

AmeriCorps Member of the Month



By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

students know me from my years of substituting. That familiarity makes it easy to relate to the child. I have a passion for all students and I believe every child has a purpose in life. The feeling that I have when I see a child progressing because of tutoring is unexplainable! At times, I encounter students that have a difficult time and progress slowly, but it is important to work harder with them and not give up on any students. It is my belief that effort is the key to making a difference."

Conley's prior experience of serving in her church and in youth organizations also prepared her for becoming an AmeriCorps member.

"Sarah has a true heart of service and is dedicated to improving her students' academic achievement," said Gwen Woodson, program director. "When asked to do a task, Sarah is the first person to always volunteer. She embodies the spirit of AmeriCorps."

Since becoming a member of the GSDAP, Conley has been involved in the Jubilee Festival, Food Pantry, Health Fair, Band Festival, and the After Glow Films Fest. Her task was to help set up, distribute food, and assist people of all ages and backgrounds.

"Each morning, I give God thanks and I ask Him to take out of me what needs to be removed and instill in me what I need for my daily walk," said Conley. "My goal as a member of the AmeriCorps is to smile more, greet more, and inspire more."

According to the Assistant Program Director Pam Hubbard, Sarah is a shining light and accomplishes her tasks with joy and dedication.

In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award of \$5,645 that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans. Conley plans to pay back her student loans.

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps Program, contact Program Director Gwen Woodson at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov

Since beginning her service in September as a full-time AmeriCorps member, Sarah Conley has demonstrated that she knows how to "get things done!" The Grenada School District AmeriCorps program focuses on tutoring Grenada School District k-8 students in math and reading. Placed at the Grenada Elementary School, Sarah is committed to helping her students excel. Sarah is married to George Conley and they have four kids: Jeffrey Armstrong, Crystal Williams, Tranae Foxx, and Teeko Conley.

The Grenada School District has hosted AmeriCorps members for the last seven years in the role of tutors. The GSDAP member is principally currently responsible for tutoring 19 students. There are 1,015 students involved in the tutoring program.

While working as a full-time substitute teacher at the Grenada Elementary School, Sarah had the opportunity to observe AmeriCorps classes and realized the impact that AmeriCorps members have on the Grenada School District and the community. "I was inspired by their dedication and was eager to become a member," said Conley. "Getting things done and making a difference is my motto."

"Now that I am a member, I strive to help make a difference in our students' lives and in our community. Most of the

GHS Students Explore Options Offered by Career Day



(l to r) Jordan Byford and Austin Carpenter



(l to r) Carson Carrithers, Kaesey Dogan and Millsaps Admissions Counselor Tye Menist



(l to r) Justice Tidwell, Navy Recruiter William Cotten, and Joseph Hill



Yashica Daniels



Tyler Kelly, and Douglas Brown



Jordan Holland, Jan Guilambo, and Connor Allen



Amber Hughes



Violet Cook and Aaliyah Golliday



Joey Brown



Mallory Harrison, Tori Montgomery, and Brianna Wilson



Cody Dogan, Kayla Greer, and Brittany Harris




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