



# Commission Meeting

Jan 12, 2026 | 12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. | Capitol Boardroom, Utah State Capitol  
[Zoom Link](#)

## 12:00 Welcome & Governance

- Commissioner Introductions
- Approval of Minutes

## 12:20 Commissioner Relationship Building

## 12:40 Program Discussion

- Dashboard presentation + review (Max)
- Strategic Plan process overview and ways to engage (Greg)
- UServeUtah Day on the Hill (Yvette)

## 1:15 Chair/ Director updates

- Chair updates: Max
  - Commission Engagement
- Director updates: Mike
  - AI and bridging discussions
  - 2025 accomplishments
  - 2026 vision

## 1:30 Committee Breakouts

- AmeriCorps State (Janessa)
- Community Engagement (Judy)

## Dates to Remember

• January 19, 2026	United in Service: MLK Day of Service, Thanksgiving Point
• February 11-12, 2026	Volunteer Management Training, Lehi
• March 4, 2026	UServeUtah Day on the Hill, Utah State Capitol
• March 18, 2026	AmeriCorps Member Gathering, Utah Cultural Celebration Center

## Commission Meeting Schedule 2026

• Jan 12, 12:00 - 2:00	State Capitol, Hybrid
• May 18, 12:00 - 2:00	State Capitol, Hybrid
• August 10, 12:00 - 2:00	UVU, Hybrid
• November 17, 9:00 - 2:00	State Capitol in person



# Minutes

Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism

Nov 13, 2025 | 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. | Utah State Capitol Seagull Room (East Senate Building)

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## Attendees

Commissioners and Representatives: Katie Mazzie, Joanne Brattain, Max Rogers, Jake Murakami, Don Willie, Cassidy Hansen, Kim Hammer, Bethany Marker, and Donna Law.

Department of Cultural & Community Engagement Staff and Guests: Loggins Merrill, Greg Bates, Mike Moon, Laura Huefner, Sara Dorsey, Janessa Edwards, Yvette Woodland, and Valerie Thibault.

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## Welcome & Governance

### Katie Mazzie, Chair

Katie welcomed the commission members. She recognized outgoing commissioners Deneiva Knight, Anna Smyth, Alexis Palmer, and Ben Trentelman for their terms of service.

### Vice Chair Nomination

Jake discussed the nominating committee meeting and discussing candidates. The committee nominates Kim Hammer as Vice Chair for 2026.

Motion to approve by Don Willie and motion seconded by Joanne Brattain.

Unanimous approval.

### AmeriCorps Updates

Don and Janessa discussed the draft of 2026-2027 priorities. Janessa explained how the priorities have changed from the previous year and the implications for application scoring.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 priority areas and priority components by Don Willie and motion seconded by Jake Murakami.

Unanimous approval.

### Approval of Minutes from Commission meeting on August 11th, 2025.

Motion to approve by Joanne Brattain and motion seconded by Max Rogers.

Unanimous approval.

### Federal Funding Updates

Loggins discussed the end of the federal government shutdown and the implications for the commission. Loggins emphasized that the shutdown did not impact the Commission's ability to draw down funds. He discussed anticipated next steps and the need for continued monitoring.



### 2026 Strategic Planning Process

Loggins discussed the strategic planning process, including the plan for development and timeline over the next year.

### Recent Events Updates

Mike discussed the National Governor's Association Service to Career Pathways, including how UServeUtah was involved during the Utah summit and the service project component.

Loggins discussed the Generation Volunteer Summit, including the engagement of the attendees. Mike emphasized the fundraising and philanthropic component of the event being highly successful.

### Commissioner Activity

Cassidy Hansen led an activity asking the attendees to discuss a memory that happened during a specific year with another commissioner or staff, changing partners after each round to discuss multiple years.

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### **Program Discussion**

Loggins introduced the overview of each 50 minute breakout group and split the commissioners into two groups. Commissioners were excused, and the following breakout sessions took place.

- Breakout 1: Mike and Janessa led a discussion about how to embrace and leverage AI in the Seagull Room (East Senate Building).
- Breakout 2: Greg and Laura led a discussion about bridging divides through service in the Beehive Room (East Senate Building).

After commissioners attended each breakout session, the commissioners attended the Power of Service Recognition where Virginia Ann Meldrum Maw was recognized for her long-term commitment to volunteerism in Utah.

After the Power of Service Recognition the meeting was adjourned.

UServeUtah CY25 Strategic Plan Dashboard						
Team(s)	Strategy	Time Frame	Annual Target	Actual	Progress	
<b>Housing Access Goal 1: Prioritize expanding access to housing through UServeUtah programming and initiatives</b>						
AC State	Prioritize grant funding opportunities that expand access to housing as well as those providing support to vulnerable families facing housing challenges.	January 2025	100%	100%	Complete	
VISTA	Prioritize intermediary VISTA placements with organizations working to expand access to housing and support to vulnerable families facing housing challenges.	February 2025	4	4	Complete	
AC State	Support nonprofits and community organizations to enhance their ability to serve individuals facing housing challenges.	August 2025	2	2	Complete	
<b>Housing Access Goal 2: Increase services aimed to support and stabilize families and individuals to remain in housing and divert them from homelessness</b>						
VISTA	Partner with housing agencies and organizations to identify areas that service and volunteerism can serve as a solution and support housing navigation with Utahns.	August 2025	2	3	Complete	
AC State	Use service to support housing navigation.	Ongoing	5	11	Complete	
<b>Housing Access Goal 3: Increase the amount and types of housing available through service and volunteerism</b>						
AC State	Identify partners in this space and collaborate to find ways that service can be a solution to housing availability.	Ongoing	5	7	Complete	
VISTA	Help families and individuals find permanent, stable housing	December 2025	25	75	Complete	

UServeUtah CY25 Strategic Plan Dashboard						
Team	Strategy	Time Frame	Annual Target	Actual	Progress	
<b>Mental Health Goal 1: Research and share information on the positive mental health benefits of service and volunteerism</b>						
CE	Gather insights into the mental health benefits of youth volunteerism by using Golden Software to track and analyze reflections submitted by high school students in the Volunteer for Good program.	Jan 2025-July 2025	100%	100%	Complete	
<b>Mental Health Goal 2: Improving physical, mental, and behavioral health through service</b>						
AC State	Prioritize grant funding opportunities for those that promote mental health.	January 2025	100%	100%	Complete	
AC State	Improve social integration and healthy connections of youth and young adults by promoting opportunities for service in high school and higher education.	Ongoing	10	10	Complete	
CE	Improve social integration and healthy connections Utahns create through service by hosting United In Service Events throughout the state. Develop partnerships to enhance education on the benefits of service.	Jan 2025, April 2025, Sept 2025, Nov 2025	3 partners	8 partners	Complete	
MarCom	Improve social integration and healthy connections of youth and young adults by promoting opportunities for service in high school and higher education.	Ongoing	6 outreach events Monthly (12) social media posts	16/6 outreach events attended 12/12 social media posts	Complete	
AC Seniors	Decrease isolationism and increase connections with older adults throughout the state through service.	Ongoing	2 surveys	2 surveys	Complete	
<b>Mental Health Goal 3: Increase types of and reach of mental health resources to those engaged in service and volunteerism</b>						
AC State	Provide mental health counseling services to those engaged in national service and volunteerism.	August 2025	100%	100%	Complete	
VISTA	Offer mental health counseling and other support services to members to the VISTA program.	Ongoing	9	9	Complete	
Special Projects	Increase mental health resources to rural Utah through service-centric programming.	Ongoing	100%	90%	In progress: on track	

UServeUtah CY25 Strategic Plan Dashboard						
Team(s)	Strategy	Time Frame	Annual Target	Actual	Progress	
<b>Institutionalizing Service Goal 1: Provide opportunities for young people to participate in national service and community engagement, and recognize them for the impacts they make through service</b>						
AC State	Increase awareness of AmeriCorps State and the benefits of participating in national service.	Ongoing	15	17	Complete	
VISTA	Increase awareness of AmeriCorps VISTA to Utah organizations as an option to meet community needs and offer national service opportunities.	Ongoing	5	3	Complete	
MarCom	Increase awareness of AmeriCorps and the benefits of participating in national service.	Ongoing	6 community events Monthly (12) AmeriCorps social media posts	6 community events 12 posts	Complete	
CE	Recognize the contributions of youth participating in Lt. Governor's High School Volunteer Program (Volunteer for Good) by developing formal recognition program.	Jan 2025 - June 2026	100%	100%	Complete	
AC State	Recognize the contributions of AmeriCorps members through formal recognition.	Ongoing	100%	100%	Complete	
<b>Institutionalizing Service Goal 2: Provide opportunities for Utahns age 55+ to participate in national service and community engagement, and recognize them for the impacts they make through service</b>						
AC Seniors	Increase awareness of AmeriCorps Seniors and the benefits of participating.	Ongoing	5 strategies	5 strategies	Complete	
AC Seniors	Recognize the contributions of seniors in Utah through formal recognition.	Ongoing	4 events	4 events	Complete	
<b>Institutionalizing Service Goal 3: Increase collaboration and partnerships with government agencies, educational institutions, faith based organizations and nonprofits to identify ways to institutionalize service throughout the state</b>						
Special Projects	Support workforce development opportunities for those engaged in national service programs to facilitate the transition to education and employment.	Ongoing	100%	100%	Complete	
CE	Evaluate the Leading for Impact corporate training pilot by collaborating with stakeholders to determine its feasibility and value in supporting corporate service and nonprofit partnerships through volunteerism.	January - March assessment, roll-out August if applicable	100%	100%	Complete	
AC State	Promote opportunities for service that bring people together to address and solve community issues.	Jan-Dec 2025	100%	100%	Complete	
VISTA	Support Statewide AmeriCorps VISTA Collaborative Group that sponsor VISTA members with training, networking, and collaborative connection opportunities.	December 2025	12	5	Complete	
<b>Institutionalizing Service Goal 4: Identify and address barriers to participation in national service and volunteerism in order to increase rates of participation</b>						
AC State	Increase benefits to serving as an AmeriCorps member to increase members serving in Utah.	September 2025	100%	90%	In progress: on track	
VISTA	Maintain enhanced benefits for AmeriCorps VISTA members to retain those serving in the UServeUtah intermediary program.	Ongoing	100%	100%	Complete	
AC State	Innovate new ways people can serve while navigating known challenges and barriers.	Ongoing	5	5	Complete	

# UServeUtah

Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism

## 2026 Strategic Planning Timeline

