



FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUZANNE SCALES-RUTHERFORD

I am delighted to share with you the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (MCVS) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2023. Our incredible organization is committed to serving communities throughout our great state. We are so proud that AmeriCorps programs and volunteer efforts alike continue their work with grit and determination. What they are able to achieve in such a short period of time and with little resources is simply astounding. The MCVS Staff, Board of Commissioners, and Honorary Chair, First Lady Elee Reeves proved their worth time and time again in how they developed solutions for some of our greatest challenges. I am exceedingly grateful for their counsel and their commitment to making Mississippi stronger, wiser, and healthier.

The Commission has consistently lent its time, talents, and resources to the state and nation for almost thirty years. In the next thirty years and beyond, we will continue to stand together, learn from the voices of our betters, and persevere in our efforts to get things done. Our successes and challenges this year were truly opportunities to gain perspective and fuel our desire to make the lives of Mississippians better. Thank you for joining us on this journey to do just that. What a time to be alive!

In service, I remain yours sincerely,

Suzanne Scales-Rutherford
Executive Director



WE EXIST to engage and support ALL Mississippians in service to their communities.

BECAUSE WE EXIST, an additional \$3.1 million in federal funds was secured to support high impact programs for the great state of Mississippi.

FISCAL YEAR 2023 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

- Administered **6** AmeriCorps operating programs and **2** planning grants that provided over **650** opportunities for individuals to serve their communities
- Over **\$3.1 million** awarded in AmeriCorps federal funds
- Tutored over **4,700** students and prepared over **260** pre-K students for school
- Provided health education to over **1,000** youth
- Prepared over **440** individuals to enter the workforce
- Treated over **260** acres of public land and parks
- Volunteer Mississippi and First Lady Elee Reeves honored the following **11** individuals and organizations for their outstanding volunteer service at the **Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence (GIVE) Awards**:

Rosie Lee Harris, Columbus

Isabell Karns, Ellisville

Michael and Arlelia Maybell, Hollandale

Amber Willis-Hayes, Meridian

We Will Go Ministries, Jackson

Mannsdale Upper Elementary School Leadership Academy, Madison

Krisi Boren, Amory

Jeremy Caulder & Family, Ripley

Ken Wetzel, Biloxi

Fifth Squad, Brandon

Horne, LLP, Ridgeland

Honorable mentions were awarded to the following individuals and organizations:

Ashton Hotard, Vicksburg

Monica Bradshaw, Edwards

Cole Smith, Jackson

Stronger Together Oxford, Oxford

New Horizon International Church Ministries, Jackson

Deborah Clay, Columbus

Aisha Erma Lenora Saffold, Durant

Lloyd W. Massey & Family, Aberdeen



FISCAL YEAR 2023 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

First Lady Elee Reeves, Honorary Chair, Jackson
Dr. Suzanne Bean, Chair, Columbus
Becky Cade, First Vice Chair, Madison
Aubrey Lee Goodwin, Second Vice Chair, Madison
Meredith Aldridge, Jackson
Victoria Blankenship, Madison
Owen O. Brown, II, Starkville
Susan Garrard, Jackson
Chief Cyrus Ben, Choctaw
Ashley Cannady, Jackson
Beth Fisher, Canton
Lisa Grantham, Ridgeland
Dr. Rolando Herts, Cleveland
Rochelle Hicks, Jackson
Jennifer Hopping, Jackson
Merracle Jordan, Southaven
Chip Morgan, Leland
Dr. Josie "Jo" Shumake, Columbus
Mayor Jimmie Smith, Meridian
Donna Stewart, Moss Point
William "Quint" Withers, V, Jackson
Katherine Krehbiel, Austin, Tx, Ex-Officio AmeriCorps Representative, Regional Office

OUTGOING FISCAL YEAR 2023 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Phillip Gandy, Decatur
Perry Green, West Point
Corie Jones, Madison
Powell "Gee" Ogletree, Ridgeland
Mark Prine, Hattiesburg

View the full Fiscal Year [2023 Annual Report](#) at VolunteerMississippi.org/AnnualReport2023

