



2019-20

SERVICE YEAR REPORT

SERVING THE WORLD THROUGH
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



2019-20

SERVICE YEAR REPORT



EPISCOPAL SERVICE CORPS (ESC) is a network of young adults ages 21-32 serving through locally organized intentional communities that are dedicated to:

- Serving others
- Promoting justice
- Deepening spiritual awareness
- Discerning vocation
- Growing through community

Corps members serve in solidarity with local community members to build a more just, cooperative, and sustainable world. Every individual serving through ESC commits to a year of full-time volunteer local service and communal living, including a household Rule of Life. Through regular worship, prayer, and spiritual direction, ESC creates space for young adults to deepen their spirituality and intentionally discern their vocational path.

Corps members receive housing and health coverage as well as a stipend to cover personal expenses, transportation, and food.

The ESC network is convened by the Department of Faith Formation for The Episcopal Church and guided by the directors from each ESC program. Wendy Johnson, serves as the ESC network coordinator.

Episcopal Service Corps values and celebrates diversity in all of God's creation, strives to build a service corps program reflective of beloved community, and commits to creating affirming space for all, particularly BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ persons. We do not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, creed, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, or ability.

ESC IN THE COMMUNITY

The impact of Episcopal Service Corps is felt far beyond the individual young adults serving during the year.

ESC is a community of dioceses, congregations, volunteers, site partners, alumni, and communities who gather to work and pray, and amplify the work of every Corps member.

During the 2019-2020 service year, our community included:

- More than 130 dioceses and congregations that supported ESC programs by providing funding, housing, financial support, and volunteer hours. In addition, Corps members were welcomed into nearby Episcopal churches and invited to participate in local ministries and outreach.
- More than 351 individual volunteers who gave their time and expertise to provide spiritual direction, prayer, Bible study, and community meals. Volunteers also served as advisory board members, and supported the Corps financially and through resource donations.
- More than 1,200 ESC alumni who participated in online events, helped recruit the 2019-2020 Corps, connected with and prayed for Corps members, participated in local Corps/alumni events, and helped to financially support our network of programs.

OUR CORPS

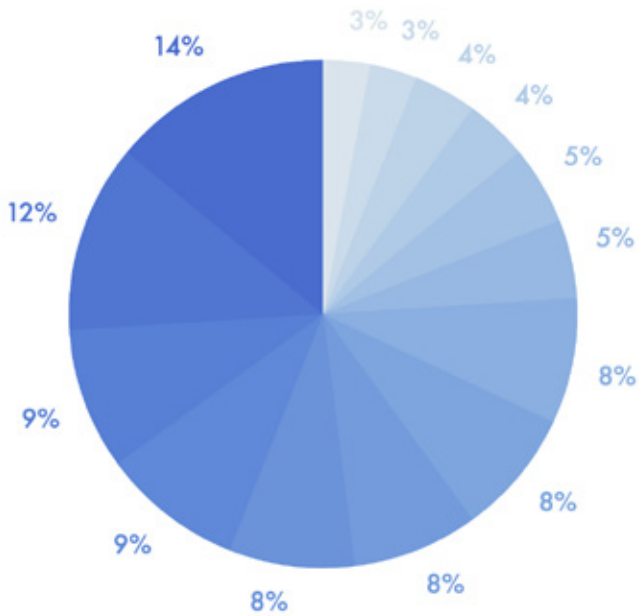
Episcopal Service Corps received 132 applications for the 2019-2020 Service Year. These applicants represented 36 states and 90 different colleges and universities.

Other features of ESC's 2019-2020 applicant pool:



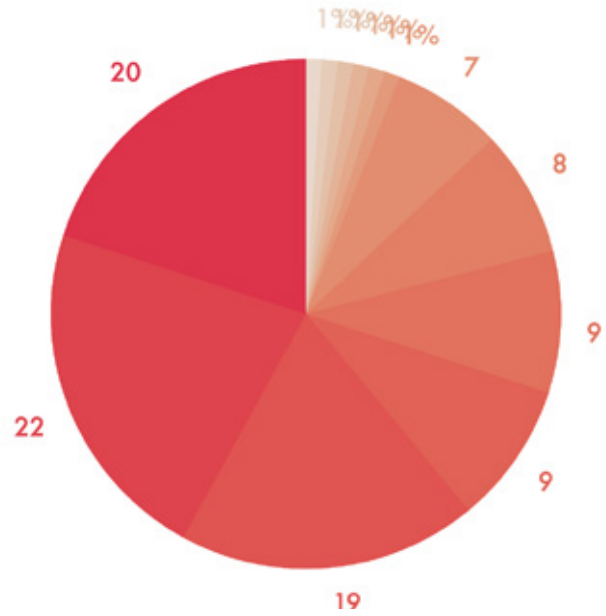
MISSION AREAS

In total, ESC deployed 92 individuals in 2019-2020 to serve nearly 120,000 hours in local and community-based nonprofits and churches in a wide range of mission areas:



- Rural ministries, Farm worker support 3%
- Homelessness 3%
- Healthcare 4%
- Youth ministry 4%
- Immigration, refugee resettlement 5%
- Campus ministry 5%
- Housing 8%
- Equity 8%
- Seafarer welfare 8%
- Services for at-risk children, youth & families 8%
- Social service nonprofits 9%
- Food insecurity and justice 9%
- Education for at-risk children and youth 12%
- Congregation-based ministries – 14%

An important part of an ESC Service Year is vocational discernment. Following their Service Year, Corps members went onto:



- Religious orders 1%
- Teaching 1%
- Missionary work 1%
- Lay ministry with church 1%
- AmeriCorps 1%
- Returned home 7%
- Local job 8%
- Hired by site partner 9%
- Seminary 9%
- Graduate school 19%
- Nonprofit job 22%
- 2nd year with ESC 20%

ESC & COVID-19



The health and safety of every Corps member is central to the ESC mission. Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, Episcopal Service Corps programs worked with local public health officials, community leaders, and across the network to develop a COVID Action Plan. Each local plan included program-specific provisions for online formation and vocation, regular check-ins with program staff, and procedures that Corps members were required to follow in the house and if they left the house or were potentially exposed to the virus.

As a result of the quick action of ESC's program staff, most Corps members were able to remain in ESC housing and complete their Service Year through remote work.

ESC PROGRAMS

During the 2019-2020 Service Year, the ESC network was comprised of the following local programs.

They are:

- Beloved in the Desert | *Tucson, AZ*
- Blue Ridge Service Corps | *Asheville, NC*
- Circle of the Beloved | *Minneapolis, MN*
- Colorado ESC | *Denver, CO*
- Deaconess Anne House | *St. Louis, MO*
- ESC Maryland | *Baltimore, MD*
- Johnson Service Corps | *Durham & Chapel Hill, NC*
- Jubilee Year | *Los Angeles, CA*
- Lawrence House Service Corps | *South Hadley, MA*
- LEVN: Lutheran Episcopal Volunteer Network | *Davis, CA*
- Life Together | *Boston, MA*
- New York Service + Justice Collaborative | *New York, NY*
- Seattle Service Corps | *Seattle, WA*
- Servant Year | *Philadelphia, PA*
- St. Hilda's House | *New Haven, CT*
- Sycamore House | *Harrisburg, PA*

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 

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