

City Year Milwaukee

OPENING DAY

NATIONAL OPENING DAY SPONSOR:

COMCAST  NBCUNIVERSAL



OUR CORPS

We thank you for joining us to celebrate our 2025-2026 AmeriCorps members as the new school year begins and we thank our generous partners who help make this work possible. Here's to the inspirational and transformative year ahead!

JULIA A. UIHLEIN TEAM SERVING AT ALEXANDER MITCHELL INTEGRATED ARTS SCHOOL

Sam Boston
Dayanara Contreras
Victoria Gant*
Deonna Killiebrew**
Evelyn Swanson
Kayla Uscanga
Kyleah White
Carmen Wilder

BAY VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

Isaiah Clark**
Imoni DeJesus
Milo Sieger
Shay Stoner
Kourtney Thompson
Diaman Young*

BRADLEY TECH HIGH SCHOOL

Marco Chaidez*
Jamaica Jones
Chris Kelsor **
Jade Steger
Edbonie-Essence Thomas
Kyra Walker

DR. HOWARD FULLER COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

Love Davenport
Saron Fenta
Mareya Hamilton
Alejandro Huerta*
Hamila Mohamed
Muhammed Oyekanmi***
Caroline Paulson
Jazz Ruiz**

HERB KOHL PHILANTHROPIES TEAM SERVING AT HUMBOLDT PARK SCHOOL

Lana Constable
Rachel Gershon
Nani Hussein*
Gina Thao

RICHARD KLUGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Jan Luis Rivera Gonzalez*
Makayla Means Gray
Terri Hughlett*
Janiyah Jones
Jelani Lawson
Walker
A'nya Williams

MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES

Paige Gisiner***
Dawson Jollie***
Alex Schertz***

ROCKWELL AUTOMATION TEAM SERVING AT ROGERS STREET ACADEMY

Shawn Casarez
Ana De La Torre
Dina Espinosa-Byrd***
Aaliya Evans***
Kam Roberson**
Matthew Schmitt
Jess Santos Valadez*

SOUTH DIVISION HIGH SCHOOL

Anaale Camynta-Baezie
Jose Gonzalez Cruz*
Yazmin Cruz
Gianna Rudolph
Simon Topf***
Kendall Watts
Melanie Yadgar

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TEAM LEADER

***Anna Morgan**

*Team Leader

**Second Year AmeriCorps Member

***Teaching Fellow

Why I Serve Program Speaker

NATIONAL EVENT SPONSOR
COMCAST  NBCUNIVERSAL

City Year Milwaukee

OPENING DAY PROGRAM

Welcome + Opening Remarks

Alex Schertz
Teaching Fellow, City Year Milwaukee

Introduction of Corps 16

2025-2026 City Year Milwaukee AmeriCorps Members

“Why I Serve”

Presented by Why I Serve Program Speakers

Executive Director Address

Dr. Stephanie Maney-Hartlaub
Senior Vice President & Executive Director, City Year Milwaukee

Keynote Address

Dale Kooyenga
President & CEO, Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce (MMAC)

Alumni Awards + City Year Pledge

Erin Fischer
Executive Director, PEAK Initiative

Nadya Hughes
Paraprofessional, Milwaukee Academy of Science

Pinning Ceremony + Spirit Break

Alumni and Community members

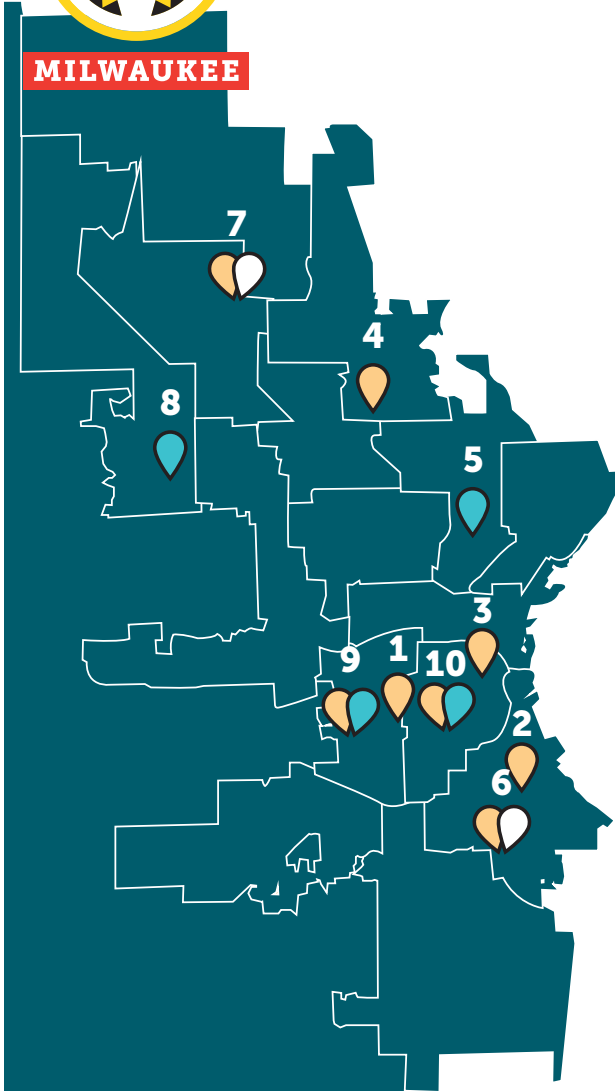




WHERE WE SERVE

2025-2026 Academic Year

MILWAUKEE



- Alexander Mitchell Integrated Arts School**
1728 South 23rd Street
- Bay View High School**
2751 South Lenox Street
- Bradley Technology and Trade High School**
700 South 4th Street
- Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy - Middle School Campus**
4030 North 29th Street
- Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy - High School Campus**
2212 North Vel R. Phillips Avenue
- Humboldt Park Public School**
3230 S Adams Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
- Kluge Public School**
5760 North 67th Street
- Milwaukee School of Languages**
8400 West Burleigh Street
- Rogers Street Academy**
2430 West Rogers Street
- South Division High School**
1515 West Lapham Boulevard

City Year Partnership Models

-  City Year Partner School
-  City Year Teaching Fellow School
-  Early Literacy League School



**Keynote
Speaker**

**DALE
KOoyenga**

President and CEO

**Metropolitan Milwaukee
Association of
Commerce (MMAC)**

Dale Kooyenga is President and CEO of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce. MMAC represents over 2,000 businesses, serving as the region's boardroom in pursuit of a globally competitive economy that fosters high-value jobs to sustain a vibrant quality of life for all. He is also a Lt Colonel in the US Army Reserves and is currently assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dale has served in the US Army for over 20 years and was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Iraq. He is a C.P.A. and has broad experience as a C.P.A including 10 years at KPMG and twelve years working as a C.F.O, for start-up, early stage, and private equity companies.

Prior to joining MMAC, Kooyenga was elected and served in the Wisconsin State Assembly followed by four years of service as a Wisconsin State Senator. Kooyenga played NCAA Div III basketball at Lakeland University and graduated with bachelor's degree in accounting. He obtained an M.B.A. from Marquette University.

He is married to his wife Jennifer and they have four children.



Alumni Leadership Award Winner

ERIN
FISCHER

**Executive Director
PEAK Initiative**

Erin Fischer is a passionate educator, community

leader, and advocate for equity whose career reflects a deep commitment to service and impact. She holds bachelor's degrees in Biomedical Sciences and Spanish with a minor in Chemistry, and she earned her master's in Public Service as a Marquette University Trinity Fellow.

A proud City Year and Peace Corps alumna, Erin has dedicated her life to empowering youth and families. She has served as Assistant Director of Family Engagement at Journey House and as Assistant Director of Impact & Engagement at the PEAK Initiative, where she now leads as Executive Director. Throughout her journey, Erin has modeled what it means to lead with purpose—strengthening communities, advancing educational equity, and creating spaces of belonging.

Milwaukee holds a special place in Erin's heart. Among the city's many treasures, her favorite is Hawthorn Glen—a spot she loves for its ability to introduce children to the wonders of nature and for the magical Winter Wonder Woods each December.

Erin's leadership is a testament to the lasting power of service. She exemplifies City Year's values in action, inspiring the next generation to dream boldly and contribute meaningfully to their communities.



Rising Leader Award Winner

NADYA
HUGHES

**Paraprofessional
Milwaukee Academy of
Science**

Nadya Hughes is a
dedicated education
professional who is

passionate about building meaningful connections with students and families. She currently serves as a Paraprofessional at Milwaukee Academy of Science, where she supports student learning and classroom success through strong communication, leadership, and behavior management skills. She also contributes to after-school programming as part of the support staff at Green Tree Community Learning Center.

As the oldest of three siblings and a proud graduate of the Class of 2020, Nadya brings a deep sense of responsibility and care to her work. Her journey in education began as an AmeriCorps member with City Year Milwaukee, where she served during the virtual learning year. Even through Zoom calls and Google Meets, she was inspired by the City Year community to stay in education and witnessed firsthand the power of strong relationships to change students' lives.

Nadya is especially proud of being recognized as Most Valuable Team Player, a reflection of her commitment to helping her team and students thrive. She is motivated by watching young people exceed expectations and discover their strengths, and she believes that personal connection is the foundation for meaningful change in schools and communities.

HELP US GROW!

Do you know a young person who is a good fit for City Year?

If you know a young person who is up for a unique opportunity to help students engage in learning while gaining professional experience, encourage them to learn more about City Year at cityyear.org.



DONATE TO CITY YEAR MILWAUKEE

Support students and our AmeriCorps members

Trusting, consistent, and caring relationships are at the core of City Year's efforts to support students and schools.

AmeriCorps members welcome students to class, tutor small groups in math and English, run the afterschool clubs that students look forward to all week, and creatively take on every new challenge by putting students first. Their steady and consistent efforts help students stay engaged with school and on track.





EXPLORE OUR WORK

JOIN A CITY YEAR SCHOOL TOUR!

Scan the QR code to sign up for an upcoming school tour and experience firsthand how our AmeriCorps members create welcoming classrooms, ignite student curiosity, and help Milwaukee students thrive.



THE CITY YEAR PLEDGE

I pledge to serve as a City Year member to the very best of my ability,
to honor the rules and expectations of City Year,
to respect my colleagues and the people and communities we serve,
to provide excellent service,
to lead by example and be a role model to children,
to celebrate the diversity of people, ideas and cultures around me,
to serve with an open heart and an open mind,
to be quick to help and slow to judge,
to do my best to make a difference in the lives of others,
and to build a stronger community, nation and world, for all of us.

cityyear.org

[f](#) [@](#) [in](#) [d](#) [X](#) [v](#) @cityyear

City Year is a trailblazing, youth-powered organization working to create conditions that enable young people to reach their full potential, build leadership skills, and contribute to vibrant communities through national service. Research shows the more time a student spends with a City Year AmeriCorps member serving as a student success coach, the better the student outcomes—academically, interpersonally and in terms of attendance. A public-private partnership, City Year is a proud member of AmeriCorps, operating in 29 U.S. cities with international affiliates in the U.K. and South Africa. Today, 40,000 alums continue to lead and serve where they live and work. Learn more about City Year's impact at cityyear.org.

MILWAUKEE TEAM SPONSORS



MILWAUKEE PROGRAM SPONSORS



MILWAUKEE CHAMPION



EDUCATION PARTNERS



NATIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS

