



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Angela Moore  
(205) 322-9922, ext. 206  
amoore@ywcabham.org

### **YWCA AmeriCorps Members Take Part in AmeriCorps Week**

**Birmingham, AL** – As part of the nationwide AmeriCorps Week, May 14-21, YWCA Central Alabama AmeriCorps members will honor the service of the YWCA staff by partnering with homeless students from the YWCA's After-School Enrichment Program (ASEP) to host a ***Time of Thanks***. Held at the YWCA Central Alabama (309 23<sup>rd</sup> Street North) on **Tuesday, May 17 at 4 pm and Thursday, May 19 at 4 pm**, members of the AmeriCorps program and students from the ASEP will design custom-made "thank you" cards to deliver to staff of the YWCA Central Alabama. AmeriCorps members will also spend time sharing the importance of volunteerism and service with the ASEP students.

YWCA Central Alabama has 14 AmeriCorps members serving in the areas of homeless support, social justice, child care, women's leadership, domestic violence services, housing and economic development. Partnering agencies also housing a YWCA AmeriCorps member include: Pathways, Leading Edge Institute, One Roof, and Main Street Birmingham. YWCA AmeriCorps members devote 1720 hours each year to serving these programs and volunteering with agencies benefitting the metro-Birmingham area. Members receive a stipend during their service and an educational award at the end of service. The YWCA's AmeriCorps program began in 2009 with five members and plans to grow to 24 members in September at the start of the 2011-2012 AmeriCorps term.

Since its inception in 1994, 706,000 Americans have given more than 860 million hours of service through AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps members help students learn to read, mentor at-risk youth, provide health services, build homes for low-income families, and help nonprofits recruit more volunteers and better achieve their mission.

AmeriCorps Week, May 14-21, is a recruitment and recognition event designed to bring more Americans into service, salute AmeriCorps members and alums for their powerful impact, and thank the community partners who make AmeriCorps possible. For more information on the YWCA's AmeriCorps program call (205) 322-9922 ext 206 or visit [www.ywcabham.org](http://www.ywcabham.org). For more information on AmeriCorps Week visit [www.AmeriCorpsWeek.gov](http://www.AmeriCorpsWeek.gov).

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