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Goodweather Unveils Capital Corps: A New Era of Service for D.C.

Civic service program will create opportunities for 5,000 residents to serve, learn, and build careers

Washington, D.C. — Gary Goodweather, DC business leader, U.S. Army veteran, long-time resident, and candidate for Mayor of Washington, D.C., announced today the concept for the Capital Corps, an ambitious citywide civic service initiative that will transform how residents serve their communities while gaining education, job training, and career pathways.

"Every Washingtonian deserves a place to serve, a path to grow, and a reason to stay," **stated Goodweather.** "The Capital Corps will strengthen our communities, develop our workforce, and build a culture of shared responsibility across all eight wards."

The program will operate through eight specialized service branches: Health & Medical Corps, Education Corps, STEM & Innovation Corps, Public Safety Support Corps, Elder Care Corps, Early Childhood Development Corps, Civic Works & Infrastructure Corps, and Financial Literacy & Neighborhood Equity Corps. Members will commit to weekly service hours and training and receive monthly stipends, education credits, and direct pathways to careers.

Starting with 100 pilot participants in Year 1, the Capital Corps will scale to 5,000 members within a decade. Through partnerships with UDC and local universities, participants will earn college credits and professional certifications while serving. The initiative will transform underutilized buildings into training academies and service hubs.

Funding will come through reallocated city programs, federal grants, and a new Capital Corps Trust Fund. By Year 10, the program is projected to operate at just \$9,000 per participant annually, a fraction of the cost of unemployment, recidivism, and lost economic opportunity.

"The Capital Corps will be an investment in our greatest resource, in the talent, dedication, and potential of D.C. residents," **said Goodweather.** "Our administration will continue to develop solutions that create economic prosperity for every D.C. resident."

The program will provide structured pathways for returning citizens, youth through after-school tracks, and adults through part-time or gap-year commitments. As Mayor, Goodweather will establish the Capital Corps under DMPED, with the first cohort beginning service in 2027.

Goodweather for DC is a grassroots, Fair Elections campaign committed to building a safer, stronger, and more self-determined Washington, D.C.

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Paid for by Goodweather for DC, Malachy Nugent, Treasurer