



MEDIA RELEASE

Media release for Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance. For immediate release.

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ARKANSAS HUNGER RELIEF ALLIANCE WELCOMES NEW DELTACORPS MEMBERS

LITTLE ROCK, AR (June 29, 2017)— The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance will host five DeltaCorps members who will serve in 38 counties in the Arkansas Delta to expand programs, including the Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign, Cooking Matters nutrition education, local hunger gardens, summer and after-school meal programs, and volunteer coordination.

Four DeltaCorps members will be working out of the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas in Mountain Home. Positions include Healthy Foods coordinator, Cooking Matters coordinator, volunteer coordinator, and Out of School coordinator who will help develop sustainable afterschool programs in the Delta that will increase access to nutritious food for low-income children when school is out. One of the DeltaCorps members will be stationed in Little Rock and will be working as support for No Kid Hungry programs in the Delta. “We’re really excited to welcome our new DeltaCorps members in July. They will be a much needed resource to help focus on this underserved portion of the state,” said Michelle Shope, food sourcing and logistics director and administrator of the DeltaCorps partnership with the Alliance.

DeltaCorps has added 16 members at seven sites in Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky and Arkansas, expanding to more than 67 AmeriCorps members already awarded to support programming across the Mississippi River Delta region. DeltaCorps programming has focused on education, environmental stewardship, disaster recovery, economic opportunity, and veterans and military families. DeltaCorps members have recruited and managed over 2,000 volunteers and supported 300 displaced residents throughout the Delta as they returned to safe, stable housing.

“Service is an opportunity for DeltaCorps members to give back to their communities, and we’re proud to see more volunteers and organizations joining us to expand community capacity,” DRA Chairman Chris Masingill said. “The mission of DeltaCorps is to engage individuals and organizations in service projects to improve economic opportunity by helping create jobs, build communities and improve the lives of the 10 million Delta residents and it’s clearly becoming a great success.”

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About The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance

Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, lead partner in Arkansas for the No Kid Hungry campaign, is a non-profit collaborative network of more than 480 hunger relief organizations across Arkansas. Our founding members include the Arkansas Foodbank in Little Rock, the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas in Jonesboro, Harvest Regional Food Bank in Texarkana, Food Bank of North Central Arkansas in Norfolk, Northwest Arkansas Food Bank in Bethel Heights and River Valley Regional Food Bank in Fort Smith. The Alliance is dedicated to reducing hunger through direct relief, education and advocacy. We invite you to visit www.ARhungeralliance.org for details on hunger relief programs, donor and volunteer opportunities.

About the Delta Regional Authority

The Delta Regional Authority is a federal-state partnership created by Congress in 2000 to help create jobs, build communities, and improve lives through strategic investments in economic development in 252 counties and parishes across eight states. To date, the DRA's SEDAP investments, together with its state and local partners, have leveraged federal resources into nearly \$3.5 billion in public and private investment into local small business owners, entrepreneurs, workforce improvement, and infrastructure development projects. DRA investments have helped to create and retain more than 37,000 jobs, train more than 7,300 workers for 21st Century jobs, and deliver water and sewer improvements to more than 66,000 residents. Learn more at dra.gov