

# FOIA MARKER

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**Folder Title:**

AmeriCorps Event, Philadelphia, PA, October 11, 2000

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October 10, 2000

## **AMERICORPS EVENT**

**DATE:** Wednesday, October 11, 2000  
**TIME:** 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
**FROM:** Thurgood Marshall, Jr.  
Barbara Chow

### **I. PURPOSE**

To highlight the accomplishments of the thousands of AmeriCorps members who have served their country over the past six years and to call on Congress to reauthorize and expand AmeriCorps and other citizen service programs. To announce the preliminary results of a national study showing that AmeriCorps members are making a difference in helping the students they work with improve their reading skills.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

During this event, **YOU** will call on Congress to pass the National and Community Service Amendments Act of 2000, reauthorizing and extending AmeriCorps and other national service and volunteer programs administered by the Corporation for National Service for five years. This reauthorization would reaffirm and strengthen our nation's commitment to national service by enabling the national service programs to build on the far-reaching benefits they have provided. In addition, the reauthorization would expand AmeriCorps to include an E-Corps of volunteers working to close the digital divide.

As you know, the reauthorization of AmeriCorps has wide-ranging bipartisan support as demonstrated recently by the letter sent by 49 of the nation's governors urging Congress to renew AmeriCorps and other national service programs.

In this event, you will **not** highlight your FY 2001 budget request for AmeriCorps. In VA-HUD, the House zero funded AmeriCorps and the Senate cut it by \$26 million which would have denied funding for 3,000 current AmeriCorps and not provided the additional funding you requested for 12,000 new AmeriCorps members. In current negotiations, your representatives have been working with conferees to increase the funding level to bring AmeriCorps to last year's funding level. Given the delicate nature of the negotiations, your advisers did not recommend that you include a mention of your national service budget in this event today.



**YOU** will announce the preliminary results of an extensive, national study showing that AmeriCorps members are making a difference in helping the students they work with improve their reading skills. This independent national survey conducted by Abt Associates Inc., a research firm located in Boston, Massachusetts, involved hundreds of AmeriCorps members working as reading tutors and thousand of children learning to read. The study concluded that in every instance these tutors are making a tremendous difference. In fact, the children involved in the study improved their reading abilities more than the gain expected for similarly situated children at their grade level. Many of these students started out in the tutoring programs well below grade level and by year-end, students closed the gap and were reading at or near the grade-level expectation. The study does not say that the reading tutors alone improved reading scores but the study did show that AmeriCorps reading tutors made a tremendous difference in helping the children with whom they worked learn to read.

### **III. PARTICIPANTS**

**YOU**

Harris Wofford

Ardelia Norwood-Ross, AmeriCorps Member

### **IV. PRESS PLAN**

Open Press

### **V. REMARKS**

To be provided by speechwriting.

### **VI. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

- Off-stage announcement of **YOU**, accompanied Harris Wofford and AmeriCorps Member Ardelia Norwood-Ross.  
Note: There will be approximately 20 AmeriCorps members on stage.
- Harris Wofford makes brief remarks and introduces Ardelia Norwood-Ross.
- Ardelia Norwood-Ross makes brief remarks and introduces **YOU**.
- **YOU** make remarks and administer the AmeriCorps pledge to all of the AmeriCorps members present.
- **YOU** work a ropeline and depart.

### **VII. ATTACHMENTS**

- Biography of Ardelia Norwood-Ross, AmeriCorps Member
- AmeriCorps Tutoring and Student Reading Achievements Preliminary Findings

## **BIOGRAPHY OF ARDELIA NORWOOD-ROSS**

Ardelia Norwood-Ross, 26, was born and raised in Philadelphia and graduated from Simon Gratz High School. She earned a BA in American Studies/Elementary Education from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. After graduating from college in 1999, Ardelia returned to Philadelphia and joined the National School and Community Corps (NSCC).

In her first year as a corpsmember, Ardelia served at Taggart Elementary in South Philadelphia. During her service at Taggart, she ran three literacy programs for students in grades 1-3, including two programs that she developed on her own. This year she has earned a position as a team leader and is serving at Adaire Elementary School in the Fishtown area of Philadelphia. In this capacity, Ardelia supervises 5 AmeriCorps members who work with over 600 children in grades K-8 as in-class assistants and one-on-one tutors.

Ardelia is currently enrolled in a Master's program in Elementary Education at Cheyney University and is also earning her public school certification. Ardelia uses her AmeriCorps awards from her two years of service to pay back her college loans and pay for her graduate school study.

Ardelia has always been involved with volunteer projects throughout her life. She saw the NSCC as a perfect opportunity to continue giving back to her community while gaining valuable experience in Philadelphia public schools. Her terms of service with NSCC will help her prepare for her future plans to become an elementary school teacher.



## **IMPROVING AMERICA THROUGH NATIONAL SERVICE: PRESIDENT CLINTON URGES CONGRESS TO REAUTHORIZE AMERICORPS**

**October 11, 2000**

Today, the President will address hundreds of AmeriCorps volunteers in Philadelphia and will urge Congress to reauthorize AmeriCorps and other vital national service programs before their session adjourns. In the past six years since the inauguration of AmeriCorps, nearly 200,000 AmeriCorps members have served our nation by building homes, responding to natural disasters, helping to make our streets safer, and tutoring in schools. The President will release findings from a new independent study showing that AmeriCorps' reading tutors are making a tremendous difference in student reading achievement and affirms that we must do all we can to ensure AmeriCorps members continue to have the opportunity to serve their communities.

### **AMERICORPS VOLUNTEERS ARE GETTING THINGS DONE FOR AMERICA.**

President Clinton's signature national service program, AmeriCorps, is part of a long bipartisan tradition of service. Today the Corporation for National Service supports the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Points of Light Foundation, General Powell's America's Promise, as well as AmeriCorps. Since the inception of AmeriCorps in 1994, AmeriCorps members have tutored and mentored millions of children; established or expanded thousands of neighborhood safety patrols; helped build or rehabilitate thousands of homes; and helped communities rebuild after dozens of natural disasters in more than 30 states, including the recent fires in Montana and Colorado. AmeriCorps also provides trained, dedicated people to help nonprofit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the YMCA and the American Red Cross. In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps members are eligible to receive educational awards that help pay for college, job training, or pay back student loans. To date, AmeriCorps members have qualified for more than \$400 million in education awards.

**AMERICORPS AND OTHER VITAL NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAMS MUST BE REAUTHORIZED.** The reauthorization of AmeriCorps has wide-ranging support. Recently, 49 of the nation's 50 governors sent a letter urging Congress to renew AmeriCorps and other national service programs, stating, "As Governors, we recognize the value of national service as a tool in meeting important needs in our states. We do not want to lose this force for good in our communities, states, and country." The National and Community Service Amendments Act of 2000 would reauthorize the Corporation for National and Community Service and its major service programs for five years, and strengthen our nation's commitment to national service by enabling these programs to build on the far-reaching benefits they have provided. In addition, the reauthorization would expand AmeriCorps to include an E-Corps of volunteers working to close the digital divide.

**AMERICORPS READING TUTORS HELPING CHILDREN LEARN TO READ.** In 1996, the President issued the America Reads Challenge to help every child learn to read well and independently by the end of the third grade, and called for an army of trained reading tutors to join forces with parents, teachers, and reading specialists to help achieve this goal. AmeriCorps members, VISTA volunteers, and Foster Grandparents all heeded the President's call to action and have since taught, tutored, or mentored nearly one million children learning to

read. Today, the President will announce the preliminary results of a national study that shows that AmeriCorps members are making a difference in helping the students they work with improve their reading skills. This independent study, conducted by Abt Associates Inc., surveyed hundreds of AmeriCorps reading tutors and thousands of children learning to read, and concluded that in every instance these tutors are making a tremendous difference. In fact, the children involved in the study improved their reading abilities more than the gain expected for similarly situated children at their grade level. Many of these students started out in the tutoring programs well below grade level and by year-end, students closed the gap and were reading at or near the grade-level expectation. The President urged Congress to reauthorize funding to support programs like the AmeriCorps reading tutors in addition to his call to enact other critical education reforms to improve reading, including smaller class-size, teacher quality, and more after-school opportunities.



## **AmeriCorps Event Q&As**

**Q: What changes will the AmeriCorps reauthorization make to the current program?**

A: The National and Community Service Amendments Act of 2000, S. 2764, provides for the reauthorization of the Corporation for National Service and its major service programs, including AmeriCorps. The reauthorization is a straightforward reauthorization intended to reaffirm and strengthen our nation's commitment to national service. The one major addition to the reauthorization is the creation of an "E-Corps" to expand the opportunities for AmeriCorps members to help close the digital divide between the technology "haves" and "have nots."

**Q: Do you expect Congress to pass the reauthorization before the end of the session?**

A: The Senate passed the National and Community Service Amendments Act out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee in July of this year. It is awaiting floor action, but Congressional Leadership in both the Senate and House have indicated their willingness and desire to get this done. The President is urging them today to do it quickly as are 49 of our nation's 50 governors.

**Q: Does the Administration expect to receive the President's budget request for AmeriCorps?**

A: The President's budget request included a \$69 million increase in AmeriCorps to allow 12,000 more AmeriCorps members to serve. Unfortunately, the House zero-funded AmeriCorps and the Senate cut it by approximately \$26 million that would deny funding to support 3,000 current AmeriCorps members. The Administration is fighting hard to restore funding for AmeriCorps and hopes that Congress will send a bill to the President that at a minimum ensures that the same number of members can continue to serve our nation's communities.

Draft 9/10/00 3:15 p.m.  
John Pollack

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
STATEMENT ON  
CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL SERVICE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA  
October 11, 2000**

Thank-you, Ardelia Norwood-Ross. Mayor John Street, thank-you for your warm welcome today, and for your commitment to this proud city. And where would we be today without Eli Segal, and Pennsylvania's own Harris Wofford? From the Peace Corps to AmeriCorps, nobody has done more to champion public service, or to help people in this country around the world reach for opportunity. We thank you for your leadership.

When Vice President Gore and I took office nearly eight years ago, AmeriCorps was just the spark of an idea. Now, thanks to all of you, it's the swing of a hundred hammers, helping a new family build their first home. It's the sight of a thousand saplings taking root on a charred mountainside. It's the sound of a million children reading their first book. AmeriCorps, you get things done, and we say thank-you.

It is especially fitting that we meet in Philadelphia to reaffirm our commitment to national service. It was here that our founders declared independence, calling for thousands of volunteers to leave field and family to fight for the dream of democracy. Here they conceived a new nation that honored both the individual *and* the idea that a free people could accomplish their greatest deeds only by working together.

More than two centuries later, you are living proof that every citizen can still make a difference, especially when we work together. In 1992, some people were pretty discouraged about the challenges we faced. But together, we made the tough choices. Together, we created 22 million new jobs, driving unemployment to a 30-year low. We turned record deficits into record surpluses. Crime has dropped for eight years running. Personal income is rising across the board. Home ownership is at an all-time high. Teen pregnancy is falling, and more Americans than ever before are going on to college. At the beginning of a new century, America is stronger than ever.

This turnaround didn't happen by chance; it was a choice. In big cities and small towns, people took responsibility – not just for helping themselves – but also for their neighbors and communities. And nobody has set a better example of this renewed spirit than the dedicated members of AmeriCorps, the senior service volunteers and so many others who make up the Corporation for National Service.

All across the country, AmeriCorps members are serving as a catalyst for community action. Studies show that every AmeriCorps member generates, on average, a dozen extra volunteers for every project they work on. That adds up. Over the past six years, AmeriCorps



members have recruited, trained or supervised more than 2.5 million volunteers for community projects.

All across the state of Pennsylvania, volunteers with the National Senior Service Corporation serve as foster grandparents to 9,000 children – passing on wisdom and the lessons of a lifetime. Right here in Philadelphia, more than a thousand AmeriCorps members have been working shoulder-to-shoulder with local organizations, running after-school programs, helping neighbors restore parks, bridging the digital divide and engaging other young people in community service.

We know that young people, when they volunteer in their communities, are less likely to get into trouble, and more likely to succeed in school. That's why, of all the work that AmeriCorps does, none is more important than the effort to help our children succeed in the classroom. Thanks to AmeriCorps members like Ardelia, more than 4 million kids have been tutored, mentored or enrolled in after-school programs since 1994.

Today, I'm releasing an independent study that shows these efforts are paying off. Over the past school year, AmeriCorps members tutored more than 100,000 students in grades 1-3. Sample tests given at the beginning and end of the school year showed that children's reading skills improved dramatically – gains that exceeded even the most optimistic expectations.

In one case, an AmeriCorps member down in Atlanta set out to recruit 8 college students willing to tutor struggling kids four hours a week. Today, that program has 250 volunteers serving in 30 schools. They are making an amazing difference. In fact, 70 percent of second and third-graders participating in the program have increased their test scores by at least two reading levels. Teachers love it, because the tutors help them give kids the extra attention they need.

We know what works. Now we need to do more of it. That's why I am urging Congress to reauthorize the Corporation for National Service, and bring AmeriCorps membership up to 100,000 every year. A few weeks ago, I received a letter from 49 governors – Democrats and Republicans alike – praising the fine work that AmeriCorps does. They know that AmeriCorps members get things done, and I hope Congress will act in the best bipartisan spirit to send me this legislation without delay.

Sometimes people are surprised that others are willing to work so hard for strangers, to invest their time and energy in people they've never met before. But here's an open secret that every volunteer knows: when you help someone else, you always get back more than you give. You meet people from different walks of life. You learn things about yourself. You bring our country that much closer to fulfilling its promise as One America. And ultimately, when you help someone else, you often touch – if only for a brief moment – the true meaning of human existence.

So today, as we welcome a new class of AmeriCorps members, let all of us recommit ourselves to a lifetime of service, one built on the enduring American values of opportunity, responsibility and community. And let's always remember that when we work together, nothing is beyond our grasp.

I want to say one last thing before I close: of all our accomplishments together these past eight years, there is nothing I am more proud of than AmeriCorps. Thank you for that. You get things done, and you make America proud.

It is now my distinct honor to swear in our nation's newest AmeriCorps class, by leading the AmeriCorps Pledge. *"I will get things done for America – to make our people safer, smarter and healthier. I will bring Americans together to strengthen our communities. Faced with apathy, I will take action. Faced with conflict, I will seek common ground. Faced with adversity, I will persevere. I will carry this commitment with me this year and beyond. I am an AmeriCorps member, and I will get things done."*

Congratulations.



**Remarks for Harris Wofford**  
**Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National Service**  
**Philadelphia's AmeriCorps Swearing-In**  
**October 11, 2000**

Mr. President – I'm honored and delighted to be here with you today – to be back in my home of Philadelphia as you swear-in the newest class of AmeriCorps members – new active-duty citizens that our country needs on the front-lines .

Warm thanks to Karen Fleisher and Jorina Ahmed, our two state service leaders who work so closely to make national service thrive in Pennsylvania. My salute to Governor Ridge's fine commission on national service – and to the commissioners with us today.

Mr. President – Philadelphia is a top example of how national service has come alive in communities and states across the country – from pioneering efforts in service-learning in its schools and colleges – to more than 1,000 older Americans serving through the Senior Corps – and of course, to the nearly 1,000 strong AmeriCorps members. And Philadelphia has some of the most outstanding national service programs, including those gathered before you today:

- like the National School and Community Corps
- like YouthBuild
- like VISTA
- like Youth for Change
- and like City Year

Mr. President – these AmeriCorps members sit here before you with their idealism, energy, and can-do spirit because of your vision, leadership, and support – because of your belief in the American tradition of service. And to date, more than 5,400 Pennsylvania residents – mostly young and young in spirit – have served and earned more than \$20 million toward their college expenses.

Mr. President, five years ago tomorrow, you swore me in to lead the Corporation and gave me a specific charge: to make national service a nonpartisan enterprise in which all Americans can take great pride. That day, I promised you that: “Together, young and old and those in between, with AmeriCorps as a new vital thrust, we would find the ways and means to make citizen service the common expectation and experience of every American. So you -- we -- we would all be

stewards of a great idea. Not a Republican or Democratic idea, not a liberal or conservative idea, but, in the truest sense, an all-American idea.”

Mr. President, I’m proud to say that with your support and leadership, we have come a long, long way. Thank you.

Thanks in part to Governor Ridge and 48 of the nation’s other governors who have urged Congress to reauthorize national service, we see growing bipartisan support in Washington.

And thanks to communities like Philadelphia and states like Pennsylvania – where the leading non-profit, educational, and faith-based organizations have taken national service and focused it on our most urgent needs – and where corporate and government leaders at all levels have come forward to expand national service’s reach – we are making national service the “non-bureaucratic, grass-roots, community-based, totally nonpartisan idea” that you talked about five years ago.

Mr. President, after championing this idea for more than thirty years and helping in the Senate as we passed national service legislation in 1993, these last five years have been some of the most fulfilling and rewarding of my lifetime.

Together, Mr. President, we have proven that AmeriCorps works. Not only does it take, as you’d say, “what’s right with America to help solve what’s wrong with America.” But it’s also a powerful antidote to the poison of isolation, alienation and cynicism in the air around us. It’s proven that taking responsibility and serving your community are American ideas – a common ground on which we all can stand.

But above all, Mr. President, the real story of AmeriCorps’ success is written in its members – their spirit, their commitment, their love of country and community. That’s why I’m so proud to present you these outstanding members – active-duty citizens who are tutoring children, building and renovating homes, bridging the digital divide, and restoring hope in communities throughout the area.

Today, they and more than 40,000 other AmeriCorps members across the country are represented by Ardelia Norwood-Ross, a native of Philadelphia now serving in her second year with the National School and Community Corps.

Mr. President, I present to you Ardelia.



Good afternoon, Mr. President. On behalf of AmeriCorps, I'm honored to welcome you to Philadelphia.

I joined AmeriCorps after graduating from college because I wanted to help children learn. When I started out, working with first graders, I was scared—scared of the responsibility, because a child's whole future depends on this time. The teachers I served with helped me learn how to work with the children. We're not trying to replace teachers, but to help them by having an extra person around to give one-on-one attention to children who need it. One of the first kids I worked with was John, the son of a Cambodian family. He didn't know the alphabet. I worked with him for about 20 minutes every day in the classroom and twice a week after school. Within a month, he could write beautiful sentences. Now he's reading at grade level.

So many older people see my generation as not being concerned about anything other than ourselves. They think we're lazy and self-centered. I think they're misinformed. It may be more exciting to talk about things that aren't going right, but nearly 200,000 AmeriCorps members have served since 1994, and I think that shows that we can get things done.

I'm always encouraging other people to join AmeriCorps, and now, one of my cousins is now applying to AmeriCorps. I think more people should have that chance to serve, to get things done. Every day when I wake up, I know that I am making a difference.

For that I thank you, Mr. President.

All in second year

Profiles:

ages:

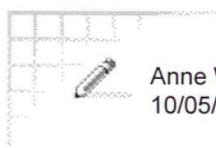
② **Ardelia Norwood-Ross** was born and raised in Philadelphia and graduated from Simon Gratz High School. She earned a BA in American Studies/Elementary Education from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. After graduating from college in 1999, Ms. Ross returned to Philadelphia and joined the National School and Community Corps. In her first year as a corpsmember Ardelia served at Taggart Elementary in South Philadelphia. This year she has earned a position as a Team Leader and is serving at Adaire Elementary in the Fishtown area of Philadelphia. Ardelia is currently enrolled in Master's program in Elementary Education at Cheyney University and is also earning her public school certification. She has always been involved in volunteer projects throughout her life. She saw the NSCC as a perfect opportunity to continue giving back to her community while gaining valuable experience in Philadelphia public schools. Her terms of service with NSCC will help her prepare for her future plans to become an elementary school teacher.  
171.64.  
Black - 26

① **Jacquelyn Ajose** has served with the NSCC for 1 ½ years, first as a corpsmember and now as a team leader at Harrison Elementary School in North Philadelphia. Jackie is from Washington, DC and attended the public schools in that city. She came to Philadelphia in 1990 to attend the Art Institute of Philadelphia. After working in fashion design and retail Jackie realized that she needed to be doing more for other people, and decided to join the NSCC. Jackie says that her journey of service has caused her to grow in ways that she could never have imagined. She has gone back to school in the African-American Studies Department at Temple University, self-published a book, and created her own small business. Her enthusiasm for her work is visible, and she says that "nothing compares to helping children find their own power, and these children prove me right every day. Transformation is a wonderful thing!"  
Black - 26/27 - part

② **Erin Smith** came to Philadelphia from Ohio in 1999 to join the National School and Community Corps. She is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University where she earned a BA in Psychology/ Sociology and was on the Dean's List all four years. While in college she served in a number of different volunteer service programs focused on tutoring, juvenile justice, and safety in schools. She began in the NSCC as a corpsmember at Vaux Middle School in North Philadelphia and has now earned a team leader position at that school. She is actively involved in the programs developed at Vaux and has established solid partnerships within the school and community. Erin's experience with NSCC has helped to guide her future goals, and she plans to pursue graduate education and possibly public school certification when she completes her term.  
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most  
unavailable





Anne W. Bovaird  
10/05/2000 05:53:24 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: mscales@cns.gov @ inet

Subject: Potential AmeriCorps Event Sites

Here are the indoor and outdoor site suggestions we've pulled together from CNS. If there are additions, I will forward them asap. I should hear back from them with a local contact name and number very shortly (Julie - I'll email Paul and page you with that) Pls call me w/ any questions at x6-7072 or page me. Thanks!

### **AmeriCorps Suggestions**

#### **Cruz Recreation Center**

6th and Master Streets in North Phildelphia

Contact: Kathy De Crescio, Executive Assistant to the Recreation  
Commissioner, (215) 683-3683

Summary: A team of AmeriCorps members renovated an abandoned building in an impoverished neighborhood, allowing the center to greatly expand tutoring and other activities for neighborhood youth.

Site: The Center is located at 6th and Masters Streets in North Philadelphia. The center consists of two buildings, a pool, and a surrounding park area large enough to accomodate a crowd.

Background: The Cruz Recreation Center, operated by the Phildadelphia Department of Recreation, is located in the Ludlow neighborhood of North Philadelphia. It is in the the North Philadelphia Empowerment Zone, an area where 60% of the residents live in poverty. The recreation center was scheduled to close, but a concerted effort by community residents resulted in a commitment to not only keep the center open but renovate the building so more youth could be served. From March to May 1997, a team of AmeriCorps\*NCCC members completely renovated the center and the surrounding park, including building partitions, painting walls, repairing structures, painting a mural, and beautifying the surrounding park. The interior remodeling and the outside beautification made for a cleaner, more attractive facility, and allowed the center to triple the number of students involved in afterschool tutoring programs.

#### **Free Library of Philadelphia (Main Branch - Benjamin Franklin Parkway)**

AmeriCorps NCCC members tutor students in grades 1-3 in the area, at a local elementary school (Duckrey Elementary) with a predominantly African-American student body, who could be part of the audience. The library has an auditorium that holds between 350 and 390.

### **AmeriCorps/City Year Suggestions**

**Mario Lanza Park** -- 2nd and Catherine -- South Philadelphia

Teams of City Year corps members have served over the course of the last 12 months to restore this space to a vibrant and useable urban park. We have done this in collaboration with the Philadelphia Green, a program of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Teams have revitalized the dog run, and planted and cultivated grass throughout the park.

**Malcolm X Park** -- 50th and Pine

Teams of City Year corps members have served over the course of the last 2 1/2 years to restore this space to a vibrant and useable urban park. We cleaned the park, removed invasive shrubs and weeds. We mulched around the trees to protect them. All of this was done as an effort to keep the space green and vital.

**Gorgas Park** -- Ridge Avenue

City Year teams have done a clean-up revitalization of this park. In addition, for the past two years, City Year has worked with a coalition of community groups to plan and facilitate a health and community fair each spring that included time capsules, tree planting, and information on community resources. Again, City Year did this in collaboration with the Philadelphia Green, a program of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

All three of these parks were also served by City Year during Philadelphia Green's annual "Fall for Your Park Event" in the fall of 1999 and fall of 2000. We can provide more information about all three of these if necessary. Philadelphia Green has been a terrific partner and writes about City Year's assistance in their newsletters.

**Harris Wofford Suggestions**

**Fairmount Park** (no known AmeriCorps connection, but great park)

**Temple University** (or other Philadelphia college with large auditorium) - although the concerns over the teachers strike may make this a moot suggestion...

Note: The **Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science** (Henry Ave and Schoolhouse Lane) has an Institute for Service Learning program that works with AmeriCorps VISTAs. The contact is Mary Beth Morris (215-951-0343).

Message Sent To:

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Julie D. Eddy/WHO/EOP@EOP  
paulrivera@aol.com @ inet  
Sonya N. Hebert/WHO/EOP@EOP  
Ann O'Leary/OPD/EOP@EOP  
Karin Kullman/OPD/EOP@EOP  
Laura A. Graham/WHO/EOP@EOP



## **MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION**

**SUBJECT: AMERICORPS PROGRAMS IN PHILADELPHIA, PA**

Please see the attached information regarding AmeriCorps programs in Pennsylvania, specifically Philadelphia.

- List of AmeriCorps programs (including AmeriCorps grantees) in Philadelphia, PA

[Please note that the number of AmeriCorps members at each program (listed on the right-hand side of the page) is the number of people that the program *can* support. If we are interested in specific programs, the Corporation for National Service will contact them to confirm the number of members actually working at those sites currently.]

- Overview of national service efforts in Pennsylvania
- Highlights of national service programs in Pennsylvania (including 5 programs in Phila.)
- National service by the numbers in Pennsylvania (# of sites, members, funding)

Please let me know if you need additional information on any of these programs. Thanks!

Anne Bovaird, x6-7072

For Internal Use only.

## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**American Red Cross of Southeastern PA Chapter**

Ms. Mary Olge  
National Rapid Response Corps  
23rd & Chestnut Streets  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

|                        | AmeriCorps   | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 97ADNDC001   | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Adin Miller  | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-299-4802 | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |              | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$73,022.66  | <b>8</b>            |

**ASPIRA/AmeriCorps - PA**

Ms. Evelyn Briganty  
4322 North 5th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19140

|                        | AmeriCorps    | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ADNDC043    | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Rodney Tucker | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-455-1300  | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |               | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$214,685     | <b>20</b>           |

Aspira Association, Inc. is a national non-profit organization devoted solely to serving Puerto Rican and other Latino youth through leadership development and education. AmeriCorps Members teach Latino youth literacy, language and mathematical skills through tutoring and mentoring in school and after school. Members develop and facilitate programs providing leadership development, service learning, and enrichment activities. Members also conduct outreach to parents individually and through group programming.

**Philabundance**

Mr. Scott Schaffer  
Box 37555  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

|                        | AmeriCorps   | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 96ADNDC099   | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Adin Miller  | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-339-0900 | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |              | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$105,268    | <b>10</b>           |

Congressional Hunger Center is a bi-partisan, non-profit organization founded in 1993, working to end hunger through domestic programs and international policy. It also currently sponsors an AmeriCorps VISTA project. Beyond Food AmeriCorps Members provide services addressing hunger, under-nutrition, malnutrition and food security. Members work to eliminate hunger by establishing or expanding community gardens, food banks/ food pantries, school breakfast and summer feeding programs, feeding programs for the homeless, farmer's markets in low-income neighborhoods, food collection efforts, and providing nutrition education.



*For Internal Use only.*

## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Philadelphia Child Care Resources**

Mr. Julio Paz y Mino

Philadelphia Child Care Resources - South/Center City

1709 South Broad Street, Suite 200

Philadelphia, PA 19148

|                        | AmeriCorps   | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ADNDC022   | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Adin Miller  | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-271-0433 | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |              | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$9,733      |                     |

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Resource (NACCRRRA) and Referral Agencies promotes the growth and development of high quality resource and referral services; and exercises national policy leadership to build a diverse, high quality child care system with parental choice and equal access for all families. AmeriCorps members build community stability by improving the quality and availability of infant/toddler and school age child care. Members work directly with families, children, child care providers and the community by serving in child care settings, provide trainings to child care providers, consult with child care centers on program improvements, provide resource materials to families, and help families obtain education, health care, and other services.

**Philadelphia Youth for Change, Inc.**

Mr. Taylor Frome

619 Catharine Street

Philadelphia, PA 19147

|                        | AmeriCorps    | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ADNMA061    | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Marlene Zakai | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-627-8671  | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |               | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$221,516     |                     |

YouthBuild USA, Inc., is a national non-profit organization that engages educationally at risk youth in a combination of service and youth development activities. The service activities focus primarily on renovating houses and buildings for the homeless and low income families. YouthBuild USA has a substantial number of affiliate organizations across the country. Members serve directly with community based organizations to rehabilitate abandoned housing and build new homes for homeless people, persons with HIV/AIDS, the physically challenges, and low income families. They build awareness of community issues and generate volunteers for local service projects.

**Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation****National School and Community Corps - Philly**

Ms. Phyllis Lawrence

National School and Community Corps

JFK Tech Center, 734 Schuylkill Avenue, Rm 580

Philadelphia, PA 19146

|                        | AmeriCorps   | AmeriCorps*National |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ADNNJ058   | <b>Subgrants</b>    |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Miki Akimoto | <b>Members /</b>    |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215 875 8050 | <b>Students /</b>   |
| <b>Fax</b>             |              | <b>Volunteers</b>   |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$1,826,962  |                     |

The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation identifies critical education needs and develops programs to address those needs, including fellowships and programs for students, minorities and teachers. The National School & Community Corps (NSCC) was established in 1994. Its AmeriCorps Members provide services in literacy, the arts, and service learning to children and adults. Members also provide mentoring, homework assistance, club activities, youth leadership, conflict resolution, and other programs as identified by local communities and schools.



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**City Year, Inc. PA**

Mr. Jim Balfanz  
12 South 23rd St.  
6th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

|                        | AmeriCorps     | AmeriCorps*State  |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 98ARCPA042     | <b>Subgrants</b>  |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Tynetta Darden | <b>Members /</b>  |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-988-2118   | <b>Students /</b> |
| <b>Fax</b>             |                | <b>Volunteers</b> |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$405,000      | 36                |

AmeriCorps Members deliver a specialized literacy curriculum to children with physical, emotional, and cognitive disabilities and to children for whom English is a second language. Through a partnership with City Year Philadelphia and the Institute on Disabilities, Members serve in 2 public elementary schools where they provide one-on-one tutoring to 60 children in grades K-3. Members help improve reading ability and interest levels for the children they serve in addition to integrating children with disabilities into normal classroom activities.

**City Year, Inc. - Philadelphia**

Mr. Jim Balfanz  
2221 Chestnut Street  
2nd floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

|                        | AmeriCorps     | AmeriCorps*State  |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ASCPA039     | <b>Subgrants</b>  |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Tynetta Darden | <b>Members /</b>  |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-988-2118   | <b>Students /</b> |
| <b>Fax</b>             |                | <b>Volunteers</b> |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$787,749      | 93                |

City Year Philadelphia addresses unmet community needs with AmeriCorps Members who serve in the community and local schools. Members engage 340 elementary and middle school children students in structured activities that emphasize civic responsibility, HIV/AIDS and health education, and 15 physical service projects to help revitalize Philadelphia. Expected impacts include: 75% of Young Heroes (after-school program) will maintain or increase their level of interest in service, as well as increase their awareness of critical health or social issues reported by participants in pre and post tests; and 2500 citizens will be engaged in service.

**City Year Philadelphia**

Mr. Jim Balfanz  
2221 Chestnut Street, 2nd Floor  
Philadelphia, Pa 19103

|                        | AmeriCorps     | AmeriCorps*State  |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ASCPA039     | <b>Subgrants</b>  |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Tynetta Darden | <b>Members /</b>  |
| <b>Phone</b>           | (215) 988-2118 | <b>Students /</b> |
| <b>Fax</b>             |                | <b>Volunteers</b> |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$1,192,749    | 129               |

**ECA AmeriCorps Program**

Energy Coordinating Agency of Philadelphia, Inc.  
Ms. Elizabeth Kimball  
1924 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

|                        | AmeriCorps     | AmeriCorps*State  |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grant Number</b>    | 94ASCPA039     | <b>Subgrants</b>  |
| <b>Program Officer</b> | Tynetta Darden | <b>Members /</b>  |
| <b>Phone</b>           | 215-988-0929   | <b>Students /</b> |
| <b>Fax</b>             |                | <b>Volunteers</b> |
| <b>CNS Funding</b>     | \$337,214      | 30                |

AmeriCorps members improve the financial stability of low income and homeless families of Philadelphia through budget counseling, energy conservation, and mentoring/peer counseling. Members weatherize the homes of the elderly and install energy conservation materials in 2000 homes resulting in a 20% decrease in utility bills. The program also strengthens partnerships with city-wide community-based organizations and increases opportunities for 200 citizens to volunteer.



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Institute on Disabilities**

Temple University/Institute on Disabilities/UAP

Dr. Diane Bryen

Ritter Annex 423

1301 Cecil B. Moore Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19122

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*State

Grant Number

94ASCPA039

Subgrants

Program Officer

Tynetta Darden

Members /

28

Phone

215-204-1356

Students /

Fax

Volunteers

CNS Funding

\$235,484

AmeriCorps Members provide children and adults with disabilities quality personal assistance services (PAS) in order to increase their independence, productivity, and community inclusion. Through a partnership with City Year Reads, members also focus on children with disabilities to assist them in their transition to regular education programs. Impacts include a 10% increase in either independence, productivity, or community inclusion; access to at least one new community resource on the part of the service recipient; and a 50% increase in the use of computer and other technology for the disability population.

**Safety in the Empowerment Zone**

Norris Square Neighborhood Project, Inc.

Sis. Carol Keck

2141 N. Howard Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122-1712

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*State

Grant Number

94ASCPA039

Subgrants

Program Officer

Tynetta Darden

Members /

20

Phone

215-426-4631

Students /

Fax

Volunteers

CNS Funding

\$225,000

The Norris Square Safety in the Empowerment Zone program works with Empowerment Zone residents to make it safer for children, youth, and their caregivers. AmeriCorps Members bring together area residents with police to conduct Town Watches, Block Clubs, and Peace Patrols. Members also serve with children to teach them conflict resolution and alternatives to violence. Expected impacts include: 500 residents are more involved in making their block safer; there are 15 new Town Watches; and 20 children at each of the 5 participating schools are trained in Playground Peace Patrol and actively patrol playgrounds.

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America**

Joyce Augustyn

230 North 13th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107-1538

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number

LA451317

Subgrants

Program Officer

Members /

2

Phone

Students /

Fax

Volunteers

CNS Funding

AmeriCorps\*VISTA members are designing new opportunities for citizens to volunteer to mentor children. The AmeriCorps\*VISTA members are working with churches, the mayor, various Army groups at Fort Polk, etc. to design mentoring programs for specific groups. AmeriCorps\*VISTA members are also working with schools in an effort to establish school-based mentoring programs.

**Trehab Center, Inc.**

Dennis Phelps

P.O. Box 366, 10 Public Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 18801

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number

PA013799

Subgrants

Program Officer

Members /

1

Phone

(570) 824-8891

Students /

Fax

Volunteers

CNS Funding

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will work on a homeownership program targeted for at-risk prospective homeowners. The goal is to assist 25 such families with homeownership. Two members will work on a job development program to move welfare recipients to work and self-sufficiency. The goal is to place 15 such individuals in unsubsidized work. One member will work on a microenterprise program to coordinate a multi-county volunteer/mentor system.



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Habitat For Humanity - Germantown**

Shelly Halloran  
400 W. Winona Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19144

**Grant Number**

PA053919

**Program Officer****Phone**

(215) 849-9277

**Fax****CNS Funding****AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA****Subgrants****Members /****Students /****Volunteers**

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will be responsible for securing sites for rehabilitation, raising funds, recruiting volunteers, and raising public awareness about the needs for affordable housing. The members will be involved at every stage of the process of making safe, decent affordable housing available to low-income families. The sponsor seeks to build and rehabilitate houses and neighborhoods by providing simple, affordable housing in southwest Germantown for families who otherwise could not afford homes of their own.

**Habitat For Humanity - West Philadelphia**

Sheldon Rich  
4948 W. Stiles Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19131

**Grant Number**

PA312994

**Program Officer****Phone**

(215) 477-4639

**Fax****CNS Funding****AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA****Subgrants****Members /****Students /****Volunteers**

4

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members recruit and train community volunteers, assist with public relations, grant writing, public speaking, newsletter production and solicitation of in-kind materials. Operation and donations have increased significantly, volunteer participation is up by over 25% and grant solicitation has increased by over 50%. AmeriCorps\*VISTA members are assigned to 4 local Habitat Affiliates (North, South, Germantown and West Phila.).

**The Filled Cup/Phila. Credit Union Partnership**

David McVeigh Schultz  
2311 Frankford Avenue  
Phila., PA 19125

**Grant Number**

PA313126

**Program Officer****Phone**

(215) 425-3174

**Fax****CNS Funding****AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA****Subgrants****Members /****Students /****Volunteers**

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members have recruited 250 new members throughout two low-income areas of the city, increased deposits by \$150,000, increased loan volume by \$200,000, and reduced loan deficiency to 5 percent. The hope is for better financial stability for low-income persons in two very depressed areas. The Filled Cup supports community development credit unions in Philadelphia.

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

Larry Brown  
1650 Arch Street, (3cg00)  
Phila., PA 19103

**Grant Number**

PA313206

**Program Officer****Phone**

(215) 814-5527

**Fax****CNS Funding****AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA****Subgrants****Members /****Students /****Volunteers**

5

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members are working in the Chester area, a very low-income area, near Phila., to bring together individuals from the public and private sectors to develop a plan for addressing the lead abatement, private well and fish consumption issue identified in an EPA Chester risk study. An additional The member is expanding the scope of the present level of Earth Day Activities. "Watershed Snapshot 97" will include more communities, additional habitat assessment and improvement project and is training community members in several low-income neighborhoods to maintain the gain that have already been made.



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Jewish Community Centers-Greater Phila.**

Marcia Gross  
6600 Bustleton Avenue  
Phila., PA 19149

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**

**AmeriCorps**    **AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313236    **Subgrants**

**Phone**    (215) 331-7787  
**Fax**

**Members /**    1  
**Students /**  
**Volunteers**

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members are serving as coordinators for the Experience Corps Research and Demonstration Grant Project. The Experience Corps program is a collaboration between the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and Temple University Center for Intergenerational Learning. The Experience Corps aims to improve academic achievement and overall quality of life of young children while fostering leadership capabilities of older adults. Three elementary schools in the Olney Cluster (Taylor, Olney, and Morrison) are taking part in this project. Thirty-one Corps volunteers have been recruited and placed in these schools.

**Inst for Svc Learning - Phila Coll Textiles & Sci**

Mary Beth Morris  
Henry Ave. & School House Lane  
Phila., PA 19144

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**

**AmeriCorps**    **AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313327    **Subgrants**

**Phone**    (215) 951-0343  
**Fax**

**Members /**    11  
**Students /**  
**Volunteers**

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will be involved with the development and implementation of community service projects, training teachers for institutionalization, and the development of community advisory boards. The members will also be involved with the pursuit of funding so that these programs may become a regular part of the local school curriculum.

**Nonprofit Technology Resources**

Stan Pokras  
1508 Brandywine Street  
Phila., PA 19130

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**

**AmeriCorps**    **AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313397    **Subgrants**

**Phone**    (215) 564-6686  
**Fax**

**Members /**    3  
**Students /**  
**Volunteers**

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will expand the workspace and the record-keeping systems to speed up the production of functional computer system from donated parts and equipment, working with existing volunteers; and, supervise the logistical and technical process of collecting donated equipment and the production of up to 50 computer systems per month. The members will also organize and lead a volunteer training development team to design instructional materials. Last year, the Community Based Organization Technology program produced 31 workshops for 32 staff members of 9 community based organizations serving low-income communities; 25 volunteers worked at Mars Hills Church to prepare computers for redistribution; and, through the Computer Adoption Program, 18 organizations were given computers and have created their own computer training programs. □

**Green Circle Program**

Mike Blum  
1300 Spruce Street  
Phila., PA 19107

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**

**AmeriCorps**    **AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313488    **Subgrants**

**Phone**    (215) 893-8400  
**Fax**

**Members /**    1  
**Students /**  
**Volunteers**

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will develop the capacity of pre-school and elementary school children to live effectively with human differences in order to contribute to public safety, enhance classroom learning and build community capacity for the future. The members will implement the Green Circle Program, training school/community volunteers to be Green Circle facilitators and build community capacity for program continuity.



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**United Way of Southeastern PA**

Mary Strasser  
Seven Benjamin Franklin Parkway  
Phila., PA 19103

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number PA313508  
Program Officer  
Phone (215) 665-2467  
Fax  
CNS Funding

Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will work to promote key collaborations with CBO's, agencies, government and education to provide 120,000 additional youth with the five resource areas outlined in the Presidents' Summit for America's Future. Philadelphia's Promise and the AmeriCorps\*VISTA Project will promote volunteerism with young people for young people.

**Communities in Schools in Philadelphia, Inc.**

Martin Nock  
734 Schuykill Avenue  
Phila., PA 19146

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number PA313578  
Program Officer  
Phone (215) 875-3171  
Fax  
CNS Funding

Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Member will advance the sponsor's overall mission by addressing the following needs: (1) more workplace or service-learning placements for students; (2) additional CISP/community partnerships that will provide classroom resources, service learning placements and paid employment opportunities for students; (3) coordination of expanded activities for students, including the 1999 Teen Summit; and, (4) assist in developing strategies for sustaining expanded partnerships and activities. □

**National School and Community Corps**

Barbara Melnikov  
734 Schuykill Avenue, Room 672, Jfk Admin. Bldg.  
Phila., PA 19146-2397

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number PA313598  
Program Officer  
Phone (609) 452-7607  
Fax  
CNS Funding

Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members are assigned to elementary school teams. As part of a team, new opportunities for parents and community members are being developed by forming family reading programs for parents of in-school children and pre-schoolers. Programs are being conducted in units illustrating skills and techniques parents can use to build age appropriate literacy activities into the home environment. The members are also providing the sponsor's members with technical assistance through turn around training, linking teams to each other and other city literacy programs and initiatives, identifying resources, helping to solve problems, and sharing best practices.

**Philadelphia Reads**

Nicole Torsella  
1401 Jfk Blvd., Suite 1000  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA

Grant Number PA313658  
Program Officer  
Phone (215) 351-7601  
Fax  
CNS Funding

Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

1

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will focus on raising reading achievement in 100 classrooms in 10 schools. This initiative will affect approximately 3,000 children, their families, teachers, classroom assistants, administrations and community volunteers. As resources expand, numbers of classrooms in schools will be increased. □



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## Corporation for National Service Programs in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Habitat For Humanity - North Central Philadelphia**

Donald Graves  
1829 North 19th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19121

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**  
**Phone**  
**Fax**

**AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313789  
Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

1

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Member will enable Habitat for Humanity, North Central Philadelphia, to increase the rate of housing production and increase community involvement and participation in Habitat and the community. The member will recruit and train volunteers for committees and construction, and also be involved in fund development, etc.

**Big Brother/Big Sister Associatin of Philadelphia**

Douglas Powell  
2037 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**  
**Phone**  
**Fax**

**AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313809  
Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

4

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will work on the coordination the sponsor's School-Based Mentoring Project with a goal of matching 110 students with 110 corporate volunteer mentors. Two other members will work on coordinating a Service-Learning Project at the Freire School, developing 8 groups through which 110 students will perform service-learning project.

**Good Shepherd Mediation Program**

Victoria Buksbaze  
5356 Chew Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19138

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**  
**Phone**  
**Fax**

**AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313857  
Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

3

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members will focus on crime prevention and conflict resolution. The Good Shepherd Mediation Program is a neighborhood justice center and training institute that specialize in the alternative dispute resolution process of mediation. The Summary Officer Diversion Program (SODP) of the sponsor provides first time youth offenders with an alternative to court intervention and an opportunity to get a fresh start by having their record expunged. Currently, Philadelphia youth are an underserved population in that there are no diversion programs with the exception of the Youth Aid Panel Program, on which SODP builds. SODP will strengthen and promote healthy family and community relationships, through the intervention of the sponsor by the youth completing conflict resolution/shoplifting diversion workshops and completing the community service component of the program.

**City Year - Philadelphia**

Jennifer Hamilton  
2221 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**Grant Number**  
**Program Officer**  
**Phone**  
**Fax**

**AmeriCorps AmeriCorps\*VISTA**

PA313889  
Subgrants  
Members /  
Students /  
Volunteers

3

**CNS Funding**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA Members support the service of approximately 100 AmeriCorps members. The members' activities include: coordinate essential activities at the Book Bank which will ensure the facility's effectiveness; develop and implement an outcome based evaluation system for the sponsor; collaborate with schools or community groups to provide defined service tasks; create a program to generate new funding sources from the small to medium sized business market; and, create systems which will ensure the overall efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of the sponsor's Development Department.





## Projects In Your State

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| <b>AmeriCorps*State/Natl</b>  |
| <b>AmeriCorps*VISTA</b>       |
| <b>AmeriCorps*NCCC</b>        |
| <b>Learn &amp; Serve K-12</b> |
| <b>L &amp; S Higher Ed</b>    |
| <b>Foster Grandparents</b>    |
| <b>RSVP</b>                   |
| <b>Senior Companions</b>      |

**PennSERVE: The Governor's Office of Citizen Service**

Johnny Butler, Chair  
 Mary Mackie, Vice-Chair  
 James Birge  
 H. William DeWeese  
 Tiffany Elliott  
 Thomas Fitzgerald  
 Emanuel Freeman  
 Melissa Hart  
 Nathaniel Hench  
 Michael Hershock  
 Eugene Hickok  
 Martin Horn  
 Vincent Hughes  
 Edward Keller  
 John Killian  
 W. Barnett Knorr  
 Fred Lettieri  
 Stanley Mansfield  
 Samuel McCullough  
 Fred McIlhatten  
 Kathy Schweiker  
 James Spotts  
 Earldine Tolbert  
 Deborah Woods

*"For the past five years, AmeriCorps has been a vital resource for young Americans who volunteer their time and efforts to improving communities throughout the nation."*

**Governor Tom Ridge proclamation on AmeriCorps Fifth Anniversary**

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## National Service in Pennsylvania

**Getting things done in Pennsylvania.** More than **85,000** people of all ages and backgrounds are helping to solve problems and strengthen communities through **151** national service projects across Pennsylvania. Serving through local nonprofits, schools, religious organizations and other groups, these citizens tutor and mentor children, coordinate after-school programs, build homes, organize neighborhood watch groups, clean parks, recruit volunteers, and accomplish other things to improve communities. This year, the Corporation for National Service will provide more than **\$21,400,000** to support Pennsylvania communities through three national service initiatives:

**AmeriCorps:** This year AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, will provide more than **1,900 individuals** the opportunity to spend a year serving in Pennsylvania communities. In return, AmeriCorps members receive an education award of up to \$4,725 to help pay for college or pay back student loans. To date, more than **5,400** Pennsylvania residents have qualified for education awards totaling more than **\$20,000,000**. Two-thirds of AmeriCorps grants are made by the PennSERVE: The Governor's Office of Citizen Service. National nonprofits, such as the American Red Cross and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, make other assignments. Other members serve in AmeriCorps\*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America), and AmeriCorps\*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps).

**Learn and Serve America:** Learn and Serve America provides schools, colleges, and community organizations with grants for service-learning that help make it possible for more than **6,000** Pennsylvania students from kindergarten through college to meet community needs while improving their skills and learning the habits of good citizenship.

**National Senior Service Corps:** More than **20,000** seniors in Pennsylvania contribute their time and talents in one of three programs; **Foster Grandparents**, who serve one-on-one with more than **9,000** young people who have special needs; **Senior Companions**, who help more than **1,700** other seniors live independently in their homes; and **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** volunteers, who work with more than **2,900** local groups to meet a wide range of community needs.

This information reflects the 1999-2000 program year.

If there are any questions please e-mail us at [StateProfiles@cns.gov](mailto:StateProfiles@cns.gov).

[www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org) | 
 [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org) | 
 [www.learnandserve.org](http://www.learnandserve.org) | 
 [www.seniorcorps.org](http://www.seniorcorps.org) | 
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|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| <b>AmeriCorps*State/Natl</b>  |
| <b>AmeriCorps*VISTA</b>       |
| <b>AmeriCorps*NCCC</b>        |
| <b>Learn &amp; Serve K-12</b> |
| <b>L &amp; S Higher Ed</b>    |
| <b>Foster Grandparents</b>    |
| <b>RSVP</b>                   |
| <b>Senior Companions</b>      |

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## National Service in Pennsylvania

### Woodrow Wilson Foundation National School and Community Corps Philadelphia

The 220 AmeriCorps members with the National School and Community Corps (NSCC) work with students to help them improve academically and behaviorally. Activities include reading, visual and performing arts, service-learning, tutoring and homework help, academic clubs, and mentoring. Students who participated in NSCC programs showed standardized test scores increased well beyond expectations, their attendance improved, they completed more homework, and teachers reported substantial change in their classroom behavior. Also as a result of the NSCC service, 92 percent of parents and 76 percent of community members reported a positive change in feelings toward the school or education in general, and 91 percent of the neighborhood agency staff, police liaisons, clergy, and business persons reported increased interactions with the school.

*"I have now had two years of experience with AmeriCorps and they are doing a great job... It is a tremendous investment in young people, a tremendous investment in the future, and I am a strong supporter of AmeriCorps. I think they have demonstrated their worth, they have paid their dues and they are worthy of the support I hope they will get from Congress."*

**General Colin Powell,  
Chairman, America's Promise,  
at 1999 National Governors  
Association meeting**

*"Older adults and kids are a perfect match. They give them special attention. They can really turn a kid around. It's really important to get these kids and help them with learning early."*

**Marcia Gross, RSVP Director,  
Philadelphia**

*"I've seen what a difference the hard work and dedication of AmeriCorps members working in some of our most challenging neighborhoods and in our schools has made. Philadelphia needs the energy and enthusiasm national service volunteers bring to our city. We can not do all we do in Philadelphia without the help of AmeriCorps. On behalf of 1.6 million Philadelphians, I would like to thank AmeriCorps for another great year of service here in the city."*

**Former Philadelphia Mayor Ed  
Rendell**

### Foster Grandparent Program of Luzerne and Wyoming Counties Wilkes-Barre

Numerous elementary students are referred to an Instructional Support Team (IST) each year due to low academic performance. Fifteen Foster Grandparents from and 15 Retired and Senior Volunteer Program volunteers work one-to-one with 235 IST students in grades K-3 who have low reading scores. In one elementary school, 43 percent of the tutored students raised their reading scores, 45 percent maintained grades above passing for all four quarters, and 86 percent received a passing grade for a final reading grade. In addition, 88 percent showed improvements in their self-esteem and work habits.

### American Red Cross, National Rapid Response Corps Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter

During the first program quarter, the Philadelphia American Red Cross deployed all eight of their National Rapid Response AmeriCorps teams to Pascagoula, Mississippi, to help victims of Hurricane Georges. Half of the teams also responded to the Oklahoma tornadoes in May. By the end of their year, members responded to 189 local disaster incidents creating damage assessments and assisting clients in finding shelter and replacing lost items. When not responding to local or national disasters, the members instructed more than 21,000 people in disaster prevention and recruited 57 new volunteers for the Red Cross.

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III Philadelphia

The U.S. EPA Region III and AmeriCorps\*VISTA teamed up four years ago to combat urban environmental issues. The AmeriCorps\*VISTA members educate more than 7,500 children each year, in schools throughout the region, through the Tools-for-Schools and the Chester programs, at yearly Earth Day events, and through summer programs. They also ensure that dozens of abandoned lots and streams are cleaned and have removed 7.5 tons of waste from one site.



*"These young people bring with them a spirit of community and work long hours in a professional manner. This is one of the finest programs the government has come up with in the last thirty years."*

**Craig Rolish, CEO of the North Cambria Community Development Corporation, praises a Capital Region AmeriCorps\*NCCC team serving in Barnesboro**

*"Imagine a program that puts thousands of young Americans in service projects every year. They tutor kids, rehab homes, clean up neighborhoods and recruit other volunteers. Hardly a government deal, it sounds like something Ronald Reagan might have dreamed up. Actually, the germ of the idea was George Bush's, and Bill Clinton embellished it: AmeriCorps.... Like the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps is one of the best investments around. Congress ought to ensure its future by passing a five-year authorization bill, and by giving it the money for 1999 to expand."*  
**Philadelphia Inquirer editorial**

*"As manager of the housing project, I am very grateful to AmeriCorps\*VISTA for its involvement in this neighborhood. It has made a difference in the lives of the children through educational and recreational programs. I have seen a positive difference in the atmosphere of this housing project and know that VISTA workers are largely responsible."*  
**Clementine Coledo, Manager, Mineral Springs Housing Project**

alone.

### **Summerbridge Pittsburgh**

#### *Pittsburgh*

AmeriCorps members with Summerbridge Pittsburgh tutored, mentored and taught 100 middle school students who have limited educational opportunities. They developed curriculum to support the students' academic enrichment year-round. In addition, members assisted 30 of these students and their families by following up students' school performance, working with students' professional counselors, and meeting individually with the families. To support these efforts, the AmeriCorps members helped to recruit 25 volunteer teachers and tutors.

### **AmeriCorps\*NCCC with the Awbury Arboretum Association**

#### *Philadelphia*

During April to June 1999, two teams of AmeriCorps\*NCCC members helped restore and develop urban gardens and horticultural sites in Philadelphia. The members planted over 30 trees, repaired fencing, and removed over 1,000 pounds of debris. They also coordinated the activities of 35 high school volunteers, and helped them learn about gardening and horticulture.

### **Senior Companion Program of Allegheny County**

#### *Pittsburgh*

While more and more of the frail elderly population rely on formal programs for assistance, the majority still rely on family members as the primary source of care. However, the emotional and physical strain placed on family members is leading to an increase in number of elderly being placed in long-term care facilities, at great cost to both family and taxpayers. To combat this trend, 77 Senior Companions are providing respite care to 176 clients, relieving caregivers temporarily of elder care so that they may tend to errands, banking, and other necessities or simply have some time to themselves and enabling them to keep their loved one at home. The Companions' assistance saves approximately \$24,000 per family for in-home services and an average of \$40,000 per family for long-term care.

### **Pennsylvania Department of Education**

#### *Philadelphia*

Through the Greater Philadelphia High School Partnership project sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania, more than 1,000 high school students from 74 public, private, and parochial schools are teaming up to organize service-learning projects. With support from Learn and Serve America, this program matches students from inner-city schools with students from suburban schools to work together to tackle community problems while overcoming many of their own socioeconomic, racial, and political stereotypes. Last year's projects included feeding the homeless, park cleanups, and drug prevention. The Philadelphia School District is one of latest school districts to incorporate service-learning throughout its K-12 curriculum and this year, 25 percent of all high school students will participate in this program as part of their graduation requirement.

### **Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council**

#### *Pittsburgh*

Twenty-eight full-time Literacy\*AmeriCorps members tutored 870 adult learners in adult basic education and GED preparation programs in 1998-99. Of these, 78 learners earned GEDs. Members also served 641 families in family literacy programs and over 5,000 children in reading programs in schools, community centers, and summer camps.

### **Allegheny County Health Department National Health Corps-Pittsburgh Health Corps**

#### *Pittsburgh*

Pittsburgh Health Corps AmeriCorps members serve with more than 20 local partner sites that provide comprehensive public health services to the greater Pittsburgh metropolitan area. Members serve the community by assisting at-risk



individuals in accessing health care, expanding health care knowledge for individuals and groups through health education and outreach efforts, and offering risk reduction programs to children and youth. Through their service members gain experience in, and exposure to a variety of health professions. They receive mentoring from health professionals and ongoing training in health-related fields.

**Salisbury-Elk Lick School District**

With support from Learn and Serve America, the Salisbury-Elk School District has integrated service-learning into the curriculum for students in kindergarten through twelfth-grade. During the 1997-98 school year, 431 students (95 percent of the district population) participated in service-learning activities. Those activities involved 14 subject areas taught by 22 teachers throughout the year. Accomplishments included water sampling of a local river by science students, construction of a nature trail by fifth-graders, and orientation sessions for new kindergartners taught by those currently in kindergarten.

**Disaster Relief by RSVP of McKean County***Bradford*

On August 20, 1999, McKean County experienced flash flooding in the City of Bradford as well as Foster and Bradford Townships. Over 700 homes were affected, 58 with major damage and 12 destroyed. In addition, 48 businesses were affected and there was extensive damage to township roads and parks. RSVP volunteers were involved in detailed damage assessment teams, which revealed that many homes had sustained foundation damage. RSVP volunteers also helped the local American Red Cross chapter conduct 127 home visits. In all, 3 shelters opened, 253 cases were opened and 91 paid staff and volunteers worked on the operation. RSVP volunteers continued working to meet the needs of the community long after the disaster struck.

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[www.nationalservice.org](http://www.nationalservice.org) | [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org) | [www.learnandserve.org](http://www.learnandserve.org) | [www.seniorcorps.org](http://www.seniorcorps.org) | [www.mlkday.org](http://www.mlkday.org)  
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## National Service in Pennsylvania

| AmeriCorps                              | Program Sites |             | Members       | Corporation for National Service Funding <sup>1</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| AmeriCorps*State                        | 19            |             | 834           | \$6,302,631                                           |
| AmeriCorps*National                     | 27            |             | 926           | \$4,820,650                                           |
| AmeriCorps*VISTA                        | 48            |             | 144           | \$585,600                                             |
| AmeriCorps*NCCC <sup>2</sup>            | N/A           |             | N/A           | N/A                                                   |
| AmeriCorps*Promise Fellows              | 2             |             | 15            | \$181,500                                             |
| AmeriCorps*Indian Tribes                | N/A           |             | N/A           | N/A                                                   |
| <b>AmeriCorps Total</b>                 | <b>96</b>     |             | <b>1,919</b>  | <b>\$11,890,381</b>                                   |
| Learn and Serve America                 | Grantees      | Subgrantees | Participants  | Funding                                               |
| K-12 School-Based Programs              | 2             | 90          | 50,375        | \$1,065,791                                           |
| Higher Education Programs               | 4             | 14          | 2,392         | \$649,117                                             |
| Community-Based Programs                | 1             | 10          | 10,465        | \$141,500                                             |
| Learn and Serve AmeriCorps              | N/A           | N/A         | N/A           | N/A                                                   |
| <b>Learn and Serve Total</b>            | <b>7</b>      | <b>114</b>  | <b>63,232</b> | <b>\$1,856,408</b>                                    |
| Senior Corps                            | Grantees      |             | Participants  | Funding                                               |
| RSVP                                    | 30            |             | 18,251        | \$1,934,741                                           |
| Foster Grandparent Program              | 12            |             | 1,300         | \$4,202,866                                           |
| Senior Companion Program                | 5             |             | 505           | \$1,476,594                                           |
| Seniors in Schools                      | 1             |             | 33            | \$112,500                                             |
| <b>Senior Corps Total</b>               | <b>48</b>     |             | <b>20,089</b> | <b>\$7,726,701</b>                                    |
| <b>Total National Service Resources</b> | <b>151</b>    | <b>114</b>  | <b>85,240</b> | <b>\$21,473,490</b>                                   |

<sup>1</sup> This figure does not include the education award that each AmeriCorps member receives after completing a term of service. To date, more than 5,400 Pennsylvania residents have qualified for education awards totaling more than \$20,000,000.

<sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania is served by the AmeriCorps\*NCCC campus located in SWashington, DC In the past year, AmeriCorps\*NCCC teams have served on projects in Altoona, Barnesboro, Kimberton, Philadelphia and Scranton.

<sup>3</sup> AmeriCorps Promise Fellows are AmeriCorps members who lead community efforts to provide the fundamental resources for children and youth identified at the 1997 Presidents' Summit for America's Future. This initiative is a partnership between AmeriCorps and America's Promise -- The Alliance for Youth, led by General Colin Powell.

This information reflects the 1999-2000 program year.

If there are any questions please e-mail us at [StateProfiles@cns.gov](mailto:StateProfiles@cns.gov).



## Philadelphia Trip

2:30 pm Arrive Philly Airport

Memorial Hall (run by city)

3:15 pm

AmeriCorps Event

4:15 pm

600 - 800 attendance

- 500 - 550 current AmeriCorps (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> yr) members
- 100 school kids (local elem. schools)  
w/ Corp tutors
- 50 Wofford people
- Gov. + Cong. delegation  
(likely no attendance)

~~POTUS accomp. by 20 Corp Members on stage  
in sweatshirts~~

POTUS accomp by Mayor Street, Wofford, Corp.

Street

Wofford

Norwood-Ross

POTUS

- remarks + pledge
- vopeline & depart

## Amen Corps Event

- Call for reauthorization
- Reading tutor study
- Approp. fight
  - Senate - cut by \$27 mil
  - House - zero funded

Philadelphia, PA

2:00pm

Clean up site & crowd went there

### Invites

Eli Segal  
Harris Wofford

### Program

Mayor Street?  
Harris Wofford

Amen Corp

POTUS