





## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR VOLUNTEER CONNECTOR ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

**MAVA** invites Greater Minnesota volunteer connectors to apply for a \$15,000 grant! The grant will help develop innovations that expand the number of volunteers connected in their communities and help community organizations implement effective practices to better recruit and retain volunteers.

## WHO QUALIFIES?

Volunteer connectors are entities that connect volunteers with local organizations and initiatives to serve their communities; examples include local Volunteer Centers or United Ways. This year, eligibility for Volunteer Connector Grants has been expanded to include community collaborations in rural Minnesota developing volunteer-sharing partnerships.

These collaborations are initiatives that seek to address significant gaps in volunteer availability by facilitating opportunities for volunteers to move between organizations to fulfill critical community needs, such as driving seniors to medical appointments or staffing food shelves.

## **HOW IS THIS GRANT ADMINISTERED?**

Volunteer Connector grants are provided by the AmeriCorps Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF), in partnership with ServeMinnesota; funding covers November 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Grants will enable connectors to work with local nonprofits, schools, municipalities, and community organizations to recruit, manage, and support individuals to serve in high-quality volunteer assignments. Connectors' initiatives also serve as models for new approaches to volunteerism.

The grants are intended to expand the capacity of volunteer connector organizations and initiatives to build support systems for local volunteer efforts and improve the adoption of effective volunteer engagement practices at community organizations, schools, local nonprofits, and municipalities.

## **INTERESTED? QUESTIONS?**

Contact Polly Roach, MAVA Program Director (<u>proach@mavanetwork.org</u>) for questions. Interested organizations and collaborations must indicate intent to apply, by <u>October 2<sup>nd</sup></u>.

You will receive the full Request for Proposal, with details on the funding opportunity, eligible candidates, application requirements, and selection criteria. Please note that proposals must document a 50% match for funds requested; match sources can be organizational funds and/or in-kind resources. Proposals are due by October 18<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. CST.