



# INVEST IN EDUCATION FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

## INVEST IN NORTH SHORE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

In 2013, the city of Lynn faced a growing and immediate need: there was an increasing number of non-English speaking children and young people coming to school, and schools and community organizations needed support to provide them with the kind of education they deserve. As a result, many were failing to graduate high school, leaving them unprepared for college or a well-paying career.

### The North Shore AmeriCorps Program - Opportunity for Success

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley, in collaboration with public school districts and community organizations in Lynn, Salem, and Gloucester, has designed a program that provides academic and social-emotional support to English learners in grades K-12.

The North Shore AmeriCorps is an example of how United Way powers collaboration to solve a community's toughest challenges. United Way provides critical program leadership and offers a valuable resource to public schools and community organizations: supporting immigrant student education so they're able to thrive in school, stay engaged, and graduate.

United Way was recently awarded a three year competitive grant from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and the Corporation for National and Community Service, which will allow us to sustain **and more rigorously**

**evaluate the North Shore AmeriCorps Program over the next three years.**

**But we need your support now more than ever as we strive to refine and scale our program,** and to engage new communities in educational needs for English Learners.

**Change can't happen without you!**

#### 2018 AMERICORPS IMPACT:

**1,300 English Learners**

are supported by AmeriCorps Members both during the school day & out of school time programming

**6,000 hours**

of targeted academic & social-emotional interventions are provided to each student

**89% of students**

reported positive change in social and emotional skills

**94% of students**

reported "agree" or "strongly agree" that working with their AmeriCorps Member has helped them be more successful in school

United Way  
of Massachusetts Bay  
and Merrimack Valley



## HOW IT WORKS

To power the program, the Corporation for National Service and Massachusetts Service Alliance provide core funding for stipends to the 30 AmeriCorps members willing to dedicate a year to service. They serve at 16 locations and support 600 English learners each year.

Members serve together with teachers and program staff to assist youth as they learn English, math, and increase overall academic engagement. Each member serve one-on-one with or in small groups of English learners to help build skills like comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency. Members also serve as mentors, helping their students build social and emotional skills like communication, confidence, and teamwork.

The positive feedback goes both ways. United Way invests deeply in training and equipping AmeriCorps members to best support their students, and they receive real-world experience through their service that they can take into college and careers.



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