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Mott Foundation Seeks to Expand Afterschool Opportunities through National Service, AmeriCorps

\$250,000 Awarded to America's Service Commissions for Multi-Year Initiative

WASHINGTON, DC — States will be better poised to expand out-of-school time opportunities for youth at a statewide level, thanks to \$250,000 in grant funding from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

The two-year grant is being awarded to America's Service Commissions (ASC), a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of the 52 Governor-appointed state service commissions across the United States and its territories that administer AmeriCorps*State grant and other volunteer-related funds.

From 2017-2019, ASC will work to identify ways in which the state service commission network can expand afterschool opportunities for youth through the inclusion of national service resources and opportunities, such as AmeriCorps.

ASC believes that state service commissions can play an important role in advancing afterschool programming efforts nationwide by providing human capital in the form of AmeriCorps members and community volunteers.

"The ultimate goal of the project," said ASC CEO Kaira Esgate, "is not only to expand *how many* afterschool options are available, but to increase the *quality* of those opportunities — including getting the young people who participate engaged in more meaningful service and service-learning opportunities."

Over the course of the two-year grant, ASC will work with the National Network of Statewide Afterschool Networks, state service commissions and other key stakeholders. Together, they will identify and replicate promising practices that expand the capacity of afterschool programs through the inclusion of national service members/resources, as well as ways in which high-quality community service elements can be incorporated into afterschool programs.

Through this effort, ASC believes that the project will lead to an increased mutual understanding between state service commissions and statewide afterschool networks to better leverage national service and AmeriCorps resources in support of high-quality afterschool opportunities nationwide. For more information on this initiative, visit www.statecommissions.org/afterschool.

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About America's Service Commissions

America's Service Commissions (ASC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing and promoting the 52 state service commissions across the United States and territories with the mission to lead and elevate the state service network. State service commissions are governor-appointed public agencies or nonprofit organizations made up of more than 1,000 commissioners, private citizens leading the nation's service movement and administering 80 percent of the federal AmeriCorps funds to address pressing community needs. Learn more at statecommissions.org.

About Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, established in 1926 in Flint, Michigan, by an automotive pioneer, is a private philanthropy committed to supporting projects that promote a just, equitable and sustainable society. It supports nonprofit programs throughout the United States and, on a limited geographic basis, internationally. Grantmaking is focused in four programs: Civil Society, Environment, Flint Area and Education. In addition to Flint, offices are located in metropolitan Detroit, Johannesburg and London. With year-end assets of approximately \$2.7 billion in 2016, the Foundation made 405 grants totaling more than \$121 million. For more information, visit www.mott.org.