



# **2015 - 2016 Annual Report**

# Helping the Flower City BLOOM



Flower City AmeriCorps members are actively fulfilling their mission to strengthen communities by helping city residents gain access to job, working to make our neighborhoods safer and more vibrant, and providing our young people with more educational opportunities.

Our city faces many challenges, but we also have a history of creating great leaders. AmeriCorps members are leading by working in our R-Centers, Neighborhood Service Centers, schools, and libraries on initiatives such as the City's Operation Transformation Rochester jobs program, the Library's Raising a Reader early childhood development program, financial literacy training, teen pregnancy prevention education, and anti-poverty neighborhood outreach.

Public service work isn't easy. We're living in a time when more is expected of government and non-profits than ever before and yet, resources are stretched thin. The Flower City AmeriCorps members who dedicate a year of their lives to Rochester's children, seniors, and most vulnerable residents, are helping to bridge that gap and create a brighter future for our entire city.

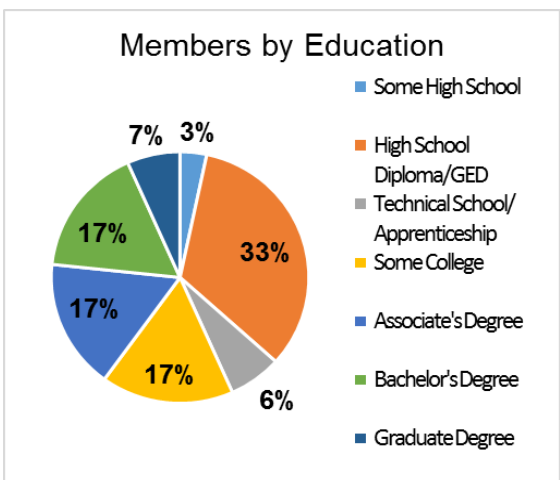
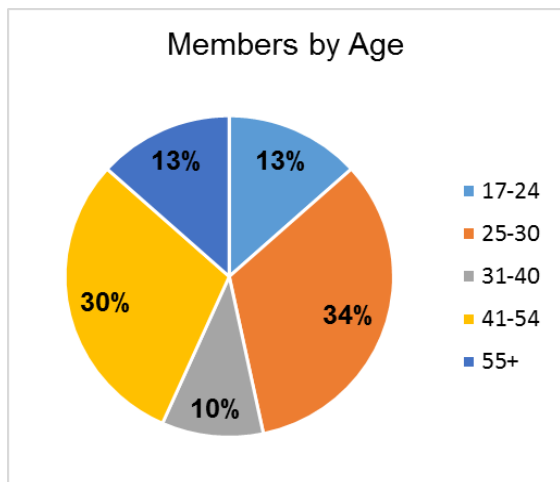
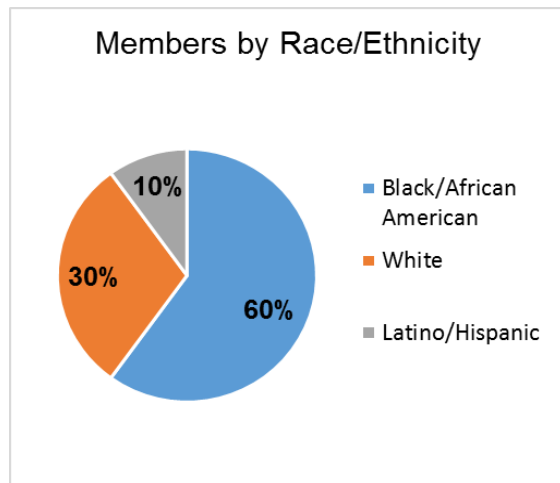
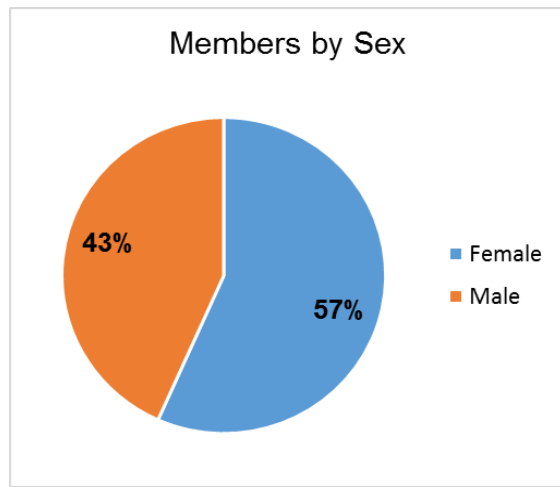
Flower City AmeriCorps is making a real difference in our community. I applaud the selfless efforts of those who have chosen to serve. You are true trailblazers and I look forward to working together in the coming year to make our city's future as its past.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lovely A. Warren'.

Lovely A. Warren  
Mayor, Rochester, N.Y.





## Program Successes

### Rochester Public Library

- Four Flower City AmeriCorps members delivered financial literacy services to 104 individuals, surpassing our goal of 80 individuals served.
- Eight Flower City AmeriCorps members delivered early childhood development services and Raising a Reader programming with an astonishing 4,580 contacts, surpassing our goal of 200 contacts.

### Operation Transformation Rochester (OTR)

- One Flower City AmeriCorps member delivered positive youth development and pregnancy prevention curricula through THRIVE to 250 youth, surpassing our goal of 80 youth served.
- Two Flower City AmeriCorps members created 74 new adult mentor/mentee matches in the Mentors Matter program.
- Four Flower City AmeriCorps delivered employment readiness and job placement services to 226 individuals, surpassing our goal of 150 individuals served.

### Quadrant-Based Programming

Four Flower City AmeriCorps members served as team leaders in City of Rochester Neighborhood Service Centers, one in each quadrant. In addition to every day support to the quadrants, each team leader created and implemented a special quadrant-based project with their AmeriCorps members.

- The Northwest quadrant team collected personal care items to distribute over 50 care packages to victims of human trafficking.
- The Southeast quadrant team collected school supplies from community members and distributed close to 100 backpacks filled with supplies to school-aged youth during a back-to-school rally.
- The Northeast quadrant team distributed Easter dinner baskets to 14 elders in their quadrant.
- The Southwest quadrant coordinated Snow Downs and Clean Sweeps to help maintain the beauty and accessibility of their quadrant.

### Pathways to Prosperity

Flower City AmeriCorps teamed up with the City of Rochester's Office of Innovation and Strategic Initiatives to conduct the Pathways to Prosperity door-to-door survey, which gauged residents' needs and concerns regarding neighborhood services and employment barriers. 444 door-to-door surveys were conducted and over 2,500 informational packets were delivered to residents. Flower City AmeriCorps members collectively surveyed for an estimated 500 hours and walked over 40 miles of unique routes.

## The AmeriCorps Pledge

I will get things done for America, to make our people safer, smarter,  
and healthier.

I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy, I will take action.

Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity, I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done.



For more information, visit  
[www.cityofrochester.gov/ameri-corps](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/ameri-corps)

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