



## STORIES OF SERVICE

At the completion of your term of service, you will write and submit a Great Story – one to three paragraphs providing an anecdotal account of a positive experience you had while serving as a *Campus Corps* member. The stories of service that members write provide anecdotal documentation of the impact they are having in the communities in which they serve. We may use excerpts of these stories in our quarterly reports to the program’s funders, in grant proposals, or in marketing materials to promote *Campus Corps*.

**You may submit your story in one of two ways:**

1. **Submit your story online at <http://www.mtcampuscorps.org>.**
2. **Submit your story in paper form directly to your local campus supervisor.**

We have provided two examples of Great Stories below to give you a sense of what previous members have written.

*Great Story Examples:*

### **Families First, The University of Montana-Missoula**

Families First is a nonprofit organization that promotes positive parenting skills. One of my duties at this organization has been to offer parenting classes. Last spring, I offered a class at a local high school, titled, *When Reading is Just Too Hard: Helping Children with Learning Disabilities*. Several parents attended this workshop, but one parent still stands out in my mind. She was the only parent in the group whose child suffered from more than just a reading disability. Her child had several developmental disabilities, all of which made each school day a struggle. Speaking aloud in the session was difficult for her, because her child’s needs exceeded those of any other child. After the session was over, she approached me with some critical concerns about her child’s academic needs. She talked for several minutes – informing me of how wonderful yet how difficult raising a child with developmental delays can be. She talked about what she has to put up with from school personnel, teachers, and other parents. She talked about how the expectations for her child at school are so minimized that she worries the child won’t achieve full potential. She talked, and I listened. Breaking away from this mom was difficult that night. She had a big story and needed to tell it to someone – someone who could understand her point of view. I felt good in knowing that I could be that someone.

### **HELP/Boys and Girls Club of the Hi-Line, MSU-Northern (Havre)**

I worked at the Havre Boys and Girls club to encourage kids to enjoy performing plays and working with each other to put on a good performance. I became more understanding of how to help kids learn to read and understand what they are reading. When some of the kids would have problems, I would help them memorize the lines they were given and teach them methods to overcome those difficulties. The kids enjoyed and participate in many of the plays we put on at the club.

For kids who may not have wanted to act in the plays, but wanted to be a part of them, they were able to help with background work and would help me out with the tasks that needed to be done in order to get everything organized.

The kids worked well together and if a conflict did come up we were able to resolve it without someone having to leave the play. We put on a total of five plays and as the year went on, more and more kids joined the group and wanted to be in the play that we were putting on at the time. It was so much fun to work with this group of kids, we all had a lot of fun working on these plays together.