



Proclamation

WHEREAS, service to others is a hallmark of the American character, and central to how we meet our challenges; and

WHEREAS, the nation's mayors are increasingly turning to national service and volunteerism as a cost-effective strategy to meet city needs; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, and Senior Corps participants address the most pressing challenges facing our communities, from educating students for the jobs of the 21st century and supporting veterans and military families to providing health services and helping communities recover from natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps VISTA has initiated a movement called East Side Works, which will ultimately enable students from throughout the region to become better prepared for the workforce, while providing employers with an opportunity to direct student's preparation; and

WHEREAS, national service expands economic opportunity by creating more sustainable, resilient communities and providing education, career skills, and leadership abilities for those who serve; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps VISTA, and Senior Corps participants serve in more than 50,000 locations across the country, bolstering the civic, neighborhood, and faith-based organizations that are so vital to our economic and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, national service participants increase the impact of the organizations they serve, both through their direct service and by managing millions of additional volunteers; and

WHEREAS, national service represents a unique public-private partnership that invests in community solutions and leverages non-federal resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, national service participants demonstrate commitment, dedication, and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, a commitment that remains with them in their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Corporation for National and Community Service shares a priority with county officials and mayors nationwide to engage citizens, improve lives, and strengthen communities; and is joining with the National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, City of Service, and mayors and county officials across the country for the **Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service on April 5, 2016.**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mark W. Eckert, Mayor of the City of Belleville, do hereby proclaim April 5, 2016, as **National Service Recognition Day**, and encourage residents to recognize the positive impact of national service in our city; to thank those who serve; and to find ways to give back to their communities.

Mark W. Eckert

Mark W. Eckert, Mayor

April 5, 2016