service as satisfying or very satisfying than were AmeriCorps alumni who participated in the 2015 CNCS study. More than 90 percent of Reading Partners alumni reported that they were satisfied with their service experience.

More than 80 percent of Reading Partners alumni reported that they were satisfied with their service experience.

More than 80 percent of Reading Partners alumni were very likely to agree with these statements than were AmeriCorps alumni who participated in the 2015 CNCS study. More than 80 percent of Reading Partners alumni were very likely to agree with these statements than were AmeriCorps alumni who participated in the 2015 CNCS study.

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*Difference is statistically significant, $p < 0.05$
 Sources: Reading Partners AmeriCorps Alumni survey (2019); CNCS 2015 alumni survey.

Reading Partners AmeriCorps alumni agreed that their service experience had helped broaden their perspective on their community and the world

Most Reading Partners alumni agreed that their service experience helped them gain an understanding of the community where they served (93 percent), and exposed them to new ideas and ways of seeing the world (82 percent). In addition, about two thirds of alumni (65 percent) reported that their service experience helped them learn more about the “real” world or “the rest” of the world. When compared with alumni in the 2015 CNCS study, Reading Partners alumni were less likely to agree that they had learned more about the “real” world or the rest of the world from their service experience (76 percent vs. 65 percent) and the difference was statistically significant (Exhibit 4).

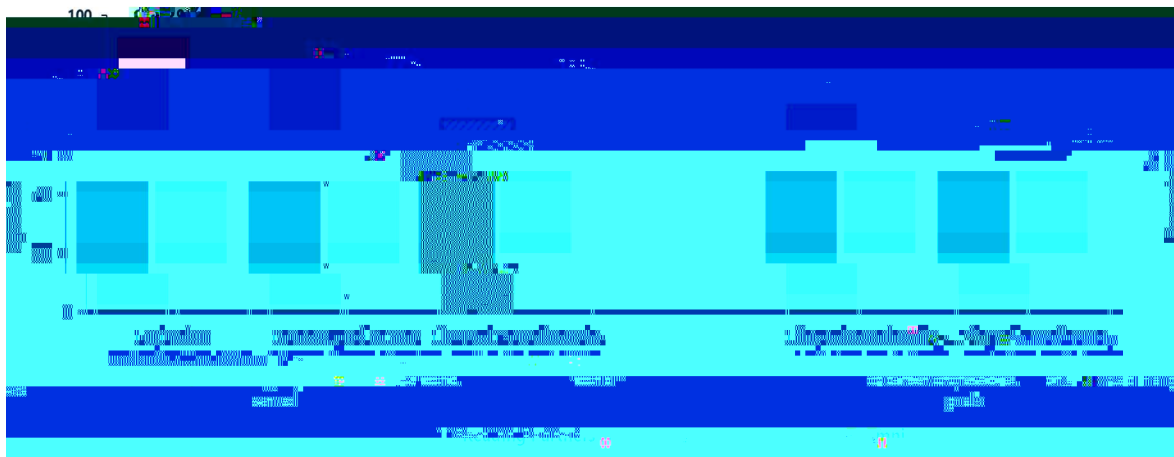
Most alumni reported that their service experience helped them figure out their next steps in terms of their career and professional goals; slightly more than half said the same about their educational goals

Reading Partners AmeriCops alumni generally agreed that their service experience had helped them identify next steps in terms of their career or professional goals (71 percent). Slightly more than half the alumni (58 percent) reported that their service experience had helped them determine next steps in terms of their educational goals (Exhibit 4). When compared with alumni in the 2015 CNCS study, Reading Partners alumni were slightly more likely to agree that their service experience had helped them plot a future course in their careers or educational goals, but these differences were not statistically significant.

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Broadening perspectives

Plotting a future course



*Difference is statistically significant, $p < 0.05$

Sources: Reading Partners AmeriCops Alumni survey (2019); CNCS 2015 alumni survey.

In their Own Words

What alumni say about their service experience

In focus group interviews and open ended survey responses, alumni described an overall satisfying service experience that provided valuable training as well as significant opportunities to develop

leadership and professional skills and chart a course for their future. The following quotes illustrate some of the Reading Partners service experiences

AmeriCops alumni valued

I liked the fact that one of the school year stated we just had to do it; there was no one holding our hand along the way, which I appreciated. I definitely stumbled a lot at first, but at the same time, the support was always there.

I had an opportunity through Reading Partners to work one-on-one with students, write behavior plans, work with community members, and do progress monitoring to help students improve. All these very specific things directly translated to the] “ no ° rgpuesvartas rin

