

school's motto is "Service is a life-long commitment." Students in every grade perform individual acts of service, from tutoring younger children to serving on safety patrols. Each classroom also plans a class service project. One year, the second graders made a quilt for a homeless shelter and the third graders planted flowers as part of a school beautification project.

Some individual school districts require community service. Recently, Maryland, whose lieutenant governor, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, is a longtime champion of the idea, became the first state to do so, making service a learning experience for students as well as a benefit for their communities. At one Maryland middle school, home economics students make outfits for homeless children and deliver them to a local shelter. At another school, students read Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, focusing on the theme of poverty, and work with local organizations to provide assistance to needy single mothers and their children. At yet another school, students studying ecology help to clean up and maintain the stream that serves as their "outdoor classroom."

Creating a framework for service is the driving idea behind the National Service Corporation, the public-private enterprise that includes AmeriCorps, which gives young people sixteen and older an opportunity to serve their country in return for financial assistance for college or job training and a modest living allowance during their service. Recruits commit to at least one year (with the opportunity to serve two if they choose), during which time they are trained to help communities solve educational, environmental, health, and public safety problems.

In its second year, AmeriCorps has already recruited

more than twenty-five thousand young people. They are working with local churches and synagogues and non-profit and public organizations in more than twelve hundred communities. AmeriCorps members also help existing charitable and service organizations like City Year, Habitat for Humanity, and the Red Cross to make the best use of part-time volunteers.

In many cases, AmeriCorps members are filling needs that no other organization or government agency can meet. In Simpson County, Kentucky, for example, they have helped to raise the reading scores of more than a third of the county's second graders by an average of two or more grade levels in a single year, recruiting more than two hundred parents to join in the effort. In Texas, Iowa, and Idaho, AmeriCorps members have helped to immunize hundreds of thousands of children who might otherwise have remained beyond the reach of state health authorities. In Kansas City, a team of AmeriCorps members has worked with the police department to close down more than two dozen crack houses and set up a score of neighborhood watch groups.

PROGRAMS LIKE AmeriCorps offer a socially meaningful transition from childhood to adulthood. They also offer a model for bridging private charity and government programs that we can all learn from. It was these rewards—material as well as spiritual, collective as well as individual—that a group of seventeen religious leaders emphasized recently when they asked Congress to support AmeriCorps because it builds and strengthens the bonds that make community possible.

No matter how well our children learn the ethic of service, there will always be far more needs than individuals or charities can meet. That's why so many charities—some of which depend on a measure of federal support—have objected to suggestions that they can fill the holes in the social safety net left by cuts in social programs, particularly those affecting children. Neither government nor charitable organizations alone can keep the net intact, but working together, they can manage it.

Partnerships between government and the volunteer community are most clearly visible when disaster strikes, as my husband and I have observed firsthand following hurricanes and tornadoes in the South, floods in the Midwest, fires in the Northwest, and earthquakes in the West. Volunteers come alone or with friends, as part of church groups or service clubs, all offering their most precious gift, themselves. Government sends experts to help coordinate relief efforts. In tragic situations such as these, people commit acts of extraordinary compassion and readily overcome what might in ordinary times seem to be great differences.

After the bombing in Oklahoma City, we saw a country united in shock and love. When the first survivors emerged injured and bloody from the federal building, we did not see blacks or whites, Christians or Jews, but fellow human beings and children who might have been our own. Fire and police officers, medical crews, and emergency workers who put their own lives in jeopardy in their search for survivors did not pick and choose whom they would rescue; every life was valued and worth fighting to save.

Why does it take a crisis to open our eyes and hearts to our common humanity? As my husband said in his

1995 State of the Union address: "If you go back to the beginning of this country, the great strength of America, as de Tocqueville pointed out when he came here a long time ago, has always been our ability to associate with people who were different from ourselves and to work together to find common ground. And in this day, everybody has a responsibility to do more of that. We simply cannot wait for a tornado, a fire, or a flood to behave like Americans ought to behave in dealing with one another."

Men and women acting selflessly in the midst of tragedy remind us what really counts. They also remind Americans of our fundamental goodness, and of the essential strength of our nation. No democracy has survived as long or tried as hard to live up to its ideals. Nowhere on earth do so diverse a people live and work side by side every day, and for the most part get along so well.

Children can be our conscience, and the agents of the changes that are needed, if we don't burden them with stereotypes. If we teach them affirmative thinking and feeling, they will learn to live affirmatively—to measure their own lives by the good they do, not just for themselves but for all their fellow villagers.

MEMO

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To: David
From: Carrie
Subject: Volunteer Initiatives since the Presidents' Summit
Date: June 2, 1997

The following is a sampling of some of the initiatives and follow-up activities since the Summit:

1. Officeworks, a local Indianapolis firm that sells and services office furniture will close for one day, June 11, so employees can volunteer at local human service agencies. Not for profit agencies have been asked to submit letters of request for volunteers and a description of work to be performed. Tom O'Neil, the company President, said that the idea was inspired by the Presidents' Summit for America's Future.
2. On Wednesday, May 21, delegates to the Summit for America's Future met with 100 citizens of the Lehigh Valley, PA area to discuss what they learned at the Summit, and how to translate what they have learned into action. Some initiatives in the area since the Summit have been a free day for children at the Dinosaurs Alive exhibit in Bethlehem, PA, to provide a "safe place for children to learn and grow in" (one of the 5 Summit goals); and the first Lehigh Valley Stand for Healthy Children (to fulfill the Summit goal of 'education for a healthy start').
3. Marian Heard, the founding President and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation, the CEO for the steering committee of the Presidents' Summit, and currently the President and CEO of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay, announced with Colin Powell and Governor Weld on Saturday, their plan to host a statewide version of last month's Summit. Massachusetts is the first state to announce such a follow-up effort. The event is scheduled for the fall.

NOTE: A report released Wednesday, May 28, by the American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel Trust for Philanthropy, reported that U.S. charitable contributions increased by 7.3% last year to about \$150.7 billion. The Trust said that one factor for the increase was more public attention to philanthropy because of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future.

See attached information on America's Promise-The Alliance for Youth, a multi-year, national campaign that will propel the mission and goals of the Summit. (It is the main follow-up thrust, but has no concrete results as of yet.) It will mobilize national and local commitments from all sectors (see attached list of committed members); it will track and publicly report progress toward the goals each year; it will execute an extensive marketing campaign to promote new commitments and promote the five resources. It is designed to be an alliance of corporations, foundations, organizations, communities of faith, public agencies and individuals that will work together.



AMERICA'S PROMISE

THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

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welcome and
general information

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agenda Q&A

Commitment Makers
delivering on
America's Promise

America's Solutions
five key resources

Digital Neighborhood
a framework
for connecting

The Summit
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interviews highlights

America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth is the multi-year, national campaign that will propel the mission and goals of the Presidents' Summit forward. For more information about Americas Promise - the Alliance for Youth, [click here](#).



5/16/97 -
Dispatches from
Gen. Colin Powell
- A new regular
feature.

Summit News Center Highlights



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AMERICA'S PROMISE – THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

Task Force Goals and Appointed Chairs - April 1997

America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth is a multi-year, national campaign that will propel the mission and goals of the Presidents' Summit forward. Officially launching in April in Philadelphia, America's Promise will aid in ensuring that our nation's young people have access to the five fundamental resources; caring adult, a healthy start, safe and structured places, education for marketable skills, opportunities to serve.

America's Promise will continue mobilizing national and local commitment from all sectors; it will track, monitor and publicly report progress toward the goals each year; it will carry out an extensive marketing and awareness effort to inspire new commitments and to promote the five fundamental resources. Working in partnership with others, America's Promise is designed to be a fluid alliance of corporations, foundations, organizations, communities of faith, public agencies and individuals that will – together – ensure our promises to America's young people.

THE ROLE OF THE TASK FORCES

Task forces are one indication of the commitment that America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth has made to forming broad alliances. Task forces provide a formal role and a practical way to engage leaders forces provide a formal and a practical way to engage leaders from all sectors in the challenge of generating commitments to turn the tide for America's children and youth.

Six Core Task Forces – one on each of the five goals and one on the role of communities – have been established to assist in providing leadership to America's Promise through the year 2000. Co-chairs and Vice-chairs have already been selected – prominent, highly regarded national leaders who have agreed to serve without remuneration. Other task forces may be established as needed.

Each Task Force will work on its own individual goals, while also coordinating and collaborating with the other Task Forces to ensure maximum impact and integration. Specifically, each Task Force will:

- ☐ Assist in developing a clear target statement that reflects the specific issues, barriers, and needs in the resource area and in the resource area and in setting target goals.
- ☐ Assist in developing a strategic plan for accomplishing its goals over the next four years.
- ☐ Assist America's Promise in mobilizing ongoing interest, commitments, resources and participation around the five goals.
- ☐ Work with America's Promise in tracking, monitoring and reporting progress toward the goals.

Working together, Task Force chairs will play a central role in helping America's Promise develop a strategic plan for ensuring that the overall goal – to ensure that 2 million additional children and youth are connected to all five fundamental resources by the end of 2000 – is reached.

Resource One— CARING ADULTS AND MENTORS

Young people need caring adults – individuals who provide care, support or guidance to young people, whether formal or informal, spontaneous or sustained. They include parents and family, neighborhood residents, and others involved with young people through their organizations – coaches, teachers, and youth workers. In many cases they also may be **mentors**, individuals who, along with parents and family, provide youth with special support, counsel and friendship.

The Caring Adults Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth achieve its goal by identifying ways to connect at least 2 million additional young people to caring non-parents adults by the end of the year 2000 by aggressively addressing issues such as recruitment, training, and infrastructure development.

Recognizing that caring adults play a key role in ensuring that young people are connected to the other four resources, the Task Force is charged to look for ways to not only increase numbers, but deepen the relationships and responsibilities of those adults already involved.

Recognizing that schools are central institution in every neighborhood devoted to youth development, the Task

Force is also charged with helping America's Promise explore ways to deepen the use of the schools as places where mentors, tutors, teachers, coaches, parents, and older youth can connect with young people.

Geoffrey T. Boisi
Co-Chair

Alma Arrington Brown
Co-Chair

Thomas M. McKenna
Vice Chair

Frank Newman
Vice Chair

Resource Two— SAFE PLACES AND STRUCTURED ACTIVITIES

Young people need safe spaces – community places where young people can go before and after school for structured, stimulating, adult-supervised activities that are physically safe, emotionally supportive, developmentally challenging, accessible and affordable. These activities should be developmental and culturally appropriate – responding to the expected changes in youth skills and interests and the shifts in neighborhood life. They should tap neighborhood resources – libraries, schools, businesses, faith organizations, recreation and community centers – engaging neighborhood residents and young people themselves.

The Safe Spaces Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise get at least 2 million additional young people participating in structured activities in safe spaces by the year 2000 by identifying strategies to increase the accessibility and attractiveness of under-used facilities, creating new spaces as needed, making youth and parents more aware of what is available, and providing safe passages to places and activities in their neighborhoods.

Recognizing that safe spaces can be places where young people are not only supervised but stimulated, the Task Force is charged to look for ways not only to increase the number of safe spaces and structured activities available, but the extent to which these provide opportunities for service, skill-building, health education and linkages, and relationship-building.

Recognizing the importance of schools as safe places in young people's lives, the Task Force is also charged with exploring the role that schools can play as hubs for the locating and coordinating community activities in the non-school hours.

Shahara Ahmad-Llewellyn
Co-Chair

Senator Bill Bradley
Co-Chair

Roxanne Spillett
Vice-Chair

Resource Three— HEALTHY START—HEALTHY FUTURE

Young people need comprehensive health care and education for a health start in life. Health or nutritional problems can be prevented or managed so America children get off to a good start in school. High-risk health behaviors such as smoking, drinking, and sexual activity can be prevented or managed so that young people can stay on track in school. Beginning with good prenatal care for pregnant women, all children need a stable long-term comprehensive relationship with a health practitioner (physician or advanced practice nurse) who knows the family and is able to manage the entire range of pediatric care. Dental health, good nutrition and psychological needs must be met as well.

The Health Start, Healthy Future Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise achieve its goal by identifying a range of strategies for ensuring that every young person have stable, long-term comprehensive relationship with a health practitioner who can provide the information, services and linkages they need.

Recognizing that a young person's health lifestyle is directly connected to their connection to health services, but to their health-related knowledge, attitudes and behaviors, the Task Force is charged with identifying ways in which non-health professionals – caring adults, religious organizations, businesses, and other local organizations and volunteers – can create local initiatives that address these issues.

Recognizing the important role that schools play in young people's lives, the Task Force is also charged with exploring ways that health education, linkages and care can be provided during the school day or in the school

building.

Irwin Redlener, MD
Co-Chair

Steven Schroeder, MD
Co-Chair

Antonia Novello, MD
Vice-Chair

Resource Four -- EFFECTIVE EDUCATION FOR MARKETABLE SKILLS

Young people need to develop marketable skills to make a successful transition from schools to the labor force. Preparation for this transition does not begin in high school, it begins in the early years. Young people need to build the strong academic skills (reading, math, science, etc.) and career skills (communication, teamwork, problem solving, etc.) that are necessary for successes at high education, occupational training and jobs. Before high school, they need to understand the linkages between school, work, and future employment through opportunities to make workplace connections.

The Marketable Skills Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise identify strategies and generate commitments to help at least 2 million more young people develop career skills through academic enrichment activities (like tutoring); career and economic education, internships and apprenticeships; after-school, weekend and summer jobs; and post-secondary education or job training.

Recognizing the interrelationship between effective education, mentoring, structured activities, and opportunities to serve, the Task Force is charged with looking at ways to link these important efforts.

Recognizing the importance of schools in the development of marketable skills, the Task Force is charged with exploring ways to broaden the connections between schools, community institutions, and the workplace.

Darla D. Moore
Co-Chair

Robert Rogers
Co-Chair

James Hayes
Vice Chair

Resource Five -- YOUTH SERVICE

Young people need to be challenged, inspired and given opportunities to serve through their families, schools, communities of faith, youth services corps, and community organizations. Service experiences, in order to be of the highest quality, should be sustained over time, have identifiable results, help solve real community problems and be structured to include preparation, action and reflection.

The Youth Service Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise identify strategies for challenging at least 2 million additional young people by the year 2000 to provide 100 hours per year or more of service through high quality service opportunities, and for building a cadre of service leaders who will provide more than 1,000 hours of service per year.

Recognizing the key role that young people can play in providing the fundamental resources, the Task Force is charged with identifying ways that all young people who serve can be viewed and view themselves as resources and champions for all five goals, not just problems or victims.

Recognizing the key role that schools -- K through 12 and post-secondary -- play in youth development, the Task Force is charged to find ways to support the role of schools in encouraging and coordinating service opportunities, and to ask colleges, and universities to commit to expand student service and work study positions in the community and to infuse service into their educational programs.

Rosabeth Moss Kanter
Co-Chair

Tim Shriver
Co-Chair

Alan Khazei

Vice-Chair

Andre Lee
Vice-Chair

Shirley Sagawa
Vice-Chair Liaison

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER – Communities of Promise

Young people live in communities, not in programs. They grow up in families, surrounded by networks of peers, relatives, neighbors and significant others, imbedded in neighborhoods or communities made up of businesses, schools, cultural, religious, and civic organizations, and public and private service providers. For good or bad, each of these institutions has a powerful impact on young people. Combined, they have to make caring adults, safe places, effective education, health, and service day to day realities in the lives of their children and youth.

The Communities of Promise Task Force is charged with helping America's Promise identify strategies for getting national commitments implemented locally, and for asking cities and towns to make commitments to take responsibility for ensuring that these resources are consistently provided to young people who need them most. The use of standard measurement and tracking tools will be very important to this effort.

Recognizing the importance of redundancy in building youth assets, the Task Force is charged with finding ways to encourage commitments from all sectors to work together to identify needs and assets and coordinate resources. Commitments from national organizations, corporations, and associations are key to this effort.

Recognizing the importance of schools as central places in most neighborhoods and communities, the Task Force is also charged with exploring the use of schools as hubs for coordination of commitments, activities, and monitoring.

Community Chairs
C. Gregg Petersmeyer
Co-Chair

Karen Pittman
Co-Chair

Raul Yzaguirre
Vice Chair

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The following organizations have made a commitment to contribute All resources:

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AmeriCorps Alums

AmeriCorps Alums will encourage all association members to commit at least 10 hours per month to ongoing service leadership. Local alumni leaders across the country will coordinate with local service providers to provide volunteer people power. The service leadership opportunities will focus on the five summit goals, with preference given to programs supporting ongoing relationships with young people.

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Alliance for Justice

The Alliance for Justice will strengthen the voices of young people as community problem solvers by funding delivery of their new youth training program in at least 50% of the summit communities and expanding their First Monday program engaging lawyers as mentors for young people.

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America Online

AOL will mobilize AOL's 8 million members and 6000 employees in making a contribution to their communities through volunteer work. The value of the contributed media is \$630,000; AOL projects that its online support has the potential to generate 3,000,000 hours of volunteer service. AOL will create Volunteers Online, an area intended to educate the public about the Summit and America's Promise; PSA's to promote the Summit; AOL is developing several educational initiatives to advance the use of online technology in America's classrooms. AOL will enter into a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters in the National Capitol Area, and other DC-area initiatives.

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Coalition for America's Children

Along with the Advertising Council and the Benton Foundation, CAC commits to providing its toll-free number and Kidscampaign.org to disseminate Summit information through the Kidscampaign.org website to link organizations and people working for children. After the Summit, in an effort to sustain the momentum created by the Summit, CAC commits to a series of activities and products, including: new radio PSA's featuring stories of individual groups making a difference in their communities; a series of new television, print, and radio ads designed to encourage individuals to volunteer locally with children's organizations; five new sections on the Kidscampaign website, one for each goal; at least one page of information on the website for each of the participating delegations and one page each of information for each of the 50 states; a sitelink on the website for each community participating in the Summit; a community assessment tool reflective of the five goals of the Summit for use by the Summit delegations; national on-line chat sessions; and the broad dissemination of America's Promise materials to the Coalition's 350 member organizations.

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27TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Providence Journal-Bulletin

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 1A

LENGTH: 536 words

HEADLINE: First lady is expected to speak in Providence at City Year convention

BYLINE: KEN MINGIS; Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

DATELINE: PROVIDENCE

BODY:

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has been invited to attend next month's national City Year Convention, in Providence, and she has tentatively agreed to appear.

City Year officials said yesterday that they learned late Friday that the first lady, who has joined the president recently in pressing Americans to become more involved in community programs, would attend the June 4 conference.

A White House spokesman yesterday said that the event, expected to draw as many as 1,500 people - including 750 City Year volunteers and their families - is indeed on the first lady's schedule.

But an official confirmation that she is on her way will not be made until the end of the month.

Nonetheless, Matthew Brown, executive director of Providence's City Year office, was excited by the prospect of Mrs. Clinton's visit.

"It's a big deal for us to have her," he said yesterday. "She and the president have been very supportive of City Year. I don't want to speak for her, but for us it's definitely seen as a follow-up to the summit in Philadelphia."

He was referring to last month's "summit" on volunteerism that focused on the need for more community involvement. President Clinton headlined that event.

Priscilla Tuan, spokeswoman for City Year's national headquarters in Boston, was equally thrilled.

"We're really excited," she said. "It's going to be the first youth summit following the president's summit to . . . talk about volunteer commitments."

"She's coming in for the afternoon," Tuan said. "We have scheduled . . . a rally in downtown Providence that will go from the steps of City Hall to the State House. We feel like she will speak on the steps of the State House, (but) that is not confirmed."

This would be the fourth time in the last year and a half that the first lady has come to Rhode Island. She was here three times in 1996: once in January for a political event, again when daughter Chelsea was looking over Brown

University, and finally, during the presidential campaign last fall.

City Year is a volunteer organization that matches teenagers and young adults with community projects, often in urban areas. Volunteers agree to work with the program for one year.

The organization began in 1988 in Boston, and the Providence chapter, which was the second one to open, began in 1993. The youth service organization now has chapters in nine cities across the country. The Providence chapter has 80 members.

The 1997 conference runs June 4 to 6, and will include seven service projects in Providence, Woonsocket, Coventry and Middletown. The conference, which is being hosted by Johnson & Wales University, is also expected to draw a number of volunteers from the AmeriCorps program.

"We're excited about having this convention in Rhode Island," Tuan said. "Providence was our first expansion site."

City Year is now active in seven other cities: Chicago; Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio; Columbia, S.C.; San Antonio, Texas; San Jose, Calif., and Philadelphia.

The organization has drawn support from a number of corporate sponsors in Rhode Island, including Hospital Trust National Bank, Textron, the Providence Journal Co., CVS and the Bank of Newport.

LOAD-DATE: May 22, 1997


**NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS**

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Fax: 617.927.9510
www.cityyear.org

6 May 1997

Patti Solis-Doyle
Office of the First Lady
White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Patti,

Thank you for speaking with me today. As I mentioned, City Year would be greatly honored to host the First Lady at CYZYG, City Year's Annual Convention of Idealism. The convention will be held from June 3 — 6, 1997 in Providence, Rhode Island. CYZYG will be the first youth summit to follow up on Philadelphia and will celebrate AmeriCorps and the essential role that full-time volunteerism plays in strengthening our country. City Year is honored for the incredible support we have received from the President and Mrs. Clinton. Thanks to their tireless leadership and unwavering support of AmeriCorps, City Year has expanded from one site to nine coast-to coast!

CYZYG will unite over 1,200 corps members and corporate, civic and service leaders from across the country. Our invitation to Mrs. Clinton has been followed by personal letters from Senator John Chafee, Senator Jack Reed, Congressman Patrick Kennedy, Congressman Bob Weyand, Governor Lincoln Almond and Mayor Buddy Cianci. As you can see, this is truly a bi-partisan affair! As you may know, neither the President nor the First Lady have ever spoken at a City Year event.

We would be privileged to host the First Lady at CYZYG on any day between June 3 — 6. During the Presidents' Summit in Philadelphia, our corps and leadership staff invited Mrs. Clinton who seemed very interested and asked for us to follow up immediately with members of her staff. For your information, I have listed the events in order of priority for us:

- Keynote at our Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, June 4, 7:30 pm.
- Address the entire convention during a parade and rally on Wednesday, June 4, 3:30 pm.
- Address the convention over lunch on Wednesday, June 4, 12:00 pm.
- Address the convention on Tuesday, June 3, at 2:00 pm or 5:00 pm, when we focus on the goals of the Presidents' Summit
- Kickoff the Day of Service, Thursday, June 5, 7:30 am.
- Keynote at an event to celebrate Idealism in the Arts, Thursday, June 5, 7:30 pm, with National Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky and others
- Keynote at our Closing Ceremony on Friday, June 6, 12:30 pm.

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I greatly appreciate your time and consideration. I will call you this afternoon to see if any of these times are available. It would mean so much to the young people of City Year, our civic leaders, corporate supporters community partners and to the national service movement to have the First Lady participate in this very special event.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Casey

Carolyn Casey
Director of National Affairs

Thanks so much!

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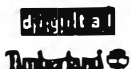
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April 2, 1997

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear First Lady,

Thank you for your incredible leadership on behalf of children. City Year shares your commitment to nurture and to invest in our nation's children. In this year alone, 700 City Year corps members in eight cities across the nation are teaching and mentoring over 15,000 school age children. Thank you as well for your mention of City Year in your insightful and inspiring book, *It Takes a Village*. The Kenyan proverb from which your title comes is a source of inspiration for the entire City Year community, and it is one of the founding stories on which our organization is based.

For six years, you and the President have been City Year's greatest champions and have served as an inspiration of patriotism and civic responsibility. Since the President's last visit in December of 1991, City Year has expanded from a Boston-based corps of 74 to close to 700 in eight cities nationwide. The leadership and tenacious resolve of you and the President to instill the ethic of service into America's consciousness has fueled our growth and service impact — over 1.1 million hours of service this year!

For the last two years, City Year has celebrated the power of service and youth leadership at our Annual Convention of Idealism — CYZYG. **It is our great hope that you will join the City Year national corps for this year's CYZYG at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island.** The convention will take place June 3 — 6, 1997 and we would be honored to host you at any point during those four days.

You can be assured of the warm welcome you will receive in Rhode Island. Marilyn Concepcion, City Year alumna and featured speaker at the 1996 Democratic National Convention; a bi-partisan delegation of Congressional, state and local leaders; private sector executives from every major corporation; and thousands of citizens and young people await your arrival with excitement and civic spirit.

City Year has grown a great deal since the President's last visit in 1991. Despite the distance, we have felt connected to both of you through your advocacy, passionate belief and enthusiasm for our program. CYZYG is an ideal forum for you to witness the impact your leadership has had, and to continue the momentum of the Presidential Summit. Together, we can ignite a fervor for service and civic responsibility.

We greatly appreciate your every consideration and will contact your staff to determine your availability.

Warm regards,

Michael Brown
Co-Founder

Alan Khazei
Co-Founder

PUTTING IDEALISM TO WORK



CYZYGY

A Lifetime of Citizen Service

June 4 - 6, 1997, Providence, RI

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

285 COLUMBUS AVENUE
Boston, MA 02116
Tel: 617.927.9500
Fax: 617.927.9510
www.city-year.org

This June 4 - 6, 1997, Johnson & Wales University and the state of Rhode Island will host City Year's Annual Convention of Idealism. CYZGY will convene the first youth summit following April's Presidential Summit, and answer the call for citizen action. Through innovative workshops, policy discussions, keynote addresses, high-impact service and high-energy idealism, CYZGY will promote young people as community leaders and offer working solutions to our nation's challenges. More than 1,500 City Year corps members, alumni/ae, AmeriCorps participants, and service, civic and private sector leaders from across the country will unite to demonstrate the power and impact of national service.

CITIZENS in ACTION Over 1,500 CYZGY participants and Rhode Island residents will unite to perform high impact service in the "barn-raising" tradition — building legacy projects for the people and neighborhoods of Rhode Island in a single day!

SERVICE LEARNING Renowned social entrepreneurs, private sector leaders, community innovators and the young people of City Year will share their best practices, struggles and triumphs as they inspire and build the next generation of civic leaders.

VOICES of DEMOCRACY Keynotes from national leaders will address our country's most pressing problems and inspire participants to commit to a Lifetime of Citizen Service. Special guests to date include:

Governor Lincoln Almond, Rhode Island
Farai Chideya, CNN Political Analyst
Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Providence, RI
Arianna Huffington, Syndicated Columnist &
Chair, Center for Effective Compassion

Craig Kielburger, Reebok Human Rights Award Winner &
Founder, Free the Children
Rosabeth Moss Kanter, Author & Professor,
Harvard University Graduate School of
Management

BOSTON

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CLEVELAND

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COLUMBUS

RHODE ISLAND

SAN ANTONIO

SAN JOSE

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	Wed. June 4	Thur. June 5	Fri. June 6
DAY	IDEALISM in ACTION: Forums & Workshops 	DAY OF SERVICE 1,500 CYZGY participants will partner with community residents in a day of high impact service all across the state of Rhode Island!	IDEALISM in ACTION: Forums & Workshops
EVENING	A Celebration of Commitment and Action Highlighting Rhode Island's leadership in service, this special night will feature a stirring keynote address.	Idealism in the Arts Contemporary artists will present enlightening perspectives on social change in this evening of inspirational and informative drama, music and dance.	CLOSING CELEBRATION! Return home, inspired and energized, with the tools to put idealism to work in your community.

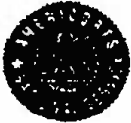
PUTTING IDEALISM TO WORK



CITY YEAR FAX

285 Columbus Avenue, Boston, MA 02116
 PHONE: 617.927.2500 FAX: 617.927.2530
 INTERNET: www.city-year.org

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 National Service
 Network



CITY YEAR
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DIGITAL EQUIPMENT
 CORPORATION

THE TIMBERLAND
 COMPANY

DATE: 1:00 pm
TO: Patti Sells-Doyle
ORGANIZATION: Office of First Lady
FAX #: 202/456 5340
PHONE #: 456 2468
FROM: Carolyn Casey, 927 289

NOTES:

Pls find:

1. Cover from me to you!
2. Original letter to Mrs. Clinton (earlier copies sent in Jan+ Feb)
3. Cy24gy one pager
4. Cy24gy explanation
5. Honorary Committee
6. Steering Cmm
7. Day of Service sites - Statewide!
8. The Marilyn C. story.

Thank you

9

PAGES FOLLOW THIS COVER PAGE

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CYZYGY '97

A Lifetime of Citizen Service

CYZYGY, City Year's Annual Convention of Idealism, will capture the power of diverse young people working on the frontlines of our communities to meet the pressing needs of our nation. Throughout the year, 700 City Year corps members in eight cities have engaged citizens in service and worked alongside community members to mentor students, teach HIV/AIDS and violence prevention, and build playgrounds to give more than one million hours of service. CYZYGy will culminate their service year as a final training ground to prepare them for a lifetime of citizen service.

Using April's historic Presidential Summit on Citizen Service as a launching pad, City Year is uniquely positioned at this period of growth in the national service movement. For nine years, City Year has led the field in service, innovation and training. City Year's private-public partnerships with over 150 corporations nationwide has helped shape the course of American corporate citizenship. This success has enabled City Year to contribute 3 million hours of critically needed service in Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbia, Columbus, Rhode Island, San Antonio, and San Jose/Silicon Valley throughout the years.

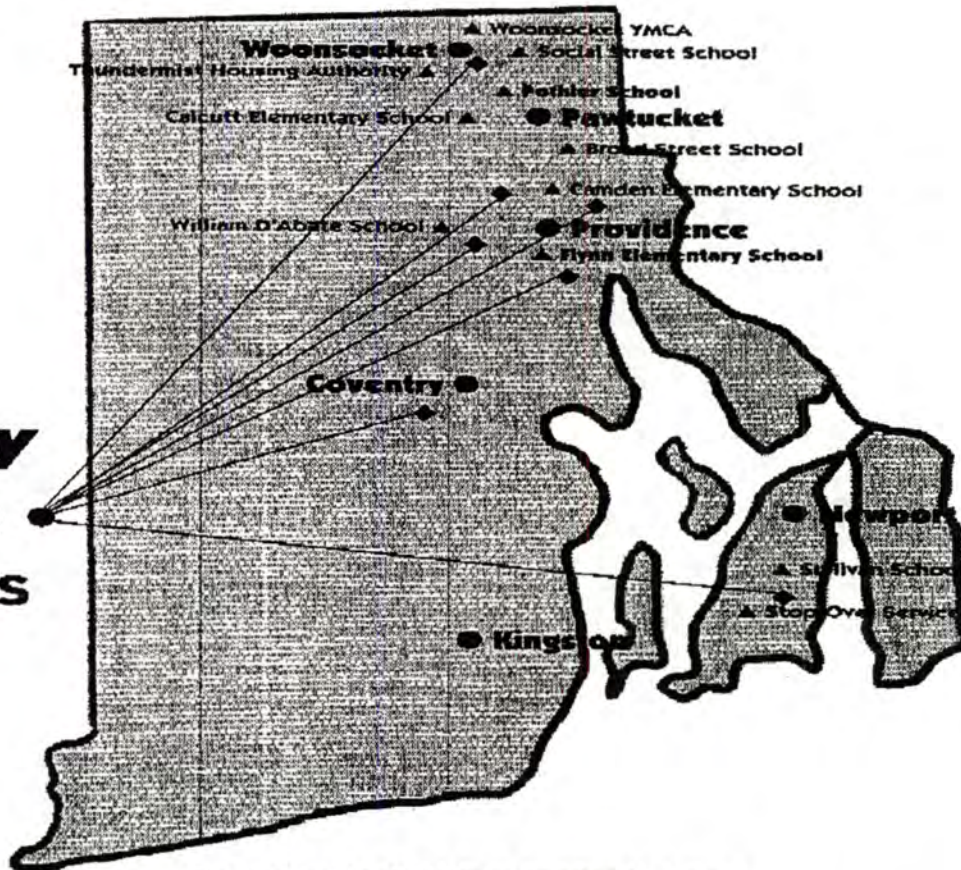
Over the four days of CYZYGy, Rhode Island will serve as a national platform for engaging dialogue on the universal values of service, diversity, civic engagement, and leadership. CYZYGy will demonstrate this through: workshops on topics such as human rights, images of youth in the media and social entrepreneurship; forums with innovative and inspirational leaders committed to justice in the areas of violence prevention and hunger relief; and a day of transformative statewide physical service projects. Participants will emerge as ambassadors of service — prepared to show our country and teach our citizens how we can all fulfill our potential to make communities better.

In its pilot year, CYZYGy '95 in Columbus, Ohio, drew major media attention from national networks including *MTV* and *Nickelodeon*, and featured Tipper Gore, Mayor Greg Lashutka, actor Blair Underwood, *Newsweek* reporter Steve Waldman, Senator Harris Wofford, and First Lady of Ohio Janet Voinovich. At CYZYGy '96, in Boston, MA, leading figures participated including Senator Bill Bradley, Geoffrey Canada, Senator John Kerry, Reverend Bernice King, Jonathan Kozol, and Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

This year's convention, hosted by Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI, will build on the successes of the last two years and bring the ethic of citizen service to a new level.

CITY YEAR RHODE ISLAND Service Sites

CYZYGY Service Projects



City Year Rhode Island Service Partners

City Year Hospital Trust Team serving in South Providence

- Flynn Elementary School
- Southside Community Land Trust

City Year Fleet Team serving in Olneyville

- William D'Abate Elementary School

City Year Providence Journal Team serving in Smith Hill

- Camden Elementary School

City Year Newport Team

- Sullivan School
- Stop Over Services

City Year Pawtucket/Central Falls Team

- Calcutt Elementary School
- Broad Street School

City Year Woonsocket Team

- Social Street Elementary School
- The Pothier School
- Woonsocket YMCA
- Thundermist Housing Authority

Opportunity and responsibility are two of Clinton's defining political words. In Marilyn Concepcion, they come alive. Through her, we learn that she has already given this country far more than it will ever give her. The \$400 million and change that AmeriCorps costs is simply dwarfed by the returns she and 45,000 other young people have already provided. What is yet to come from a productive lifetime is all gravy.

The bare facts are stunning enough. When she was 16, Marilyn Concepcion dropped out of high school to do, more or less, nothing — a job here making costume jewelry, a job there at a deli, sometimes no job, daytime television, a lot of time sitting around the house.

That's what she was doing when her sister's counselor dropped off the flier for City Year, the service program whose spectacular results and broad base of local support inspired both the original and bipartisan efforts in Congress to take the idea national, and President Clinton's design that became AmeriCorps.

In service, the initial opportunity is to be re-

ceive and Brown University, basically because they were the only places close to home still open for applicants.

It's always a crap shoot, and Providence College rejected her, but Brown saw what Miguel did, and next week this dropout will begin her sophomore year taking premed courses (she wants to be a pediatrician) at one of the country's most prestigious colleges.

In her family, one sister has completed general courses to be a nurse; another sister is also an AmeriCorps worker applying to college. The youngest, 11-year-old Desiree, now has three sisters motivated not just to see her finish school but to give a year of service as well.

Marilyn Concepcion doesn't want people to see her as special, but rather as an example of the talent America can unleash if it wishes. She was scared last night before her speech, but what she pulled off doesn't hold a candle to what she has already accomplished.

Thomas Oliphant is a Globe columnist.



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

2215 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02116
Tel: 617.927.2500
Fax: 617.927.2510
www.cityyear.org

CYZYGY '97

Honorary Committee

The Honorable Claiborne Pell, *Chairman*

The Honorable John H. Chafee, *U.S. Senate*

The Honorable John F. Reed, *U.S. Senate*

BOSTON

CHICAGO

CLEVELAND

COLUMBIA

COLUMBUS

RHODE ISLAND

SAN ANTONIO

SAN JOSE

The Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy, *U.S. House of Representatives*
The Honorable Robert A. Weygand, *U.S. House of Representatives*

The Honorable Lincoln C. Almond, *Governor*

The Honorable Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., *Mayor, City of Providence*
The Honorable David S. Gordon, *Mayor, City of Newport*
The Honorable Susan D. Menard, *Mayor, City of Woonsocket*
The Honorable Robert E. Metivier, *Mayor, City of Pawtucket*

NATIONAL SPONSORS



PUTTING IDEALISM TO WORK

CYZYGY '97

Steering Committee

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

285 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02116
Tel: 617.997.2500
Fax: 617.927.2510
www.city-year.org

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RHODE ISLAND

SAN ANTONIO

SAN JOSE

Fred Lohrum, *Chairman & CEO, Rhode Island Hospital Trust*
CYZYG Steering Committee Chairman

Bernard V. Buonanno, Jr., *Partner, Edwards and Angell*

Donald L. Carcieri, *President, Cookson America, Inc.*

Paul J. Choquette, *President, Gilbane Building Company*

Peter S. Damon, *President, Bank of Newport*

Christine Ferguson, *Director, Rhode Island Department of Human Services*

Lawrence K. Fish, *Chairman & CEO, Citizens Financial Group*

Armeather Gibbs, *Director of Community Relations & Constituent Affairs, Office of the Governor*

William Kreykes, *President & CEO, Lifespan*

Fred McGrail, *Director, Corporate Communications, CVS*

Donald McGrath, *Director, Community Affairs, Textron, Inc.*

Dennis M. Murphy, *President, United Way of Southeastern New England*

George Nee, *Secretary/Treasurer, AFL-CIO*

Arthur S. Robbins, *President, Commercial Properties*

Tomas J. Skala, *Chairman, Fleet Bank*

Keith Stokes, *Executive Director, Newport County Chamber of Commerce*

Linda W. Sullivan, *President & General Manager, WJAR-TV*

Howard G. Sutton, *President & General Manager, Providence Journal Company*

William Watkins, Jr., *Executive Vice President & Director of Economic Development, Narragansett Electric Company*

Craig L. Watson, *Vice President & General Manager, Cox Cable*

Bill Wayland, *Executive Vice President Administration & Chief HRO, Textron, Inc.*

John Hazen White, Sr., *Chairman & CEO, Taco, Inc.*

Sheldon Whitehouse, *US Attorney, Rhode Island Department of Justice*
City Year Rhode Island Board Chair

James R. Winoker, *Chairman, Belvoir Associates*

John A. Yena, *President, Johnson & Wales University*

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PUTTING IDEALISM TO WORK

The Boston Globe

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1996

An AmeriCorps success story

THOMAS OLIPHANT

CHICAGO

Marilyn Concepcion remembers the scene three years ago as if it were yesterday: A simple flyer changed her life and enriched ours.

The dropout from Central High School in Providence was sprawled (all 4 feet 9 inches of her) in the family home watching "The Bold and the Beautiful," one of her regular activities in those days.

In walked her sister's counselor in a program for at-risk teen-agers with a come-on for City Year, the community-spawned success out of which President Clinton's national service program emerged.

It was like a key fitting a lock. That same day, she was in the public library watching a video about the opportunity to work with others for others and then applying on the spot.

Two weeks later she was on the job. To Concepcion, who comes from a Puerto Rican family that had never had a high school graduate, who never imagined that college could be for her, it was just a job. But then she began to realize what's possible with a great deal of work and a few breaks.

President Clinton has told her story in his new book, "Between Hope and History." Last night, she told her story to the Democratic National Convention as a sophomore at Brown University. This dropout was in the Ivy League before she knew what the Ivy League is. Before the decade is out, count on it, she will be a doctor.

Opportunity and responsibility are two of Clinton's defining political words. In Marilyn Concepcion, they come alive. Through her, we learn that she has already given this country far more than it will ever give her. The \$400 million and change that AmeriCorps costs is simply dwarfed by the returns she and 45,000 other young people have already provided. What is yet to come from a productive lifetime is all gravy.

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That's what she was doing when her sister's counselor dropped off the flier for City Year, the service program whose spectacular results and broad base of local support inspired both the original and bipartisan efforts in Congress to take the idea national, and President Clinton's design that became AmeriCorps.

In service, the initial opportunity is to be re-

sponsible. The benefit — money toward education expenses — comes later.

At the outset, what you do is work hard for minimum wage plus health insurance. It isn't volunteer work, it's work. Concepcion's first assignment was at a community center, then on a group of 12 kids at the Fox Point Elementary School in Providence. Some of the workers had graduated from high school, some were taking time from college, and some had dropped out of high school.

She has cleaned walls of graffiti, bagged trash, painted and repaired and, because she is bilingual, she could help tutor Spanish-speaking children.

In talking to scores of national service veterans I've noticed that almost every one can cite one experience that both puts it all in focus and illustrates how special most of them are.

In Concepcion's case it was a kid named Miguel, who was having trouble learning his letters, in particular the letter F, and was as confused and embarrassed as his tutor was frustrated.

Her solution was to make a puppet of a frog, which she gave Miguel to play with, all the time asking him what was the first

letter of the word. She has told the story a zillion times, but her sense of triumph when the kid finally got the F right is as fresh today as it was then, and it is the essence of AmeriCorps's magic.

While holding down her job, Concepcion was also studying for her high school GED, and she eventually became an AmeriCorps recruiter in Rhode Island and California.

Two years ago she attended an AmeriCorps college fair, where she was encouraged to aim higher. A kid who never expected to make it out of high school was now applying to Providence College and Brown University, basically because they were the only places close to home still open for applicants.

It's always a crap shoot, and Providence College rejected her, but Brown saw what Miguel did, and next week this dropout will begin her sophomore year taking premed courses (she wants to be a pediatrician) at one of the country's most prestigious colleges.

In her family, one sister has completed general courses to be a nurse; another sister is also an AmeriCorps worker applying to college. The youngest, 11-year-old Desiree, now has three sisters motivated not just to see her finish school but to give a year of service as well.

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Thomas Oliphant is a Globe columnist.

**Hard work turns
a dropout into an
Ivy Leaguer.**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patti Solis Doyle
FROM: Carolyn Casey
RE: The First Lady's Schedule
DATE: 15 May 1997

405
6/4

We are thrilled that the First Lady has accepted our invitation to CYZYG, City Year's Annual Convention of Idealism, on June 4, 1997. It is an incredible honor and will be the highlight of a powerful year of service for the national corps.

The parade and rally is a high energy display by our corps to build excitement and momentum for service and youth leadership. The parade will be led by a drill team and mounted police and will feature close to 800 corps members and school children.

Starting at City Hall, the parade will wind through downtown Providence and conclude at the State House. There will be a speaking program and musical entertainment at both the start and conclusion.

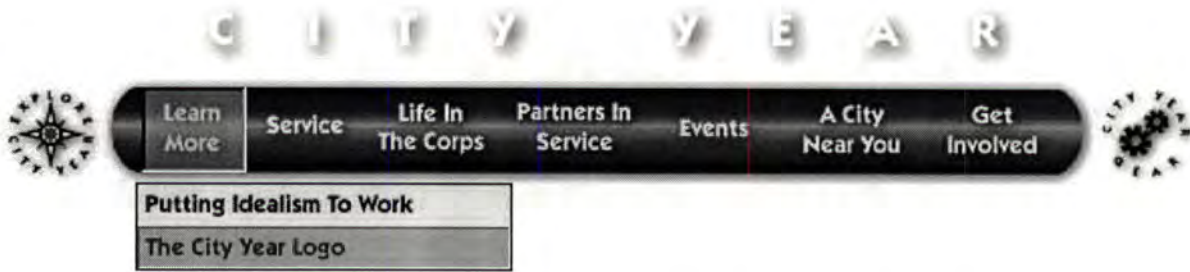
We would be honored to have Mrs. Clinton speak at any point, although the State House may be the most picturesque. As I mentioned, we would also be incredibly honored to feature Mrs. Clinton at the VIP reception with 200 corporate, civic, community and education leaders.

I look forward to talking with you soon. Again, thank you for this incredible news!

CYZYG

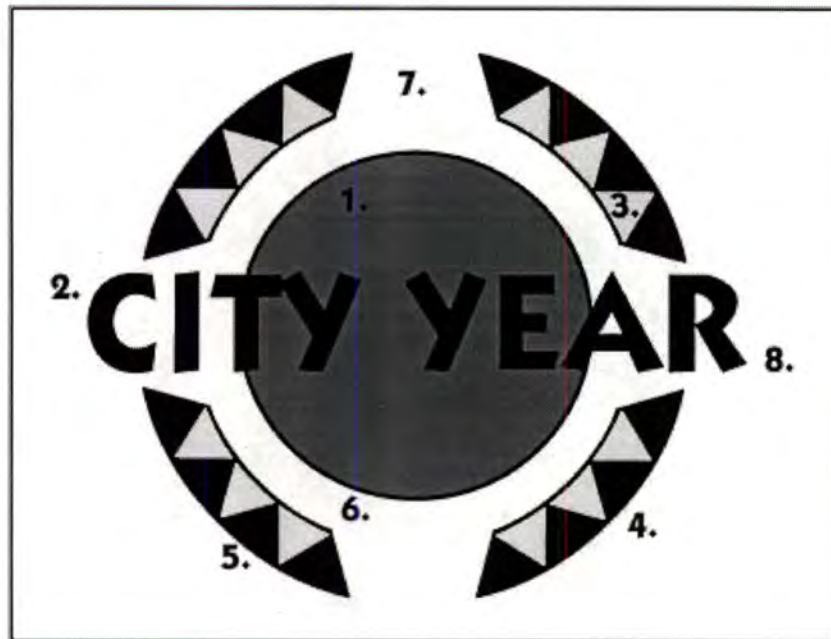
Wednesday, June 4, 1997

4:00 - 4:15 pm	Musical Entertainment at Providence City Hall
4:15 - 4:30 pm	Speaking program with Mayor Vincent Cianci
4:30 - 5:00 pm	Parade through downtown Providence
5:00 - 5:30 pm	Speaking program with Governor Lincoln Almond
5:30 - 7:00 pm	VIP Reception at Providence Performing Arts Center



The logo embodies many of the ideals and values behind City Year. Its overall effect is inspired by a Native American prayer which is one of the founding themes of City Year:

Great Spirit, grant that I may not criticize my brother or sister until I have walked a mile in his or her moccasins.



- ☐ The sunburst symbolizes the release of energy, idealism, and human potential, with young people as the catalyst.
- ☐ The colors symbolize the rainbow of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences that come together at City Year to work for the common good.

1. The red sun symbolizes energy, idealism, and a warming force.
2. The name "City Year" represents the idea that a year of service should be part of growing up for every young person.
3. The twelve yellow triangles represent the twelve months of the year.
4. The seven triangles in each segment represent the days of the week and the American Indian belief that in every major decision we should consider the impact on the next seven generations.
5. The four segments represent the seasons.
6. The circles symbolize community and equality, as well as the "strong circle" structure teams use for communication. The openings in the outer circle symbolize an inclusive and welcoming community.
7. The compass points showing the four cardinal directions reflect the American Indian belief that the meeting point of the four directions is a gathering place.
8. The lettering style recalls the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's, the historic predecessor of the modern national service movement.



City Year, an AmeriCorps program, is a national service organization which unites young adults, ages 17 to 23, from diverse racial, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds for a demanding year of full-time community service, leadership development, and civic engagement.

City Year corps members represent a cross-section of their communities--male and female; inner city and suburban; African-American, Asian-American, Caucasian, Latino and Native American; and low, middle and upper income. The corps includes college graduates, high school graduates, and young people without high school diplomas.



City Year was designed as a workshop or "action tank" for national service. From a 50 person summer pilot program in 1988, City Year has grown to 670 corps members in Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), San Jose (CA), Providence (RI), Columbus (OH), Columbia (SC) and San Antonio (TX).



City Year corps members begin each weekday morning with a regimen of high-spirited calisthenics to prepare themselves for a day of excellent service. After their "community huddle", corps members - in distinctive red, tan and black uniforms - fan out in teams of 10 to 12 to serve their community. Corps members serve as teachers' aides in public schools, renovate housing for the homeless, turn vacant lots into community gardens, operate recreational programs for senior citizens, teach health and public safety curriculums, and run after-school programs. Through their service work and coordinated Leadership Development Days, City Year corps members learn the value of community, realize their potential to improve the lives of others, and develop the skills necessary to excel in educational and professional endeavors.

City Year's comprehensive educational program includes required GED classes for corps members who have not graduated from high school, college and career counseling, and overnight training retreats. Corps members receive a weekly stipend of \$125 and upon graduation are eligible for up to \$4,725 in post-service awards for higher education.



City Year is a private-public partnership supported by the AmeriCorps National Service Network, corporations, foundations, individuals, states and localities. Corporate partners develop unique partnerships with City Year that include collaborative service activities, career mentoring, and opportunities to experience their industry. The Digital Equipment Corporation and The Timberland Company are City Year's national founding sponsors.

City Year organizes the annual Serve-a-thon, a one-day celebration of community service. Inspired by the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "beloved community," this city-wide event unites thousands of diverse volunteers for a day of community service and fund-raising in support of their local City Year program.

City Year is an innovative and multifaceted service organization which seeks to address

unmet community needs, break down barriers of class and race, inspire citizens to civic action, and strengthen the bonds of community. By tapping the energy and commitment of young people, City Year is "putting idealism to work."

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CYZYGY

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, Massachusetts June 12-15, 1996

SYZYGY /si-zi-gee/ n. (from the Greek *syn*, meaning to join, and *zygon*, meaning to yoke) 1. The nearly straight line configuration of celestial bodies in a gravitational system - as the sun, moon, and earth during a solar eclipse.

CYZYGY /si-zi-gee/ n. 1a. City Year's annual convention of idealism. 1b. An explosive four day gathering of the extended City Year community.

This June 12-15, CYZYGY, City Year's annual gathering of corps and staff members, alumni, service partners, civic and artistic leaders, investors and partners in national service will take place in Boston and Cambridge. Inspired by Boston's tradition and ethic of service and excellence and hosted by MIT, CYZYGY participants will have a unique opportunity to share knowledge, to serve, and to recognize the power of idealistic young people united in service. Last year, the first-ever CYZYGY convened in at the Ohio State University, gathering nearly 1,000 participants and achieving a wide range of strategic objectives. CYZYGY was and continues to be City Year's primary forum for delivering transformational service, uniting service champions, and advancing the concept of national service as an opportunity for all young people.



Shining a Spotlight on Service

Last year, CYZYGY attracted formidable media coverage for City Year, national service and the city of Columbus, the host site of the event. Feature stories on national networks such as MTV and Nickelodeon brought the power of service in Columbus to every home in America, in addition to establishing a continuing partnership with Nickelodeon's nationwide service event, The Big Help. For days prior to the event and during CYZYGY itself, community service was a feature story on the Columbus evening news and in dozens of local and regional publications.

Transforming Communities through Service

Over 10,000 hours of direct service will be delivered at CYZYGY through several large-scale projects. Last year, the community of Columbus and the participants of CYZYGY constructed two playgrounds and parks, barn-raising style, at Indianola Middle School and Emerald Glen Housing Community. These community-built parks have become the pride of the neighborhoods they serve, and stand today as a testament to the power of communities to draw on their resources and strengthen themselves. CYZYGY

participants also held a multi-faceted educational Kids Carnival on the South Oval of the Ohio State University, delighting over 400 Columbus children. The carnival was designed by a national team of City Year corps members who had coordinated week-long spring camps for schoolchildren during their service year.

Expanding Service Learning

The CYZYGY curriculum expands and sharpens the products, tools and values of service. City Year corps and staff members share the best of the network, with workshops on innovative service products such as Young Heroes and Camp City Year. Last year, corps members also collaborated with their sponsors and service partners to provide trainings on private sector partnerships, school partnerships and the team sponsor program. Guest presenters, such as John Kretzman of Northwestern University; Harris Wofford, former U.S. Senator and head of the Peace Corps; and Eli Segal, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, provided global and historical perspectives of service, and Mrs. Tipper Gore participated in a special day of service. College service programs and other AmeriCorps programs, such as Summerbridge and Public Allies, also presented their service products and methods.

Strengthening National and Community Partnerships

CYZYGY provides a unique common ground to establish and deepen the partnerships that sustain and promote service. On a local level, for instance, the Indianola Park and Playground Project united and multiplied the resources of the Ohio State University, Campus Partners, the city of Columbus, University Community neighborhood associations and businesses, and City Year. On a national scale, CYZYGY and Boston, City Year's largest site and home of its national headquarters, will serve as excellent resources for delegations interested in developing service programs in their hometowns.

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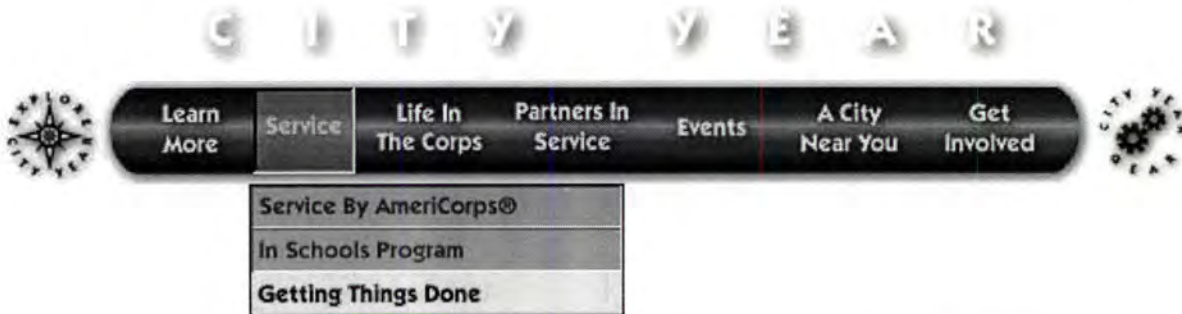
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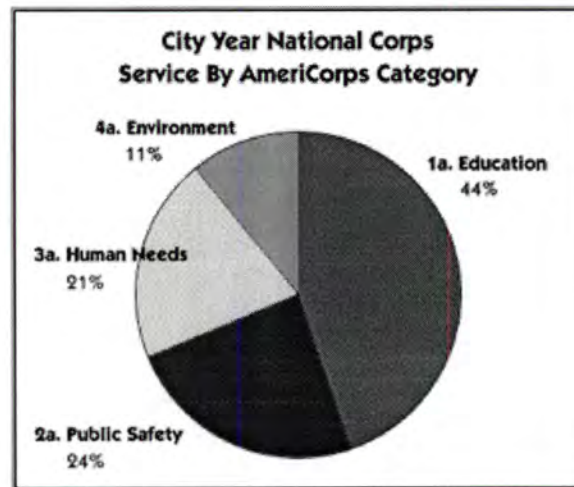
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SERVICE BY AMERICORPS



Category:

1a. Education School Partnerships School-based After School Tutoring Day Care Services Head Start Programs	2a. Public Safety Neighborhood-based After School Clubs Neighborhood-based Physical Improvements (non-environmental, eg. building playgrounds) Camp City Year Vacation Camps Creating Community Curricula (violence prevention) Young Heroes Middle School-age Service Corps
3a. Human Needs Neighborhood-based Human Services Community Center-based Rehabilitation Housing Rehabilitation & Service to Homeless HIV/AIDS Curricula & Direct Service	4a. Environment Urban Green Space Reclamation Parks & Public Space Beautification EPA Green Spaces Project

Students Served and Serving

Boston, MA	8,248
Chicago, IL	2,566
Columbia, SC	900
Columbus, OH	1,703
Rhode Island	1,250
San Jose, CA	905
National Total	16,155

Over half of City Year's corps members devote most of their service year to passing on the lessons of teamwork, service, and community to their younger brothers and sisters through full-time school partnerships that aim to transform public schools into neighborhood centers. This creates the feeling of community with common values, common goals, and common investment in the future of the children.

City Year corps members working with 3- to 13-year-old students in schools focus on three areas where they bring a unique contribution: enriching school instruction, leading students into service, and engaging parents and community members.

Baselines of School Partnerships

School Enrichment

- ☐ Supporting Classroom Instruction
- ☐ Leading the School in Morning Program
- ☐ Interacting with Children during Lunch Time
- ☐ Leading Outdoor and Indoor Games at Recess
- ☐ Leading Topic-based Workshops in Teams (Spring)

Service

- ☐ Leading Service Field Trips (Fall & Spring)
- ☐ Developing a School-wide Community Serve-a-thon (Spring)
- ☐ Leaving a Permanent Improvement to the School

Parent & Community Involvement

- ☐ Hosting a Parents, Friends, and Family Night (Fall)
- ☐ Hosting a Corporate Sponsor Day at School
- ☐ Celebrating with a Spring Carnival!

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28TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Providence Journal-Bulletin

May 21, 1997, Wednesday, ALL EDITIONS

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 1B

LENGTH: 742 words

HEADLINE: 'WaterFire' is back, to play and to stay;
The new version of the river installation is built to last longer and burn more frequently.

BYLINE: KEN MINGIS; Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

DATELINE: PROVIDENCE

BODY:

WaterFire, the smoky series of riverside torches that last year illuminated the Providence waterfront and drew thousands of people into the city, will be back for 1997 on 13 nights.

And the show begins in two weeks.

The torches, which were created by local artist/photographer Barnaby Evans and have become a symbol of the city's downtown revitalization, are being revamped this year so they can remain in the water throughout the summer.

"The first fire is scheduled for June 4, which is frighteningly close," Evans said yesterday in remarks to about 35 business leaders. "That's two weeks. I know we'll have them at least partially in place."

That date coincides with a national convention of City Year volunteers in Providence. The fires are scheduled to be lit two days later to mark graduation ceremonies at the Rhode Island School of Design and again on June 14, 21 and 28.

Evans yesterday addressed a breakfast meeting sponsored by the Journal-Bulletin to spur interest in the sculpture and to seek more support for a capital campaign that has so far raised \$ 138,700.

According to Evans, the number of torches will be increased this year from 35 to 42 to better light the graceful curve of the Woonasquatucket River east of Waterplace Park.

And the sculpture will now be called WaterFire Providence, in honor of the fact that the City of Providence contributed \$ 30,000 to the \$ 200,000 capital campaign begun last year.

So far, according to John Slafsky, (SEE CORRECTION ABOVE) the fundraising coordinator for WaterFire Providence, donations have come in from several corporate sponsors, including the Journal-Bulletin, Hospital Trust Bank and Fleet National Bank, each of which has donated \$ 15,000 to help support Evans's work.

Providence Journal-Bulletin, May 21, 1997

Also on hand at yesterday's breakfast meeting was Mayor Vincent A. Cianci Jr., who praised WaterFire and the attention it has drawn to Providence.

In his comments, Evans described the floating torches as something he hoped would draw people onto the bridges and walkways of Waterplace Park.

"This was intended as a piece to get Americans to get out of their car (to) walk and enjoy an urban landscape," he said. "Many people have said it reminds them of a European city. What they're seeing for the first time is Americans in public places without being in their cars.

"It had the effect of getting people to downtown," Evans said. "I didn't expect it to become a symbol of renaissance for the city.

"Public art is often a lightning rod. . . . This one seems to have touched a nerve, and people have been very generous in their support."

Evans said the floating torches will be made this year out of stainless steel and other materials less likely to corrode in the water. Last year, he said, the torches had to be continually removed from the rivers and repaired.

"We think what we're making now will last a long time," he said.

The torches, which are anchored in place but rise and fall with the tide, can consume six cords of wood during a three-hour burn, and cost about \$ 5,000 each night they are lit.

Oak, recycled cedar fencing and pine are used to create the fragrant, popping fires for which WaterFire is known.

WaterFire also includes music played through speakers mounted under bridges over the river. Those speakers will be improved this year to make the chanting music easier to hear, Evans said.

Despite the fact that it is a new sculpture, WaterFire has become so successful that Evans has already been asked by officials in Seattle, Philadelphia and Berlin to try to devise something for their cities.

But it is on Providence that Evans is concentrating now. He jokingly noted that a planned trip to Paris this year had to be delayed so he could work on WaterFire Providence. "It went up in smoke," he said.

Evans wasn't the only one joking. "He's convinced us to spend \$ 200,000 to burn some wood, listen to some music and smell some things," Cianci said.

Turning serious, the mayor praised Evans and urged more support for his efforts.

"Thank you for what you do, Barnaby," Cianci said. "We do need some more money, but I think we'll make the goal. I can only imagine what this is going to be like in the year 2000."

In addition to the dates in June, Evans announced that WaterFire will be lit on July 12 and 26, August 9 and 23, Sept. 6 and 27, Oct. 17, and on New Year's Eve. In case of rain, the lighting will be postponed a day.

55TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Plain Dealer

May 16, 1997 Friday, FINAL / ALL

SECTION: BUSINESS; Pg. 1C

LENGTH: 495 words

HEADLINE: BUSINESSES URGED TO GET INVOLVED

BYLINE: By JOE FROLIK; PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

BODY:

American business is entering an era of "civic engagement" that will benefit both corporations and society, a leading management consultant predicted.

[Rosabeth Moss Kantor, Harvard Business School professor] told a breakfast audience in Cleveland yesterday that this new wave of corporate citizenship will not be driven by some vague sense of obligation, but it will grow out of the strategic needs of individual firms - which is good thing.

"Whenever you can find a mutuality of interests, you have a strong relationship," Kantor told about 100 people at a forum sponsored by the Business Volunteerism Council. "If it suits the strategic needs of business, then it's powerful and it's enduring."

Among those needs, she said, are communities that have a highly competent work force, a good social environment for employees and their families, and a climate that fosters innovation and enterprise. Corporations can help themselves by helping to build such communities in partnership with government, schools and non-profit groups.

New research indicates that companies which encourage civic involvement often have more loyal and productive workers. They also can create corporate images that will appeal to consumers; Timberland, maker of outdoor clothing and major sponsor of the youth service corps City Year in Boston, is a prime example of that, Kantor said.

"Timberland feels it makes sales because of the image that comes from its community service."

Kantor, 54, was born here and is, as she proudly noted yesterday, a member of the Cleveland Heights High School Hall of Fame. At Harvard since 1986, she has earned a reputation for helping corporations adapt to changing worker demographics and to the challenges of a global marketplace.

After World War II, Kantor said, Americans looked to business as a primary source of community leadership and philanthropy. The corporate world was generally willing and able to respond.

But in the 1970s, "this sort of automatic, unthinking relationship began to change." American businesses were battered by high energy costs and upstart foreign competitors. Firms were gobbled up in corporate takeovers. Even the most civic-minded managers were forced to focus on survival.

*City Year
convention
speaker*

*make the point
Kantor
as she said,*

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The Plain Dealer, May 16, 1997

After years of pain and retrenchment, Kantor said, American business is now in pretty good shape. Parts of American society are not.

"We've reinvented business," she said. "Now the challenge is how are we going to reinvent society."

Kantor urged corporations to think about using community service as a proving ground for talented young executives.

"I've got nothing against Outward Bound, I love Outward Bound," she said. The program tries to build leadership and team skills in wilderness settings. "But maybe it's time for Inward Bound. Solve a few problems at the same time you're taking risks and building a team. It's a lot harder to solve the underlying social problems in America than it is to solve most business problems."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 17, 1997

14TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1997 The Providence Journal Company
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May 23, 1997, Friday, WEST BAY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS, Pg. 4C

LENGTH: 427 words

HEADLINE: Greenway project gets boost from City Year;
More than 200 volunteers will spend June 5 sprucing up the five-mile hiking and cycling trail.

BYLINE: AUBREY COHEN; Journal-Bulletin Staff Writer

DATELINE: COVENTRY

BODY:

Recreation Director Guy Lefebvre has once again found a way to advance his favorite project - the Coventry Greenway - at no cost to taxpayers.

Yesterday, Lefebvre announced that 200 to 250 City Year volunteers will descend on the town June 5 to help develop the five-mile town-owned trail, part of a planned hiking and cycling trail from Maine to Florida.

"We feel that this one day will probably be the single greatest day of achievement on the Greenway," Lefebvre said.

City Year, a national youth service organization, is holding its third-annual conference in Providence early next month. As part of the conference, the group dedicated June 5 as a day of service.

The Coventry Greenway is one of seven projects City Year selected from more than 30 applications for the occasion, said Ted Marquis, conference service director for City Year.

"To be involved with something as big-picture" as the Greenway "is very inspirational," Marquis said. "You're really working to create something."

Volunteers will be divided into 10 teams to work on different sections of the trail.

Work will include planting flowers, cleaning up the Providence & Worcester Railroad sections at several Greenway entrances, picking up litter, spreading wood chips in the parking areas and intersections, clearing brush and planting 300 donated saplings - 200 white spruce and 100 red maples.

About 700 17- to 23-year-olds nationwide - 80 in Rhode Island - serve in the City Year corps, which trains workers and pays them \$ 135 a week, plus \$ 4,725 for higher education, loan repayment or job training, in return for a year of service in tutoring and community work.

In addition to City Year staff and corps members, Marquis said, all community residents are welcome to help in the service day.

Workers will start showing up at 9 a.m., on June 5, at the Station Street entrance to the Greenway. Local volunteers can register there or preregister by calling City Year at 555-2500.

City Year will provide refreshments, lunch and T-shirts on site, Marquis said. After a closing ceremony at the Station Street crossing, where a plaque will be unveiled to commemorate the City Year effort, all volunteers will be invited to Johnson & Wales University for a barbecue.

City Year is also looking for donations of tools for the effort. The group and the town Recreation Department have some tools, but they need more loppers, bow saws, shovels, rakes and pitchforks.

The Recreation Department will keep donated tools for future cleanup projects, Lefebvre said.

LOAD-DATE: May 24, 1997

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

April 28, 1997

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON,
PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER,
PRESIDENT GERALD FORD, GENERAL COLIN POWELL,
MRS. NANCY REAGAN, AND VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

Independence National Historical Park
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

9:49 A.M. EDT

GENERAL POWELL: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. You look wonderful out there this morning. They were worried last night that the rain would wash this out, and as early as this morning there were calls flying around town at 5:00 a.m. in the morning, should we move it. The answer was, it will not rain, not on this parade, not today, not with what we've got going on. And it did not and it will not. (Applause.)

Over 200 years ago, a group of volunteers gathered on this sacred spot to found a new nation. In perfect words, they voiced their dreams and aspirations of an imperfect world. They pledged their lives, their fortune and their sacred honor to secure inalienable rights given by God for life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness -- pledged that they would provide them to all who would inhabit this new nation.

They look down on us today in spirit, with pride for all we have done to keep faith with their ideals and their sacrifices. Yet, despite all we have done, this is still an imperfect world. We still live in an imperfect society. Despite more than two centuries of moral and material progress, despite all our efforts to achieve a more perfect union, there are still Americans who are not sharing in the American Dream. There are still Americans who are not sharing in the American Dream. There are still Americans who wonder: is the journey there for them, is the dream there for them, or, whether it is, at best, a dream deferred.

The great American poet, Langston Hughes, talked about a dream deferred, and he said, "What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun, or fester like a sore and then run? Does it stink like rotten meat or crust and sugar over like a syrupy sweet? Maybe

it just sags, like a heavy load. Or, does it explode?"

For too many young Americans, that dream deferred does sag like a heavy load that's pushing them down into the ground, and they wonder if they can rise up with that load. And as we see too often in our daily life, it does explode in violence, in youngsters falling dead, shot by other youngsters. It does explode, and it has the potential to explode our society.

So today, we gather here today to pledge that the dream must no longer be deferred and it will never, as long as we can do anything about it, become a dream denied. That is why we are here, my friends. (Applause.) We gather here to pledge that those of us who are more fortunate will not forsake those who are less fortunate. We are a compassionate and caring people. We are a generous people. We will reach down, we will reach back, we will reach across to help our brothers and sisters who are in need.

Above all, we pledge to reach out to the most vulnerable members of the American family, our children. As you've heard, up to 15 million young Americans today are at risk. They are at risk of growing up unskilled, unlearned or, even worse, unloved. They are at risk of growing up physically or psychologically abused. They are at risk of growing up addicted to the pathologies and poisons of the street. They are at risk of bringing up children into the world before they, themselves have grown up. They are at risk of never growing up at all. Fifteen million young lives are at risk, may not make it unless we care enough to do something about it.

In terms of numbers, the task may seem staggering. But if we look at the simple needs that these children have, then the task is manageable, the goal is achievable. We know what they need. They need an adult caring person in their life, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start, marketable skills and an opportunity to serve so that early in their lives they learn the virtue of service so that they can reach out then and touch another young American in need.

These are basic needs that we commit ourselves today, we promise today. We are making America's promise today to provide to those children in need. This is a grand alliance. It is an alliance between government and corporate America and nonprofit America, between our institutions of faith, but especially between individual Americans.

You heard the governors and the mayors, and you'll hear more in a little minute that says the real answer is for each and every one of us, not just here in Philadelphia, but across this land -- for each and every one of us to reach out and touch someone in need.

All of us can spare 30 minutes a week or an hour a week. All of us can give an extra dollar. All of us can touch someone who doesn't look like us, who doesn't speak like us, who may not dress like us, but, by God, needs us in their lives. And that's what we all have to do to keep this going.

And so there's a spirit of Philadelphia here today. There's a spirit of Philadelphia that we

saw yesterday in Germantown. There is a spirit of Philadelphia that will leave Philadelphia tomorrow afternoon and spread across this whole nation -- 30 governors will go back and spread it; over a 100 mayors will go back and spread it, and hundreds of others, leaders around this country who are watching will go back and spread it. Corporate America will spread it, nonprofits will spread it. And each and every one of us will spread it because it has to be done, we have no choice. We cannot leave these children behind if we are going to meet the dreams of our founding fathers.

And so let us all join in this great crusade. Let us make sure that no child in America is left behind, no child in America has their dream deferred or denied. We can do it. We can do it because we are Americans. We are Americans who draw our strength from this place. We are Americans who believe to the depth of our hearts that this is not a land that was put here by historic accident, it is a land that was put here by Divine Providence who told us to be good stewards of the land, but especially to be good stewards of each other. Divine Providence gave us this land, blessed it and told us always to be proud to call it America.

And so we go forward. Let's go save our children. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

* * * * *

VICE PRESIDENT GORE: Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you very much. Thank you, Oprah. To all of the distinguished guests; President and Mrs. Clinton, and former President and Mrs. Bush; former President Ford; Mrs. Reagan; General Powell and Mrs. Powell; to the governors and mayors and senators and congressmen and Cabinet members; and most of all, the volunteers: This is an historic day. And I want to thank you, Oprah, and once again thank you, General Colin Powell, for organizing this project and for standing strong for America's children. We're grateful to you, the whole country is. (Applause.)

In the Bible, Proverbs counsels us, "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it is in your power to act." And later in Isaiah, we learn, "If you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry, and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noon day."

Today, in America, more and more citizens are realizing that it is within our power to act. And across America, noon day is spreading a warm light of compassion and commitment, a new spirit of service in America. We're seeing it right now in North Dakota, where tens of thousands of relief workers and volunteers responded instantly and selflessly to those terrible floods. President Clinton and I have seen these quiet American heroes in action firsthand, and we have all been inspired by what they are doing right now to help neighbors in distress. That's the American way.

We saw this spirit of service six days ago on Earth Day, Americans of today honoring their duty to Americans of tomorrow by pledging to be good stewards of the environment -- to

make sure subsequent generations inherit air, water and land that is clean, healthy and safe.

We saw it 10 days ago on NetDay, when tens of thousands of Americans came together to pull cable, install software, hook up computers and connect America's classrooms to the Information Superhighway. And we saw it last year, especially throughout the South, when neighbors, black and white, joined hands to hold back the forces of hate and rebuild churches and synagogues and other houses of worship that had burned to the ground, and say, we won't stand for it here in the United States of America. We're one nation, one community, under God and we're coming together to help one another. (Applause.)

And we saw it yesterday here in Philadelphia on Germantown Avenue. This spirit service is both rich with tradition and fresh with possibility. It is as timeless as Independence Day and as modern as NetDay, as old as America and as young as AmeriCorps. And we, all of us, must do everything we can do to keep this spirit growing.

The work of this summit is just beginning. Its goal, of course: to provide 2 million young Americans access to opportunity and opportunity and the fundamental resources they need by the year 2000 -- 2 million by 2000. We can begin by eally hearing what others have to say. Indeed, sometimes the greatest act of service we can perform is to listen carefully, especially when we listen to our children.

So let's listen to them now. Two weeks ago, the summit invited young playwrights and students from all over America to create an open letter that would tell grownups how they see the goal of this summit. Here now is a peek behind the scenes at these young Americans wrestling with the same issues that confront us all.

(A film is shown.)

* * * * *

PRESIDENT FORD: As we meet at this historic hall to begin this crusade of giving, sharing and caring for the American family across the land, especially the 15 million young girls and boys who need our help, we should be optimistic, not pessimistic.

Sadly, every day the news media reports the growing number of broken homes, inadequate single family problems, drug problems rampant in our schools and on our streets, with gang warfare loose in metropolitan communities. Should we surrender? Should we capitulate to the worst elements and the challenges in our society? The answer is, emphatically, no. (Applause.)

We in America, thank goodness, have the tools to win this war. The solution is local and personal with generous financial support across the land. Yes, in our hometowns, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Canadian border to the Caribbean, people and organizations can

turn disasters to success.

I personally am optimistic because I've seen firsthand a Boy Scout scoutmaster take a tenderfoot or a troop from the worst circumstances and redirect their lives. The same, of course, is true with the Girl Scouts, the Campfire Girls. Again, as mentors we see identical benefits, from the Big Brothers, Big Sisters, the Boys and Girls Clubs throughout America. During the terrible economic Depression of the 1930s, I witnessed firsthand the uplifting impact of an athletic coach on a player or on a team when their families were on welfare or actually in bread lines. Today, the parent coaches of Little League teams do a superb job as mentors, teaching not only teamwork, but athletic skills and healthy habits.

A pat on the back and sound advice can help a troubled boy or a troubled girl in despair. A top-notch mentor can combine winning the game and winning the life. Our churches and synagogues, from the pulpit to the Sunday school teacher, can reach out, embrace the youth in their congregation. I've always admired the wonderful, unselfish work of the individual members of the Salvation Army. Today they are successful mentors because of their spotless dedication to helping America's youth.

A major goal of this summit is to recruit voluntary mentors who are willing to listen to and stand by a youth through joys as well as frustrations. Our mentors must have that unique ability to help the child discover and develop his or her talents. Right now, young Americans need 2 million volunteer mentors who will be caring adults. We warmly welcome volunteers from all walks of life in this great land to join in this critical crusade. By stepping forward in this crisis, you can have a tremendous impact and a tremendous benefit in the challenge to save our youth. What we do here and what you do in this decade can make a better America for the next century.

I say to all of you throughout the land, the door of opportunity is wide, wide open. Please join Colin Powell and all the others at this historic summit. This is truly a call to national service. Thank you. (Applause.)

* * * * *

PRESIDENT CARTER: (speaking by videotape.) -- to a child finding his or her way in the world, this should not be a privilege, it should be a right. If your street isn't safe, fear is your constant companion. If your school and playground aren't safe, your focus is on surviving, not learning. If your home isn't safe, you have nowhere else to go. This summit recognizes this by designating a safe place one of the five fundamental resources. Kids need a place where they can just be kids, where they can play, learn, grow without constantly looking over their shoulders.

At the Carter Center, we have a program called Atlanta Project, founded on the bedrock of volunteerism. A couple of years ago thousands of volunteers fanned out across some of Atlanta's poorest neighborhoods. Going door to door, these volunteers asked their neighbors to

list their major concerns and to suggest ways to improve their quality of life. It will not surprise you to learn that the number one concern was safety.

It's true in cities across our nation. Activities that most of us take for granted, such as going out to play ball or sitting in a school classroom are fraught with peril for children and their parents. Let me share with you some of the stories I heard. One woman said that she never goes out after dark and doesn't allow her children to go out, either. "We are," she said, "prisoners in our home." Another mother told Rosalyn and me that she has knots in her stomach from the time her young son leaves for school until he returns. Because of the violence of her community, she's waiting for the day when he doesn't come home at all. "It won't really surprise me," she said.

That was one of the saddest statements I've ever heard. Several young people, both boys and girls, talked about the pressure they feel to join gangs. Without his gang to protect him, one young man said, he was sure he would be dead. A 12-year-old boy said his ambition in life is to own a semiautomatic machine gun. "I don't expect to live past the age of 20," he told us, "so why does it matter what I do with my life?"

Finally, we spoke with several young women -- children, really -- pregnant with their first, second, or even third child, who are resigned to a life of poverty and fear. These are children whose spirits have been broken, who feel there's no hope for a brighter future. They and their parents do not have confidence in the very institutions -- law enforcement, the judicial system, schools -- that were set up to serve all people.

This summit can be the beginning of a renewed commitment to our children. But the real revolution will take place only if we carry this new spirit of Philadelphia back to our own neighborhoods and turn it into action. The divisions between those of us who have many opportunities and those who feel they have none are growing deeper. Children are dying, in body and spirit.

I urge you to reach out from the safety and security of your life and extend a helping hand to someone who really knows only fear. Hand in hand, we can create a network that will ensure that our children will do more than just survive, they will thrive. Thank you. (Applause.)

* * * * *

MRS. REAGAN: Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you very much. Thank you, Christina, and thank you very much for asking me here today to help begin this wonderful campaign.

I wish so much that my husband could be here. He would remind us that we're celebrating the best of America, that unique heritage that has always inspired us -- individuals and organizations have banded together since our nation began to help when there was a need.

Some have been at it for years. For instance, Save The Children began in 1932, and is continuing to help all over the world.

You know, in my experience, whether it was the foster grandparents program in California, or the private sector initiative in Washington, or the Just Say No campaign to stop drugs, I've always found that when I give I received tenfold in return.

Ronnie's dream remains that America will be that shining city on the hill, and to make that dream come true we must never fall short in our efforts to ensure that every child in America can fly as high as his or her dreams will take them.

Ronnie is such a caring person. He's always been moved by human kindness. So, for him and for me, I ask a special favor of everyone watching or listening today. From this day forward, when someone asks you to help a child, just say, "yes." (Applause.) Thank you. (Applause.)

* * * * *

PRESIDENT BUSH: The American Dream is one of the most stirring phrases I know, and it means so many things to so many people all over the world. It means the freedom to worship your own God in your own way without fear of persecution. It means freedom of speech and assembly, and, perhaps most importantly, the freedom to vote. And these are wonderful freedoms. But sometimes I'm afraid we all take them for granted.

And, yet, the American Dream also means something else. It means the opportunity to go as far in life as your abilities will take you. Anyone in America can aspire to be a doctor, a teacher, a police officer or even, as Oprah said, a President. But you can't get any of those important jobs if you don't have the opportunity to acquire the skills you need. You need to learn your job, whatever your dream, before you can do your job. And that's why I believe that the key to the American Dream is education.

And at the most basic level, it gets down to one "R" -- reading. Barbara and I are deeply troubled to know that 2,300 teenagers drop out of school every day. And this is more than a terrible loss to America, it's an epidemic. It just seems wrong that 6.5 million American kids between kindergarten and the 3rd grade are growing up illiterate. Something has gone wrong.

But I am thankful that something right is starting to happen at this summit, because Americans are starting to take it upon themselves to point our kids in the right direction on the road that leads to the American Dream. And the commitments made toward this end are simply terrific. Continental Cable Vision is going to provide free Internet connections to 3 million youngsters by the year 2000. Another great organization, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, is establishing volunteer tutoring and literacy centers in 6,500 towns and cities across this country. (Applause.) And another, Scholastic Books, will donate one million books to the

American Reads project to help us reach our goal of a hundred percent literacy for every child by grade three. (Applause.)

You know, humanity has produced few documents more beautiful than the one that Jefferson, Madison and the other founding fathers sweated over here in Philadelphia some 220 years ago -- life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are magnificent words to live by. But you can't understand them if you can't read them.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

* * * * *

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Thank you very much. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to begin by taking Matthew and Teevee (phonetic) and Christina and Jamil (phonetic) and Christy (phonetic) for introducing the Presidents and Mrs. Reagan. They reminded us of what this summit is all about.

I thank President and Mrs. Bush, President and Mrs. Carter, President Ford, Mrs. Reagan, Vice President and Mrs. Gore for their devotion to this endeavor. I thank Harris Wofford and Bob Goodwin, the President of the Points of Light Foundation; Henry Cisneros and Linda Robb; and all the others who have worked for this day. I say a special word of thanks to all the public officials who have come from all over our country -- members of Congress, governors, lieutenant governors and others. But, particularly, I want to thank General Colin Powell.

At our last meeting, when he was about to retire as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, I asked him if there was another mission which might bring him back into public life. He said he wanted to help children who didn't have what they needed to succeed in life and who needed the chance to serve America.

Well, General, this may be your most important mission, and I want to thank you for reenlisting. Thank you. (Applause.)

I thank my friend, Mayor Rendell, and the wonderful people of Philadelphia; Governor Ridge and the people of Pennsylvania who have made us feel so welcome.

We come here before the house where America was born. The place where we, the people, took the first step on our centuries-old journey to form a more perfect union. On the last day of the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin walked out of this hall and encountered a woman anxious to know what had gone on inside. She asked him, "Well, Doctor, what have we got? A monarchy or a republic?" Mr. Franklin replied, "A republic --if you can keep it."

For more than 200 years, we have struggled to keep this republic. It is an enduring and

endless challenge, for endemic in human nature and human frailty are successive generations of problems. But we have always succeeded in making our union more perfect. Consider how imperfect it was when we had people in this country who weren't even treated as people, but slaves. Consider how imperfect it was when children could be forced to work long hours into the night in dangerous conditions. Consider how imperfect it was when women, now more than half the population of America, could not even vote.

So when you get discouraged, remember, we have succeeded in over 200 years in forming a more perfect union. (Applause.) We have succeeded because we've had a brilliant free enterprise system. We have succeeded because we had flexible constitutional, evolving, effective government at every level. But we have succeeded mostly because in the gaps between what is done by government and what is done by the private economy, citizens have found ways to step forward and move our country forward, and lift our people up. Citizen service is the story of our more perfect union.

Now we live in one of the great moments of change in our history, more full of promise, as President Ford said, than any period of America's past. More of these children behind me, and more of these children out here on these streets of Philadelphia, will have more chances to live out the future of their dreams than any generation of American children in history if the citizens of this country step forward to fill the gaps in their live and in our national life to form a more perfect union. (Applause.)

But let us not be blind to the facts. Even with all the progress that together we have made -- with 12 million new jobs and a record drop in welfare rolls and years of dropping crime rates -- you and I know that millions of our children are being left behind in lives of too much danger, too many drugs, too little hope and not enough opportunity. You and I know that too many people are out there doing the very best they can and still not keeping up, much less moving forward.

Yes, there are things that the government should do. None of us stand here, President and former Presidents, to say that we must not do our responsibility. Of course, we should do better with our schools. Of course, we should open the doors of college to everyone. Of course, all our children should have health care coverage. Of course, we can do more to make our streets safer. But even if we do everything we should, you and I know that a lot of the problems facing our children are problems of the human heart -- problems that can only be resolved when there is a one-on-one connection, community by community, neighborhood by neighborhood, street by street, home by home, with every child in this country entitled to live out their God-given destiny. You know it is true. (Applause.)

I am proud of the fact that because of the computer and microsolutions to problems we don't need big government bureaucracies to do some of the things that used to be done. But as I have said repeatedly, the era of big government may be over, but the era of big challenges for our country is not, and so we need an era of big citizenship. That is why we are here, and that is

what we should promise ourselves we will do. (Applause.)

Let me say one other thing, too. Look at these kids behind me. They're America's future -- all of them. And when you think of what is tearing the world apart today -- the racial, the ethnic, the religious hatreds, from Bosnia to Northern Ireland to the Middle East to Africa -- and you look at the children behind me and you realize what a gift from God our diversity is, you know that if we know each other, if we serve each other, if we work with each other, one of the things that will happen is, we will make sure that our diversity is a rich resource to make our union more perfect, not an instrument of our national undoing in the 21st century. (Applause.)

We cherish our citizen volunteers. There are already more than 90 million of us, and after this summit there will be more. Especially because General Powell, Ray Chambers and others have organized a follow-up to this. And the really important work of this summit will begin after my talk's over, when you go into the workshops and the meetings and make a commitment that in every community there will be a systematic, disciplined, comprehensive effort to deal with the five areas outlined as the challenges for our young people. That is what really matters here.

Young people, above all, however, have the time, the energy and the idealism for this kind of citizen service. Before they have their own families, the young can make a unique contribution to the family of America. In doing so, they can acquire the habit of service and get a deeper understanding of what it really means to be a citizen. That is the main reason, perhaps, we are here.

In Philadelphia, the Superintendent of Schools is working to make service the expected thing in elementary and middle schools. Maryland has required it in high school. And I challenge every state and every school in this country at least to offer in a disciplined, organized way every young person in school a chance to serve. A recent survey said if they were just asked, over 90 percent of them would do it. We ought to be ashamed of ourselves if we don't give them the chance to do that. (Applause.)

Let me also say, of course, that we need some of them to serve full-time. They do, you know, in the Peace Corps. And -- (applause) -- we have some former Peace Corps volunteers out there applauding. But we should all applaud them because they have helped to change the world for the better. (Applause.) And they do in AmeriCorps, the national service program that was started in our administration. (Applause.) The idea behind AmeriCorps was to instill an ethic of mutual responsibility in our children so that young people could improve their own lives in return for improving the life of America.

Since its creation, 50,000 young Americans have earned college tuition by serving their communities in many ways. And we know that the typical full-time community servant recruits at least a dozen more volunteers. I saw that in North Dakota when I went to see what the Red River had done to Grand Forks and to the rest of North Dakota and Minnesota. I saw our

young AmeriCorps volunteers and I knew that because they were able to serve full-time they'd be there when the waters receded, the mess was there, the people had to put their lives back together and the cameras were gone. I saw it again yesterday when we were working on the streets and on the stadium and on the schools.

The will to serve has never been stronger and more of our young people want to serve full-time. But there's a limit to what we can do now. And, yet, there is a solution -- ironically, one I came to right here in Philadelphia. For here in Philadelphia a minister who is a friend of mine, Reverend Tony Campolo, is helping to organize a movement among churches to get churches to sponsor 10,000 full-time youth volunteers to take a year off from college or defer a year from college under the sponsorship of their churches.

The churches will do what we do in AmeriCorps, helping to provide for the living expenses of the young people. But I think we ought to say to them, at the very least, it shouldn't cost you any money to serve. And so if you've got a college loan and you take a year off to serve under the sponsorship of a religious organization, I'm going to propose legislation to say during that year no interest should accrue on that college loan. It should not cost you any money to serve your country. (Applause.)

But we can do more. We can double the impact of AmeriCorps with the help of our religious and charitable institutions. I want to challenge every charity, every religious group, every community group and their business supporters to give young people the support they need to do a year of community service. If you do that, then in our budget now we will be able to give every one of them the scholarship that AmeriCorps volunteers get for their year of community service. Work with your churches, work with your community organizations, and we can provide that to young people. (Applause.)

Put them to work as mentors, as teachers, as organizers of other volunteers, and we can double the number of full-time youth volunteers by adding another 50,000. By the year 2000, that would mean that in eight years, more children will have served full-time on our streets than have worked in the entire history of the Peace Corps around the world. We can change America, folks, if we'll do it together, hand in hand, community by community. (Applause.)

The same thing is true of the police corps, which offers young people a chance to pay for their college education if they'll be police officers for four years. We can triple the number of young people who do that, and I intend to try. We need more young people going as teachers into our schools. And we must support them in that.

We have to understand that we need a balance between volunteers on a part-time basis, volunteers on a full-time basis, and there is no conflict between the two. We have to understand that we value America's free enterprise system, we know we need our government, but there will never be a time when we need citizen servants more than we need them today, because these children have got to be saved one by one. (Applause.)

And let me say to all of you, the most important people here today are not the Presidents or the General or the governors or the senators. The most important people are those who teach the student to read; who save the health of the infant; who give help to families when all help seems gone. The most important title today is not Senator, Vice President, General, Governor or President. It is, as Harry Truman reminded us so long ago, the most important title any of us will ever hold in this country is the title of citizen.

This is our republic. Let us keep it. Thank you. (Applause.)

And now, I would like to call upon Mrs. Reagan and my fellow Presidents to join me in signing this Summit Declaration, "A Call to Citizen Service to Fulfill the Promise of America." We do this in the hope that in the weeks and months to come, millions and millions and millions of you will join us in putting your names to the declaration, devoting your lives to the mission and beginning the era of big citizenship for the United States.

Thank you and God bless you all. (Applause.)

END

10:59 A.M. EDT

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE
TRANSCRIPT**

Thank you Elizabeth, and good luck with your speech, and your election. I'm delighted to have heard that you're on both the academic and service honor rolls because I intend today, to talk about the importance of service, and I'm very pleased, that you have already understood that importance. Dr. Schumaker, It's a pleasure to be here, at this University, and to take part in the day long activities planned for the Authors' Forum. And thank you also, Professor Hocksworth, for your participation today.

It is always a pleasure for me to be in Louisville, and to have the feeling I get whenever I visit this city, of the enthusiasm and energy that is really the hallmark of what has been happening here for a number of years. I'm also pleased that this University is aware, not only of its educational mission, but also its role in the community and its support for many efforts that not only build a stronger University, but a stronger community as well.

One of those efforts is citizen service. And, in my book, which Elizabeth mentioned, I write about how childhood and service, in my view, go hand in hand. And how, as we look at our democracy, the importance of individuals understanding their connections with one another, and being bound together, in a mutually supportive web of service, is essential to the kind of country we have always enjoyed, as we look into the future.

I can remember, very well, as a young child, my earliest experiences of being a volunteer. I was trying to remember the exact date, which I no longer can, I have neither short nor long term memory any longer. But, I think it must have been in 1956, because I believe it was around the time of an Olympics. And, my friends and I were just entranced by the Olympics, and we decided we would have our own neighborhood Olympics. And in talking about it with my mother, she suggested that perhaps we could use it as a way to raise money for a local charity.

We were 9, 10 and 11, my brothers were younger, we hadn't really ever thought about doing something for a charity before. But, my mother explained how there were lots of people who didn't have the advantages we had. And, although we could have a very good time with our pretend Olympics, we could also be doing something for somebody else.

So, indeed, that's what we did. And, somewhere, buried in mountains of files and pictures and memorabilia, there's a photograph from our local newspaper, of a group of us, standing, holding a paper bag, filled with pennies and nickels, and dimes, and quarters, that we were giving to the local representative of the charity. With my luck, I'm sure that will show up as some kind of conspiracy that I was planning back then. But, I am grateful for that early lesson, and I'm also grateful for the role that my school and my church played, along with my family, in encouraging me and my friends to

think about service from our very earliest days.

The church was particularly important because it taught the ethic of caring about someone else on the basis of an ethical and religious and moral obligation. And, I think for many of us, that is still the driving force. But, I also believe that there is the extra, added element, that we have really come to appreciate in the United States, and which has been a hallmark of our democracy going back, really to the beginning of the 19th century. And that is the way voluntary activities and associations among free people can help create what we call civil society. That space, that huge space that we fill in our lives between individual activity, and governmental or collective activity. It's what we do when we help each other out around our neighborhood or when we belong to a civic group, or a scouting organization, or when we have some kind of project that we want to enlist people with, or when we are in little leagues, or bowling leagues, or whatever it is that brings people together to work on some common effort or goal. For pleasure, for the good of the community, just to make life a little better as we define it.

I have seen over the years, what service can mean to individual citizens, but I've also seen how important it is to the fabric of our democracy. Now, whether it is individual activity, which I know so many of you in this theater participate in, or whether it's through some organized activity, this University and this community have certainly stressed service. Later today, I will be with the mayor as we announce those people who will be going to the Service Summit in Philadelphia that the President is hosting, starting on Sunday. But at this University, I know there are law students like those participating in the Samuel L. Greenbaum Service Program who provide pro bono services as part of their legal training. There are students ~~are students~~ at the Kent School who do free health screenings in rural areas. There are students who have joined Americorps, the federal government's service program.

All across Kentucky, there are citizens of all ages participating and by doing so, I believe, helping America live up to the image that was first portrayed of it, many years ago, when Alexis de Toqueville toured our country. He was struck by the spirit of service that seemed to permeate American society. And I have been struck by it again and again as I travel around the world and I reflect on the American experience and that of other democracies.

In the last several years, I have traveled on behalf of the United States, to every continent. In Mongolia, I saw a country where nearly a century of domination and oppression at the hands of a dictatorship and communism, could not, in the end, suppress the popular will for self-expression and self-rule. But I also saw a people coming out of that century of domination, who did not know how they were going to help themselves and their neighbors.

I spent last fourth of July in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, where not so long ago, through the Velvet Revolution, citizens overcame decades of communist rule. And it helped to pave the way for a newly democratic central Europe. Again, I

saw people who had struggled for freedom, who had always believed that they would eventually triumph, now working out, 'What is the role of the private sector? What is the role of the public sector? How do we create the kind of society that will guarantee democratic values continue to flourish?'

Recently, in Africa, I visited six nations that have undergone a political, economic and social sea change in the last decade. They have done so, in part, by the example of the United States. Although many people in our country seem not to know, or not to care what is happening in African nations as they struggle to throw off the yolk of tyranny and oppression, apartheid, and all of the other problems that have plagued them for decades. It's a very important story for America, because just as I have seen in South Asia or South America, when I meet with groups of students like you, and their faculties and administration from universities, like I did just a few weeks ago at the University of Capetown, what I hear quoted back to me are the words of our founding fathers and patriots. What I hear being asked in questions is 'How do you make this democracy work?'

And what I'm increasingly talking about, as I travel around the world, is the significance of people who care about democracy understanding that it is not just enough to have a democratic government where you have free and independent elections, and an independent judiciary, and a functioning legislature, and a free press, that is not enough. And it is not just enough to have a private marketplace that encourages entrepreneurialism, and freedom to work and seek one's fortune, and to do the best one can on one's own. That yes, those are two of the pillars of democratic, prosperous freedom. But without this glue that hold it together, which ameliorates difficulties that come from government or the market, being too powerful, becoming too intrusive, whatever the challenges might be, the balance of power that our founding fathers and documents foresaw, between the various parts of our government, has largely been balanced over time, in the middle, between the powerful forces of government and the private market has been this great sea of individual energy and association, and caring about the quality of our lives together.

So, when I look at the zeal for freedom that I see bursting out around our globe, I am in awe that people who have undergone torture and exile, who have seen their friends, their neighbors, their family members assassinated for political purposes, have emerged from that with a commitment for the kind of ideals that we take for granted here at home. And I am also amazed, when I see a country like South Africa, which endured decades of apartheid, oppression, and violence, deciding that the route to their future lies not in vengeance and bitterness, but instead, through truth and reconciliation. And what is it that will sustain the effort that they have embarked upon to create a climate in which individuals will learn, not to forget their past, but to move beyond and even to forgive one another. That is rooted in the personal experiences, the religious beliefs, the things that do not have a value in the marketplace, that cannot be legislated, but which must come from those habits of the heart, that de Toqueville talked about as truly marking the American experience.

*interior
of values*

Now, as many of you know, the President has called for this Summit for America's Future which begins in Philadelphia, which is appropriate, because that is where America began. He will be joined by former Presidents Bush and Carter, along with the Summit co-chairs, General Colin Powell, former Secretary Henry Cisneros, and Lynda Johnson Robb. For three days, people will come together from Louisville, and around the country, to discuss the importance of volunteer activity and to make a particular focus on what we need to do as volunteers, and in service, to help families and children. This Summit comes at a critical moment for us here in America, because we have seen our stated ideals triumph around the world. We can look around the globe and still see countries beset by failed ideologies like communism or age-old tyrannies and dictatorships, but the world has never been more free. And I would argue, in large measure, because of American leadership over the past century.

And yet we also know we have new challenges. We live in an information age which hold out unprecedented opportunities for peace and prosperity, but also new challenges, new problems that we are going to have to cope with. Many people feel the strains of living in this very complex, fast paced age. We see growing global competition which makes us wonder, will we be able to find our place in the world of work? We see stress in families as people attempt to change and redefine the roles they had inherited. And we see a decline in volunteer activity, a drop-off in voting, and other indications that Americans feel less able and less willing to participate in what makes our democracy as stable as it is.

We have to look at ourselves, as Americans, and try to understand what we can do to try and rekindle those habits of the heart, that spirit of service. And so the President has called on us to spark a renewed sense of national obligation, a new sense of duty.

There are many ways of being a citizen, as many ways as there are people in this theater. Some people feel that they don't have the time, don't have the energy, don't have the commitment that it takes. But there is something that everyone can do. As Martin Luther King once said, "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve." At the Summit, Americans will be asked to think about how we can do one of the following things to help families, and particularly to help our neediest children: First, we'll be asked to make sure that every child has an ongoing relationship with a caring adult. Whether that is a mentor, a tutor, a teacher, a coach, a preacher, a neighbor; somebody who, if a child does not have that relationship with his or her family, can be there to encourage and support that child.

I've spoken with so many people who came out of very difficult circumstances, and you sometimes wonder, 'What made the difference?' Why, even in the same family, facing poverty or abuse, or violence, why did one young person choose a productive path that led to a successful life, and why did one other give up or commit some act of violence, or just feel so alienated and so hopeless, that you know their life has so little meaning for them?

In talking with people, and reading research and just thinking about this over the

years, I can often find in the stories of those adults, who as young people struggled to find their way, that person who made a difference. That teacher who cared, that relative who stepped in, that small business owner who gave that young person a make-shift job, just to give them a sense that they were important and had a contribution to make.

In my book I talk about my own mother who had a very difficult childhood, but at every step of the way, there was a teacher who knew she didn't have enough money for milk, but who would buy two little cartons of milk, and always say to my mother, 'You know, I bought these two cartons of milk, but now I'm full, would you like it?' Or, the great aunt who would come and take my mother, and show her experiences she never could have had before. Or the woman who, when my mother left her grandparents at the age of thirteen to become a full-time employee, except for the hours she was in school, the woman who employed her and took the time to help her and advise her. So, there's always some adult who intervenes at some point, and that can make all the difference.

Secondly, we will be asked to try and provide safe places for children to learn and to grow. That can mean a lot of different things. It can, and I think should mean opening more schools after school and even on weekends and during the summer. We have all these facilities, yet they are often locked and closed when our children need them most. Most young adults, preadolescents between the ages of about nine and fourteen get into trouble between the time they leave school and the time their parents come home from work. They need someplace where they're given adult supervision and positive activities to be engaged in. We need more recreational activities, but that means adults have to be willing to give their time to be involved with children.

Thirdly, we want to promote healthy lifestyles for children. That can't be left just to health professionals, doctors and nurses and others. All of us can do some volunteer work, can be involved in trying to give guidance to young mothers and fathers. A lot of what we need to do is pretty common sense, basic, low cost, providing some caring adult, some mentoring mother or grandmother, or father or grandfather to work with a young mother, a young father, to help them understand how they can raise their own child.

We also need to provide young people with marketable skills through education and training. And there are so many examples of that around the country. Today is an example of taking children to work, giving children the feeling that they are part of the larger society, that they are valued. Businesses can provide internships and part-time and summer jobs, all of us can look for ways to make sure that our schools are preparing our children for the future.

And, finally, the Summit will ask us to expand opportunities for all children to give back to their communities, to be involved, to learn the value of citizen service and by learning that value, to understand how democracy really works. Because when it is all said and done, democracy requires an enormous amount of trust. We put our fates in

the hands of total strangers. People who raise their hands at city councils and legislatures, and congresses, people who go in and vote in the booth next to you. We have to trust one another, and we have to understand the importance of helping one another in order for a democracy to flourish. Without that trust, without that commitment to service, democracy is planted in very shallow ground.

So, I hope that this Summit, which we will be reading about, and watching on television starting on Sunday, when it issues its call to service, that that call does not go unanswered. That instead, each of us tries to say to ourselves, 'What can I do to make a difference in the life of somebody else?' And of course the beauty of service is, as anyone who has ever served knows, that really the dirty little secret is, you get a lot more than you give. When you sit there tutoring that child or adult, helping them to achieve literacy, the feeling you get is absolutely indescribable. When you work with your neighbors to clean up a river bank or to get people involved in some other environmental effort, you're helping yourself, and your family, and you know it. When you work with young people or old people, whatever you choose to do, you're also growing and enhancing your own life.

So I'm hopeful that through actions large and small, public and private, we can build not only a stronger community, but a stronger democracy. And I think that if we can have that as one of our goals, as we move toward the 21st century, then the future of American democracy is safer than ever. Thank you very much.

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT THE SEND-OFF OF
LOUISVILLE VOLUNTEERS TO THE PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT ON
AMERICA'S FUTURE**

Thank you so much. I am delighted to be here. I want to thank the Mayor and the delegates from Louisville to the Summit in Philadelphia. I greatly appreciate this wonderful memento that we will take with us back to the White House, and I particularly want to commend and thank Humana for its very important contribution which fulfills one of the goals of the Summit. The Summit which begins on Sunday in Philadelphia, will bring together people from all over the country. Like those behind me who will be representing this city, to talk about how we can increase voluntary activity in the United States, increase citizen service, and particularly, how we can do more to help our children. Especially children who are in some way, at risk, or in need of some extra help in their lives.

And there are five specific goals that we are aiming to try to fulfill. The first is to provide a mentor for every child who needs one. That could be a coach, a teacher, a minister, a neighbor, anyone who could really take the time to become involved with a child's life.

The second is to provide safe havens for our children. Keep our schools open afternoons, and evenings, and weekends, and summers; provide more recreational activities for children; make it possible for children to discharge all that energy they have, and do so under adult supervision, in safe places.

Thirdly, to do more to enhance the health and well being of our children. That should not be left just to health professionals, it should involve the entire community. And, what Humana is aiming to do with its program, is to enlist young people to help each other, and help themselves, which we know can work, and with this kind of support and with this initiative, will really persuade many young people never to start smoking and if they've made that decision, to quit, as soon as possible, before they damage their own health.

We also have a goal of trying to provide marketable skills and education for all of our young people. That's also not just a task that can be left to our schools, or our businesses, it's one that volunteers can play a major role in helping to advance. There is lots we can do with internship programs, with tutoring programs, part-time and summer jobs, and I know that that's one of the goals that will be of particular interest to business leaders who come to the Summit.

And finally, our fifth goal is to enlist young people themselves in community service. To persuade, like the young women here today, as they've been brought to work, that they have something to give to other people in their community. And to create opportunities for boys and girls, and teenagers, and young men and women, to make a voluntary contribution to helping improve the quality of life of Louisville, Kentucky, of the United States.

So, I'm very excited about this Summit. I'm thrilled that Louisville will be so well represented. There's a lot that you've done here in this community that is looked to as an example by people

all over the country. And I know that many of the delegates will want to talk with those coming from Louisville about the innovative changes that have been brought about here. So, on behalf of the president, I'm delighted to be part of this announcement, and I look forward to working with all of Louisville's representatives at the Service Summit starting in Philadelphia.

Thank you all very much.



Texts of Remarks

by Hillary Rodham Clinton

President Vaclav Havel

Ambassador Madeleine Albright

Kevin Klose

July 4, 1996 in Prague

Following is a transcript of Mrs. Clinton's address as delivered at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty headquarters in Prague today:

Thank you. Thank you President Havel. Ministers, Ambassador Walker, Ambassador Zantovsky, Ambassador Albright, Mr. Klose, distinguished guests, staff of the radios, and listeners across the Czech Republic, Central and Eastern Europe, and the new, independent states.

It is an honor to have this opportunity to speak to you on the fourth of July 1996. I am especially pleased to be in the Czech Republic with the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, my friend, Madeleine Albright. Ambassador Albright is a daughter of Czechoslovakia whose family was uprooted by war and repression. In the United States she found a home, and the opportunity to rise as far as her God-given talents would take her. But never once did she forget her roots. We Americans are better for her service, and so are the people of Central Europe and around the world who believe in the cause of peace, liberty and justice.

One of the ways men and women in this country and this region kept alive their faith in freedom before 1989 was through Radio Free Europe's broadcasts.

Today I am speaking to you from the new headquarters of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague. This itself is an emblem of the political, economic and social transformations that have taken place in Central Europe.

Not so long ago, members of an old Soviet-style parliament filled this room. Today hundreds of journalists report the real news from within these walls. Not so long ago, this was a place where ideas were suppressed. Today, it is a place where ideas are given life and a voice that delivers them from the heart of this young democracy to the Baltics in the north, the Balkans in the south, and all the way east to the Pacific Ocean.

Ask anyone who fought for liberty in Central Europe during the Cold War and they will tell you that Radio Free Europe was like a member of the family. I have heard of men and women who always placed their radios in front of a certain window, or on one side of the house, where the signal from Radio Free Europe came in the strongest.

I have talked to men and women who, for years, arranged their daily schedules around Radio Free Europe's broadcasts. President Havel has said that he and other Czech dissidents relied on Radio Free Europe to share their ideas with their countrymen and women. Were it not for Radio Free Europe, he has said, he might have spent more years in prison.

For four decades, Radio Free Europe unmasked the lies and deceit of dictatorship by broadcasting information about the world beyond the Iron Curtain and spreading a message of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

Now, Radio Free Europe has a new mission, but one no less urgent. It is helping to strengthen the foundations of democracy through news broadcasts, conferences about current affairs, and courses designed to promote an independent media in countries where a free press was silenced before. The United States continues to demonstrate its commitment to democracy by supporting Radio Free Europe's vital activities.

Today, Americans at home and abroad are celebrating our Independence Day, the 220th anniversary of our nation's birth. Throughout our history, America has represented an ideal of freedom, and of possibility and promise for humanity. Indeed, we are a nation of many different people, people from every corner of the world, but rooted in common values and hopes.

Our nation's story is of those values and hopes being realized. On our national seal is written: *E pluribus unum*. Out of many we are one - not just as a people, but in the democratic values that we cherish.

On this day marking America's independence, part of my heart is at home with my family and with the American people. But another part is here with you in Central Europe, a homeland to millions of Americans, a place where the principles of democracy have taken root, been nurtured, and now are flowering. I have traveled to this region on behalf of my husband to emphasize and strengthen the relationships between our countries and to celebrate your achievements in building strong democracies and dynamic market economies. I also carry a message of encouragement from America to people who might question the pace of progress or the pain of change. Perfecting democracy is a never-ending challenge, as my own country knows so well.

Over the past few days, I have had the chance to visit Romania and Poland. Now I am in Prague, one of Europe's jewels, where a Velvet Revolution peacefully buried more than 40 years of totalitarian rule in 1989. On Saturday, I will leave for Slovakia, Hungary, and Estonia. I only wish I had the time to visit every country in this region to see for myself the ways in which you are meeting the challenges of this extraordinary period.

Today, I would like to talk about the past and the future - a past that prevented old neighbors and friends from being partners, and a future that requires it.

For 50 years, a cruel and arbitrary line divided Europe. On one side of that line, people came together to contain the threat of Communism moving West. On the other side, tyranny and domination forced people to exchange their freedom for the false promise of a utopian ideal and a distorted sense of social stability.

Today, the Berlin Wall, as we know, is gone. There is no Iron Curtain. The line has been erased. In country after country, Communism has crumbled; democracy has come alive. The threat of nuclear war no longer hovers over us. Opportunities for peace and prosperity are greater than ever before. And the prospect of a new and even more dynamic civilization in Europe and the West is before us.

In Russia tens of millions of people exercised their democratic franchise by voting and opting to shape their future through peaceful, free choice. What a hopeful milestone for Russia and us all.

Yet at the same time, we feel the strains of growing global competition and scarcer resources. The rapid pace of change -- the superficial homogenization of the world -- inflames old tensions and weighs us down with new ones. In every country in the world, families are under greater stress. The gap between the rich and the poor grows wider. Even in countries with advanced economies, the social safety net -- education, health care, pensions, good wages and jobs -- is fraying.

The greatest threat to democracy today is no longer a Communist monolith with imperial designs, but volatile economic and social conditions that emerged with the collapse of the old regimes and the demagogues and dictators that can be generated.

These challenges are not unique to Central Europe but to democracies new and old. To meet them, the West needs to expand its democratic family by opening up the institutions that have served us for decades. But even as we do this, we must recognize that democracy is not just about institutions; it is also about the internalization of democratic values in people's hearts, minds and everyday lives.

Along with wider political, economic and strategic alliances, we must consciously develop an alliance of democratic values to guide us as we confront the unavoidable questions of the 21st century: Questions about how to balance individual and community rights and responsibilities; about how families will raise children in the face of pressures from the mass media and the consumer culture; about personal identity and work in an age of globalization, information overload and high-technology; about the roles of women in society; about how people will be able to preserve their ethnic pride and value their national citizenship; about how nations will protect their sovereignty while cooperating regionally and globally with others.

But how do we convey to ourselves, and especially to our young people, the values upon which this alliance is based -- the values of opportunity, responsibility, community and respect for human dignity?

We do it the way it has always been done best; by building and strengthening civil society, a term I borrow from social scientists and philosophers who use it to describe the countless daily associations and actions that weave together the fabric of democratic life. In the early 19th century, de Tocqueville observed that voluntary organizations, activities, philanthropic associations, had already become a hallmark of American citizenship and a distinctive part of our national life.

Civil society is the vehicle for our values, the way we convey who we are and what we stand for. And when we encounter the inevitable setbacks and historical bumps in the road, the alliance of values that fuels civil society is what will carry us through.

In the short time I've been in Central Europe, I've already met with people who are forging this alliance of values and building democracy from the ground up. Earlier this week, I met with teachers in Romania who are developing a new pedagogy that emphasizes civic participation and democratic values. I met doctors and nurses caring for children with AIDS and leaders of voluntary organizations who are training citizens to participate in elections.

In Poland, I met leaders of non-governmental organizations who are helping citizens protect the environment, improve health services, promote women's rights and strengthen the free press.

And here in the Czech Republic, another set of free and fair elections has recently taken place. And the most remarkable thing about these elections was how unremarkable they were. Candidates debated, people voted, ballots were counted, and political leaders sorted out the consequences to form a new government. That's what we call a democracy based on values in action.

In Slovakia, Hungary and Estonia, I will meet with people working to strengthen the role of minorities, incorporate women into the full life of their societies, promote an independent judiciary and free democratic institutions.

In many cases, America and Americans are supporting these local efforts. And what we are creating together is more than the training of nurses and teachers, more than the strengthening of an independent media, more than the cleaning up of dirty water and polluted air.

What we are creating together is an ethos of responsibility, caring and initiative that allows people to participate fully in the civic life of their communities and their countries.

We in America are also discovering that we have much to learn from you. As you -- the people of Central Europe --- construct democracy from the ruins of dictatorship, we Americans are reminded of just how precious freedom is, and what a stake we have in democracy's success around the world.

We also can offer, though, some lessons from our own experiences. The first is that democracy is a messy business that requires patience, hard work, flexibility and the acceptance of its inherent imperfections. For more than two centuries we Americans have been striving to perfect democracy and we will continue to do so but without any assurance we will ever fully succeed. Human nature guarantees that democracy requires constant nurturing and vigilance. But we can never waver from the struggle because nothing is more precious to us than the freedoms our ancestors struggled to preserve.

The second hard lesson is that democracy asks us to live peacefully as neighbors with people who are different from us and whom we may not even like. What most of us discover is that we share more in common than we think, and that we are stronger as a people if we overcome our superficial differences and unite around our shared interests and ideals.

And the third lesson is that democratic values must be steeped into our daily lives. President Woodrow Wilson, whose name graces the railway station and a boulevard near here, once said that "liberty does not consist...in mere declarations of the rights of man. It consists in the translation of those declarations into definite actions." Americans have taken that idea to heart.

Just last week, I was in Seattle, Washington meeting with a group of mothers who have formed a national organization to help fight crime on our streets and in their neighborhoods.

Community groups and civic associations across America raise money for their local schools, libraries, parks and hospitals. Nearly every town and city in America has voluntary church groups, Scout troops, sports leagues, book clubs, historical associations that act as mediating influences both on government and on the forces of a market economy.

Americans also come together when our values are endangered. As you may know, several dozen churches serving African-American congregations in different parts of the United States have been burned by criminals in the past few months. Our citizens have not met these acts of evil with silence or indifference. In nearly every instance, men and women of goodwill -- and all religious faiths -- have banded together to repair buildings and rebuild spirits in the aftermath of these anti-democratic hate crimes.

No country is free of purveyors of hate and fear. But the measure of a country's dedication to the values of opportunity, responsibility, community and human dignity is how it resists the forces of darkness and intolerance.

In this century, we in the West have traveled together with you down a long and hard road, with many setbacks and tragedies along the way. But you never relinquished your faith. And neither did we.

Ambassador Albright has told me the story of how in 1995, during the 50th anniversary celebration of the end of World War II, she visited the lands of western Bohemia, lands that were liberated by American troops in 1945. In every town and village she visited, the Czech people were waving American flags -- flags with 48 stars. The American troops had passed out the flags a half a century ago, when America had only 48 states. And these men and women in the Czech countryside had preserved those flags, held on to them year after year of Soviet domination, just as they had preserved their faith that freedom would finally come.

Freedom has come, and now it is up to each of us to determine what freedom will mean.

Last night, it was a beautiful evening in Prague, and I walked across the Charles Bridge. It was filled with young people, talking, laughing, listening to music. And I could not help but think that throughout Central Europe there were groups of young people doing the same.

But I was also reminded of the young men and women of earlier generations who lost years of their productive lives in prison or exile to make sacrifices for the values we celebrate today.

And I thought too of all the young people who fought and died for the freedom to form their own ideas, speak their own words, make their own decisions and dream their own dreams.

I cannot tell you what any of the young people on the Charles Bridge will do with their lives. But I know that it will be their choice, without fear or coercion from any ideology or government.

Many will make mistakes along the way. But it is our duty, having struggled so long to arrive at this moment of opportunity, to pass on to them a clear understanding of the values that will guide their choices as well as the decisions societies make. And that depends upon our own alliance of values being articulated, given meaning, taking root.

In President Havel's eloquent words: "we are not accountable solely to our party, our voters, our lobbies and our state, but in fact to the entire human race, including those who come after us, and that the decision on the worth of our deeds will ultimately be made beyond the realm of the mortals around us. In the language of today's world, this means nothing more than to harken, in our various dilemmas, to the voice that speaks to us from the depths of our conscience."

That voice is now free to speak. Let it speak. Let it speak of the values and ideals that brought us to this point and that should guide us now into the future that awaits.

May God Bless my country and yours. And may God Bless our common cause.

* * *

Following is a transcript of introductory remarks by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright today at RFE/RL headquarters in Prague:

Thank you very much. As someone who was born in Prague, it is a great pleasure to visit the new headquarters of Radio Free Europe in this city. And you can only imagine what a special feeling it is for me to be here with America's spectacular first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and to introduce her to Central Europe's spectacular first city.

It is a special privilege for this Czech-American to introduce the man who did so much to bring this historic broadcasting facility to the Czech Republic and who indeed has done as much as anyone to ensure the survival of Radio Free Europe in the post-Cold War era. That man is Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic.

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT TELECONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
APRIL 2, 1997**

Thank you, General Powell. On behalf of the President, let me thank you, Mayor Rendell and Harris Wofford for all the hard work you have done on behalf of this summit and on behalf of service and good citizenship in our country. We are grateful to each of you not only for your lifetime of public service, but for your continuing efforts to serve our country and to inspire others to do the same. I also want to thank Ray Chambers, Stuart Shapiro and Marian Heard for their leadership in this endeavor.

I'm delighted to be able to join all of you gathered here and across the country to take part in today's teleconference and to prepare for the Presidents' Summit for America's Future. And I want to thank you for the commitments you are already making to our communities and to our youngest citizens. Throughout this month, the Clinton Administration will be highlighting the importance of citizen service. We hope to make this upcoming summit a success and an inspiration to all Americans.

No task facing America is more crucial -- or more difficult -- than the task of preparing our children for the future. To do that, we must help our children and families overcome the challenges of society today: the burdens of poverty, illiteracy and poor health, the lure of tobacco, alcohol and drugs; the pressures to acquire skills to compete in a global economy. Far too many of our many children are growing up without the love and guidance of a responsible adult; too many children are living in communities fragmented along racial, ethnic, religious, or economic lines; too many young people have lost faith and hope in the future.

The answer to all of these challenges begins with each and every one of us. Every one of us, whether we are students or teachers, homemakers or CEOs, journalists or politicians, has a role to play in giving every child the opportunity to make the most of his or her talents and the inspiration to lead lives of personal responsibility and civic duty. Over the years I've had the chance to see firsthand what wonderful things can happen when all sectors of the community -- schools, churches, government, and businesses -- work together on behalf of our children. I've visited public schools in depressed neighborhoods that have been transformed into first-class learning institutions because people came together to change the status quo. And I've met children who were able to escape the spiritual and material poverty of their surroundings because an adult cared enough to help them follow their dreams.

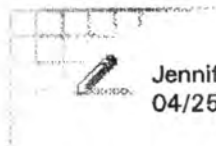
Most importantly, our young people must also take leading roles in shaping their own futures. Five years ago, my husband made national service a centerpiece of his campaign for the presidency. One of his proudest moments as President came a year later, when he signed the bill creating the Corporation for National Service and AmeriCorps. It reflected his belief, reinforced over a lifetime, that citizen service can not only be an effective answer to a community's

problems, it can also be an important part of every young person's civic education -- of their sense of responsibility for themselves, our community, and our nation. Over the last three years, tens of thousands of Americans have improved their own lives as they served our country. They have earned money for college by cleaning up rivers, working with police to make their neighborhoods safer, helping children learn to read. Through their years of service, AmeriCorps volunteers have gained much more than college tuition, they have gained a greater understanding of the communities they live in and the neighbors they live with. They have learned what the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. meant when he said, "Everyone can be great because everyone can serve." And in many ways, they have learned what it truly means to be an American.

Service is the lifeblood of our democracy and the hallmark of American citizenship. In America, we have always put our democratic values into action through service. More than 150 years ago, Alexis de Tocqueville observed that volunteer organizations and community groups had become a distinctive part of our national life. As a people, we have long believed -- and acted on the belief -- that we can change the world by working together, taking responsibility and serving each other. And that belief has bound us a nation.

Let us all work together to awaken the spirit of service in every individual, every home, and every community across America, so that our children can grow to fulfill their hopes and dreams and our democracy can endure into the next millennium and beyond.

###



Jennifer L. Klein
04/25/97 01:05:18 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Carrie E. Greenstein/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: HRC's Summit Remarks

Someone had mentioned to me that in her summit remarks HRC might mention a Kaiser-Permanente commitment to insure children in California. If that is a possibility, she shouldn't do it. We are saving that announcement for a later event with the President. Give me a call if you have any questions/concerns. Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 23, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SERVICE SUMMIT VIDEO

Oval Office

Q Sir, thank you very much for allowing us in your White House. And we want to talk to you about the summit, and we want to hear your thoughts on the summit. What's it all about? What do you want to do with this on Saturday?

THE PRESIDENT: I hope two big things will come out of this summit. First of all, I hope that we will get the attention of the American people about the urgent need for citizens to help give our young people a better start in life in the areas that President Bush and I and General Powell and the summit organizers have agreed upon, in mentoring, in giving kids a healthy start and giving them a good education and marketable skills, giving them safe places; and then getting children themselves into the idea of community service.

So there is a very specific agenda here to try to get citizens here to realize their obligations and their possibilities to help our young people have a better future.

Soundbite

In a larger sense, I hope that this summit will galvanize literally tens of millions of Americans to want to serve in their own way, each in their own community. Because if you think about the increasing interdependence of people in this world and in our country and in our communities, we have to redefine citizenship to include the word "service," so that no one really believes that he or she is a complete, good citizen just by going to work, doing what you're supposed to do, and paying your taxes. People ought to think about service as a component of citizenship.

Q That's great. Now could you say the whole thing in about 12 seconds? Could you say that somehow, but just give me -- I need like a 10-second bite.

THE PRESIDENT: Sure.

Q What you think of the summit.

THE PRESIDENT: The summit is supposed to do two things: first of all, to focus our attention on children and the obligation of adults all over America to help our children; and secondly, in effect to redefine citizenship, to say to America, you can't be a good citizen unless you really serve. That's the way to be a complete citizen, to be a good servant in the community as well.

Q That's perfect, thank you.

Would you like to say something about how all the presidents and you came together on this, in a small bite?

Going beyond
Politics

THE PRESIDENT: I think it shows what's best in America, that, you know, when we reach down to what's really important we get beyond politics and put our country first and put our children first. And that's what President Bush and I tried to do and that's why we're so gratified that the other presidents are joining us -- President

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Ford, President Carter, and Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Carter, and Mrs. Reagan is coming. So we're very happy about it.

Q That's good. Can you just say -- just I need something at the beginning, which is, we brought the summit together by -- so that I can put that in one bite.

THE PRESIDENT: President Bush and I brought this summit together by inviting the other presidents to participate to show that this wasn't about party or politics; this is about America and people.

Q Perfect. I want to ask you now about your life, so to speak, and how you decided that you wanted to serve. You know, as a young man, because one of the things that's always impressed me about you, you seem to have had your eye on -- the public for a long time.

Okay, sir, I was asking you a question about your desire at a very young age to be of service to this country. Could you tell me something about that?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I did decide when I was very young, when I was still in school, that I wanted to be in public service, and I also wanted to be involved in community service. And I think, for me, it was a very personal decision. I was interested in people, I liked helping people, I thought I was supposed to try to do that if I could. I was raised to believe that. And so it came naturally to me.

Q That's perfect. Just what I want.

What do you think of the saying that there is no greater thing that you can do than to be a volunteer and to give? Could you tell me something about that?

THE PRESIDENT: I think all those sayings -- that it's only in giving that we receive -- all of those sayings are fundamentally true. They recognize that important part of our human nature of being connected to other people. And when we're giving of ourselves to other people, that in a way is the ultimate selfishness because there is more fulfillment in that than in just acquiring and never giving back. And I think we're put on this earth to enjoy the things of life but to give them back to other people who don't have them or need a helping hand. I think it's really a selfish act, not a selfless act, because people who do it are the happiest people you know.

Q That's great. Could you tell me something about AmeriCorps and how that came about, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: I got the idea basically for AmeriCorps from just talking to people about the desire of young people to go out and serve, seeing young college students in my home state involved in community service, and the trouble a lot of our young people were having paying for their college education. So it occurred to me, with the declining numbers of young people able to go into the military and serve there, that we ought to let young people serve their country for a year or two, in their communities, helping people solve their problems, and give them a stipend to go to college in return.

And now, you know, over 50,000 have done it. I was just in North Dakota dealing with the terrible floods, and there were our young AmeriCorps volunteers working with the Minnesota Conservation Corps, trying to roll back the flood and help people deal with the aftermath. That's America at its best, too.

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Q That's great. That's really fine.

Sir, there is a quote that you made that we talked about earlier. I'd like you to just paraphrase that the best you can.

Q Well, I've often said that the era of big government may be over, but the era of big challenges is not. And I mean that in two ways. Number one, you can have a smaller bureaucracy and still have a nation that's very vigorous and active in pursuing its interests and its values. But secondly, a lot of the problems we have in America are people problems. And they have to be handled one on one. You know, you don't solve the welfare problem overnight; individual people on welfare find their way to independence, education, and work. And individual children have to be mentored. Individual children have to start learning. Individual children have to be made safe -- individual neighborhoods and streets.

And what that means is, we here in Washington, we can help. There are a lot of things we can and should do, but in the end, if every community is not organized to succeed because citizens are committed to the proposition they won't put up with destruction and violence, and they won't put up with anything less than a decent future for the children, no matter what their racial or economic background, then the rest of what we do here won't amount to a hill of beans.

Q That's good. Just give me that statement again, because I want to use that quote by itself.

THE PRESIDENT: I've said many times that the era of big government is over, but era of big challenges is not. And what that means is that many of our problems are people problems; they have to be dealt with one on one. These children have to be raised and educated one on one, and that means we need more citizen involvement in every community.

Q Okay, you did say something at the end. You say, our mission is nothing less than a spark of renewed national sense of obligation, a new sense of duty, a new season of service -- I love that. Could you try that one for me?

THE PRESIDENT: Our mission in preparing this country for a new century has to be primarily to spark a new sense of citizen obligation, to really create a season of service, to redefine citizenship to include service.

Q Okay, that's very good.

THE PRESIDENT: You know, one point I think is worth making is that so much of the world is being bedeviled today by all these racial and religious and ethnic hatreds, by people who share the same country, share the same land, share the same neighborhoods and blocks and hate each other because of artificial differences. Yet America can only continue to lead the world if we reject all that and prove that in this incredibly diverse country we're going to serve each other and that we'll be strengthened in our own lives as we do it. I think that's a very important point to make.

Q When you leave the presidency, sir, what are you going to do -- from a voluntary point of view?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I haven't decided exactly yet, but I want to devote a lot of attention to things that really work, to help solve problems. I'm an action-oriented person, I like to do things. And I also want to spend the rest of my life, however much time I have remaining, trying to get people to respect and relate to each other and to serve each other, and to get out of what I think is

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a totally foolish way of living, which is hating other people because they're different from you, or turning a blind eye to their needs when they share your future.

Q Are you looking forward to being out of public office to do more?

THE PRESIDENT: You bet I am. I'm really looking forward to it. I mean, I love this job. I love every day of it. And if I weren't term-limited I'd probably try to stay in it. But I'm very much looking forward to a new chapter in my life and to going back to what Harry Truman said was the most important title a man could have in this country, and that's the title of citizen. I'm going to do my best to be a good one.

Q I love that, sir. Sir, what I'd like you to do is give me a close. What I need is something to the effect that this summit is for the purpose of directing America to what you need it to do.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q The reason that we brought attention to this, I need it short.

THE PRESIDENT: We have focused this summit on the needs of our young people, because that's where our future lies. And we've got five clear areas that we want Americans -- I mean millions of Americans in every community in this country -- to work on, to serve as citizen volunteers to make sure we give our kids the future they deserve.

Q That's beautiful. And now I'm going to show the logo of this Presidents' Summit. So I need you to say something like, the Presidents' Summit -- being one of the greatest things --

THE PRESIDENT: The Presidents' Summit of Service can be one of the most important things that's happened in this country in years if it succeeds in mobilizing citizens to recognize that their citizenship requires them to serve in every community in America.

Q That's great, but now we just need it a little slower and shortened because it's going to be because it's going to be -- music at this point.

THE PRESIDENT: The Presidents' Summit of Service can be one of the most important things that's happened in this country in years if it mobilizes all of us to do our part in our communities.

Q And just give like a wish, like, I hope that America joins with me to --

THE PRESIDENT: I hope America will join with me and our other former presidents -- no, no, let me say it again.

I hope America will join with me and the other presidents to give this country the future it deserves by serving as citizens for our children's future.

Q We're done and we're early.

THE PRESIDENT: You know, I think in about 5-second segments. It's doing all these television ads over the years -- (laughter). When I started out I had to do all my own ads, I'd just try to decide what to say and said them -- so I spoke in 27-second segments for years, it's all I could do.

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Q You did a beautiful job, I must tell you --
beautiful.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

END

Independence Hall

Independence Hall was built in 1732 as the Pennsylvania State House. It was a symbol of the nation to come. At the time it was the most ambitious public building in the thirteen colonies. The Provincial government paid for construction as they went along, so it was finished piecemeal. It wasn't until 1753, 21 years after the groundbreaking, before it was completed. It was the original "Philadelphia lawyer," none other than Andrew Hamilton that oversaw the planning and worked to guarantee its completion. Hamilton had won renown for his successful 1735 defense of Peter Zenger in New York that was to become a freedom-of-the-press landmark.

The building has undergone many restorations, notably by Greek revival architect John Haviland in 1830, and by a committee from the National Park Service, in 1950, returning it to its 1776 appearance.

Independence Hall is, by every estimate, the birthplace of the United States. It was within its walls that the Declaration of Independence was adopted. It was here that the Constitution of the United States was debated, drafted and signed. That document is the oldest federal constitution in existence and was framed by a convention of delegates from 12 of the original 13 colonies. Rhode Island did not send a delegate. George Washington presided over the debate which ran from May to September 1787. The draft comprising a preamble and seven Articles, was submitted to all thirteen states and was to take effect when ratified by nine states. On June 21, 1788, New Hampshire, the ninth state, approved it and it became effective in March 1789.

- The basement once served as the city's dog pound
- The second floor was once home to Charles Willson Peale's museum of natural history.
- Some historians note that Ben Franklin would occasionally trip other delegates from his aisle seat.
- George Washington, knowing that his opinion would carry undue weight, contributed little to the debate over the Constitution.
- Even though the days were very hot in the summer of 1787, windows were kept closed so others could not overhear their discussions



News Release

Also in the News

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- January 24, 1997

CONTACT: Jim Issokson
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CLINTON, BUSH ANNOUNCE PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT ON SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- President Bill Clinton and former President George Bush, joined by Vice President Al Gore, today announced "The Presidents' Summit for America's Future," aimed at bringing America to a new level of commitment to volunteer service, especially targeting the nation's young people.

President Clinton, former President Bush and the other former Presidents will serve as Honorary Co-Chairs of the Summit, which will be held April 27-29 in Philadelphia. Presidents Clinton, Bush and Ford will attend. President Carter and Lady Bird Johnson, while unable to attend, have pledged their support. President Reagan will be represented by Nancy Reagan.

Gen. Colin Powell will serve as General Chairman. Henry Cisneros, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Lynda B. Robb, the daughter of the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson and National Chairperson for Reading Is Fundamental, will serve as co-vice chairmen.

In announcing the Summit, President Clinton said, "Much of the work of America cannot be done by government, much other work cannot be done by government alone. The solution must be the American people through voluntary service to others."

In today's East Room announcement, former President Bush said, "The Philadelphia summit is about getting more people off the sidelines. It is about citizens pulling together, leading by example, and lifting lives."

Some 50 commitments for specific future actions have already been received from voluntary, religious, and educational organizations, business, media, and local and state governments.

The Presidents' Summit for America's Future was conceived by the late Gov. George Romney of Michigan and initiated as a joint effort by two of America's leading organizations dedicated to service: The Points of Light Foundation and The Corporation for National Service.

General Powell said of the Summit: "I can't think of a better task for my generation. We received so much from our own parents. It is only appropriate that we give back in kind. Our young people are facing unprecedented challenges. They deserve the same kind of support from

their country as we received, but it will take extra effort from all of us to make this possible. With the help of millions of Americans, we can, as a nation, turn the tide for America's youth."

Summit partners point to growing evidence that young people today face serious threats to their futures -- and even their lives; thus, the urgency leading to the April Summit. Studies show, for instance, that:

- ☐ A child is abused every 13 seconds in America, with almost 3 million reports of such abuse filed each year.
- ☐ 1 in 9 African-Americans between the age of 12-15 are victims of violent crime.
- ☐ The number of children under age six living in poverty has increased 50% since 1979.
- ☐ Cigarette and marijuana use is increasing again among high school students.
- ☐ Suicide rates for children between 5-14 doubled between 1970-1988.

The Summit is organized on the proposition that America's young people must have access to five fundamental resources that can help them lead healthy, fulfilling and productive lives:

- ☐ An ongoing relationship with a caring adult or mentor;
- ☐ Safe places to learn and grow;
- ☐ A healthy start;
- ☐ A marketable skill through effective education;
- ☐ An opportunity to give back through community service.

The Summit itself will have three focal points. First, the Presidents and First Ladies will join in the historic call to commitment and to action. Second, local and national leaders from all sectors will announce their organizational commitments to action -- mobilizing their people and their abilities for an unprecedented effort to turn the tide for America's youth by the turn of the century. Third, delegations from approximately 100 communities and all 50 states will work together to turn the message of the Summit into concrete plans for action.

In the weeks leading up to the Summit, a national partnership engaging dozens of leaders and organizations from all sectors will develop targets for specific increases in volunteer service and put in place the framework for an extensive follow-up campaign.

Some of the substantial commitments that already have been made include the following:

- ☐ Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation has committed to immunize one million children by the year 2000. Columbia, its employees and affiliated physicians, will be able to serve the immunization needs from more than 600 hospitals, surgery centers and home care locations.
- ☐ LensCrafters will provide one million needy people, especially children, with vision care by the year 2003.
- ☐ The 400 local Volunteer Centers affiliated with The Points of Light Foundation will connect one million young people with caring adults or with the opportunity to serve.

- Communities in Schools will expand its programs so that an additional 750,000 young people in need will be better able to successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life.
- The Greek Orthodox Church in America has committed to assist one needy child per every ten families in the more than 550 Greek Orthodox churches nationwide.
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters has committed to doubling their mentoring relationships, reaching 200,000 matches through the year 2000. Service will become an integral part of the mentoring relationship.
- Shell Oil has made a corporate wide commitment to support all five goals of the Summit at every level of the company through expanded employee volunteering, targeted corporate philanthropy, and promotional support.

Funding for the Summit is being provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

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Summit Mission Statement

In America there is a growing sense of disconnection. Too many of our communities are fragmented along racial, ethnic, religious or economic lines. We find ourselves feeling that what divides us from one another is more powerful than the glue that holds us together in communities and as a nation.

The impact of this is greatest on American's young people. In small towns as well as big cities, far too many young people are growing up without the kind of role models and relationships needed for success. Far too many do not have adequate safe places to learn and grow, are not getting a health start, or the kind of education that creates real opportunities. And too many are unaware that giving through community service can make a difference in the lives of others and can be an enriching experience.

The Summit will serve as a new beginning for the organization of a national partnership joining business, government, media concerns, social service agencies, religious and educational institutions.

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The Five Key Resources



Access to one of these resources in isolation is not enough: in order to grow, young people need access to all five.

Young people today face serious threats to their futures -- and even their lives.

Our goal is to mobilize as many individuals, educational and religious organizations, small companies and large corporations to make the voluntary, concrete commitments of goods, services or funding we need to make life better for all young people.

There are five critical resources that our young people must have access to if they are to thrive:

- ☐ An ongoing relationship with a caring adult: mentor, tutor, coach;
- ☐ Safe places and structured activities during non-school hours for learning and growing;
- ☐ A healthy start;
- ☐ A marketable skill through effective education;
- ☐ An opportunity to give back through community service

Access to one of these resources in isolation is not enough: in order to grow, young people need access to all five.

At the Summit, delegates will share information about the "best practices" of programs that are providing these critical resources now. We will carry reports on these best practices right here on the web, so that you can find the information you need to start working on America's solutions in your own community.

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**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
NATIONAL SERVICE EVENT
NEW YORK, NY
APRIL 9, 1997**

Thank you. I am delighted to be here at NYU and to meet so many young people who are committed to making a difference in our communities. Thank you for your moving testimonials.

I am happy to find that the spirit of service is flourishing at this University both through the President's C-Team, and your model AmeriCorps program, Project SafetyNet. Two years ago, I had the chance to see firsthand a peer mediation and conflict resolution workshop led by Project SafetyNet volunteers at Seward Park High School. The sense of excitement and discovery in the voices of both the volunteers and the students was unmistakable.

I want to thank each of the student volunteers here today for reaching out to the community beyond the walls of this university, for sharing your time and talents with your youngest and neediest neighbors, for inspiring them to say no to violence and yes to school, college and the future. Too many of our children are growing up without the love and guidance of a responsible adult; too many children are living in communities fragmented along racial, ethnic, religious, or economic lines; too many have lost faith in their futures. You are proof that our young people can be indispensable leaders in addressing these most pressing needs and challenges.

Five years ago, my husband made national service a centerpiece of his campaign for the presidency. One of his proudest moments as President came when he signed the bill creating the Corporation for National Service and AmeriCorps. It reflected his belief, reinforced over a lifetime, that citizen service can not only be an effective answer to a community's problems, it can also be an important part of every young person's civic education -- of their sense of responsibility for themselves, our community, and our nation. Over the last three years, tens of thousands of Americans have improved their own lives as they served our country. They have earned money for college by cleaning up rivers, working with police to make their neighborhoods safer, helping children learn to read.

And, as many of you can testify, AmeriCorps volunteers have gained much more than college tuition, they have gained a greater understanding of the communities they live in and the neighbors they live with. AmeriCorps volunteers have learned what the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. meant when he said, "Everyone can be great because everyone can serve." In many ways, they have learned what it truly means to be an American.

Service is the lifeblood of our democracy and the hallmark of American citizenship. In America, we have always put our democratic values into action through service. More than 150 years ago, Alexis de Tocqueville observed that volunteer organizations and community groups

had become a distinctive part of our national life. As a people, we have long believed -- and acted on the belief -- that we can change the world by working together, taking responsibility and serving each other.

I just got back from a two-week visit to several countries in Africa that are now making the difficult transition from dictatorships to democracy and the free market. While I was there, I saw many hopeful signs of democracy at work: Free and fair elections, thriving marketplaces, fledgling newspapers. But perhaps the most encouraging sign that democracy had begun to take root was the fact that the people themselves had begun to recognize the power that they had as individual citizens. They had begun to form independent grassroots networks and community organizations to shape their countries' as well as their own destinies.

Our faith in citizen service has always bound us as nation. Later this month, the President and I, along with Vice-President Gore, former President Bush, General Colin Powell and a host of community volunteers and public servants will gather in Philadelphia for the first ever Presidents' Summit for America's Future. We will be gathering to commit ourselves to making sure that every child has the opportunity to fulfill his or her God-given potential and to kindling the spirit of service in every individual, every home, and every community across America.

It is the President's hope that this summit will inspire Americans to continue to build partnerships with each other and among all sectors of our community -- schools, churches, businesses and government -- and work together on behalf of our children and our common future.

I can think of no task more urgent than helping our children navigate the challenges of growing up and achieve their hopes and dreams. I thank each and every one of you for doing your part.

###

MEMO

To: Lissa
From: Carrie
Subject: Notes from the Conference call on Tuesday's closing ceremony speech
Date: April 27, 1997

According to Jaycee and the advance team in Philly, no one is focusing on Tuesday so it has been very hard to get any information, here is what we know: The message of the closing ceremony is to wrap-up what has come out of the 3 days, including new commitments and hopes for the future. The ceremony will be outside at Independence Hall Plaza with an audience of 3,000 people. The program will consist of the following:

- the Philadelphia orchestra will play for 10 minutes
- a Greek Orthodox archbishop will give the invocation
- Powell, Bush and HRC will speak for 10 min. Each in an order tbd, but Bush will definitely be the middle speaker

Peter Kaminsky is the Summit production team head writer and seems to know the most/ be the most helpful.
His number is (215) 625-6784.

Enjoy the kittens!!!!!!!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Govt - of the people
pro. right - not even
creates opportunities

3 legs of the stool >
you need civil society

citizen action -
volunteerism
service
involvement

Habits of the Heart > de Toque
civil action is critical

-
- foreigners always think of this as
them / politics
 - not just
politics -
it's people
-

The Presidents' Summit for America's Future

Marriott Hotel Production Office

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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: 4-25

TO: JAYCEE

FAX: (202) 456-5340

FROM: PETER KAMINSKY

RE: Closing Ceremony Copy

LISSA

FYI

#of pages including this cover sheet: 2

Mrs. Clinton complimented my script this morning and asked for my card (which of course I didn't have). When I was assigned to write this show tomorrow, I felt moved to try a whack at some copy that you might care to use. If not, it was a kick to try anyway. My cell phone is 215 284 1500. . writing office is 215 625 6781

Peter Kaminsky

Mrs. Clinton (some copy)

The deepest--I am tempted to say most sacred--experience that a human being can have is to give birth to new life. Men, you're going to have to take my word on this. For that instant, every mother is at the center of the chain of life. Birth is indeed a miracle.

I have lived through one such miracle in my life when my daughter, Chelsea, was born. Feeling the spirit that has been in the springtime air of Philadelphia these last three days has been one of the most uplifting, ennobling and yes miraculous experiences of my life. It has been a birth of a kind-- of a new American spirit.

Volunteerism. This country was founded on it.

Being here at Independence Hall, I think of that the room above this stage where Thomas Jefferson labored over the document that gave birth to this nation. The Declaration of Independence is, of course, one of the finest expressions of the human spirit. But, to be honest to history, it did not give birth to this nation.

That fight continued for another seven years. Seven years on the front lines, in the trenches, fighting the thousands of small fights that gave birth to America.

The fight to save America's children must also continue after our labors at Independence Hall. Even as the founding fathers dedicated themselves to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, we are here to rededicate our nation to America's Children---to the work that starts today to provide every precious one of them with healthy bodies, a safe environment, the best education, and a place in a caring society.

We are asking every American to become a volunteer in this righteous army to save our children. We can do it. And think about this. In those dark and dangerous days when a band of colonists with nothing more than a belief in liberty took on the world's mightiest empire.....every soldier, every doctor and nurse who ministered to the wounded every seamstress who sewed uniforms and banners, every drummer boy and fife player, even George Washington was a volunteer.

draft #1
4/28/97

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS FOR THE CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT ON AMERICA'S FUTURE
PHILADELPHIA, PA
APRIL 29, 1997**

General Powell, President and Mrs. Bush, and all of you who have who gathered here in Philadelphia to help renew America's spirit of citizen service:

Now is the time for the real work to begin.

As we close this historic meeting, let us also open a new chapter in our country's story. A chapter written by an engaged, active, and committed citizenry that has -- and must continue to be -- the lifeblood of American democracy.

This summit was held in Philadelphia these last few days because, as my husband said, this is the place where our country was born. Born not just of a Continental Congress or a Constitutional Convention, but born of a people -- a people who understood the essence of service and community.

For it took all kinds of Americans -- from the Founding Fathers, to the first stewards of America's young government, to local shopkeepers and merchants, to teachers in one-room school houses, to good neighbors and good citizens from New Hampshire to South Carolina and beyond, whose daily lives and activities embodied the spirit of the new democracy.

And it took all kinds of service to keep this young nation alive -- the service of government, the service of business leaders, the service of volunteers, philanthropists, advocates and activists.

Why have we survived and thrived longer than any other democracy in the history of the world? Because we are truly a stool with three legs. The first leg is a government built on the ideals of free and independent elections, a functioning legislature, an independent judiciary, and a free press. The second is a market economy that encourages entrepreneurship and innovation and provides the opportunity for individuals to seek their fortunes and reap the benefits of hard work.

Yet as vital as these two legs are, they are not enough to sustain the free and prosperous nation that America has become, and must remain.

It is the third leg of the stool -- civil society -- that has provided the real balance of power that our Founding Fathers envisioned. It is civil society -- the term that describes the countless daily associations and actions that weave together the fabric of democratic life -- which mediates between the powerful and potentially excessive forces of government and the market by tapping into a great sea of individual energy and caring that exists from coast to coast.

Civil society is the vehicle for our values, the way we convey who we are and what we stand for as Americans. And that, in essence, is what this summit is about: Renewing the spirit of citizen service that is so vital to our democracy and the model society it has become for people around the world.

In the past few years, I have traveled on behalf of the United States to every continent. In Mongolia, I saw a country where nearly a century of domination at the hands of dictatorship and communism could not suppress the popular will self-expression and self-rule.

In Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, where I spent last July 4th, I met citizens who led a peaceful Velvet Revolution, overcoming decades of Soviet-inspired rule and paving the way for a newly democratic central Europe.

Last month in Africa I visited six nations that have undergone a political, economic, and social sea change in the last decade, embracing democracy and open economies and throwing off the yoke of injustice, brutality, and oppression..

Each of these places represented extraordinary triumphs of the human spirit that depended on courageous leaders and courageous citizens.

Yet it was also clear -- from Ulan Bator, Mongolia to Kampala, Uganda and everywhere in between -- that arriving at democracy is always far easier than sustaining it. Over and over people asked me: "How did you Americans do it? How did you create a society that allowed democratic values to flourish?"

Throughout the world, as tyranny crumbles and democracy comes alive in country after country, people are looking to America and Americans for guidance and inspiration. And we have much to offer from our own experience.

Our country has shown the world that democracy is not just about the machinery of government or the institutions of an open market. It's not just about politics or profits. It's about the internalization of democratic values in people's hearts, minds and everyday lives.

It's about joining together and giving of ourselves to promote the common good. It's about the organizations, associations and activities we engage in that Alexis de Tocqueville observed more than 150 years ago -- and which are a hallmark of American citizenship and a distinctive part of our national life.

This Summit, and the call to action being issued here, come at a crucial moment for us in America because we have seen our ideals embraced around the globe. Never before has the world been more free. And that is in large measure because of American leadership over the last century.

Yet on the horizon of a new century we also see many uncertainties. We live in an Information Age that holds out unprecedented opportunities for peace and prosperity, but also the challenges that come from living in a complex, competitive and fast-paced world. We face growing global competition; we see families under greater stress as men and women try to redefine their roles in the family and outside; we see the pressures of the mass media and the consumer culture bearing down on our children; we see new and passionate debate about the balance between individual and community rights and responsibilities.

And, we also see a decline in volunteer activity, a drop-off in voting, and other indications that Americans feel less able and less willing to participate in ways that make our democracy as stable and strong as it is.

This Summit has asked each and every one of us to look at ourselves and try to understand how we can rekindle what one writer has called the “habits of the heart” -- the spirit of service. It has asked us how we can combine our strong notions of individualism with our equally strong desire for community in ways that benefit us all.

We know that government can help create the conditions to help people help themselves. We know that the private sector can unleash the energy and capital needed to further our prosperity. But only civil society -- the service sector -- can evoke that immeasurable the spirit of giving and caring that makes our country unique in the world.

There are many avenues to good citizenship. As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said: “Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve.”

This is a particularly important message for our young people, who need to feel a stake in their own futures and in their own country. That is why the President is so proud of AmeriCorps, which encourages young people to get involved and learn the rewards of service while earning a ticket to college. That is why we have spotlighted businesses these last few days that provide internships, part-time jobs, summer training programs for young men and women.

That is why it is so important for all of us to focus our efforts on the weakest and most vulnerable among us -- our children -- who need mentors, teachers, coaches, counselors, doctors, nurses, role models and, most of all, opportunities to fulfill their own God-given potential.

Our democracy, and the ideal we place on service and community, requires an enormous amount of trust. It often asks us to put our fates in the hands of people we don't even know. People who take the oath of office to serve on the city council, in the State House, in the Congress, and in the White House. People who vote in the booth next to us on Election Day. People who are entrusted to teach our children in school, coach them on the basketball court, lead their scout troops. People who police our streets and staff our hospitals. People who make decisions about everything from what is in our food to what we see on TV.

But most of all, it asks that we trust ourselves. That we trust our own capacity to serve and nurture the soil of democracy in which our country and our values are rooted. For without a commitment to service, democracy is planted in very shallow ground.

As this Summit concludes here today, let all Americans ask: "What can I do to make a difference in someone else's life? What can I do to help my community and my country?"

I guarantee that anyone who answers the call will discover what anyone who has served already knows: When we serve others, we get a lot more than we give.

Through actions large and small, public and private, we can build a stronger community, and a stronger democracy. With your help, we will do it.

Thank you.

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Saturday 3:30 PM

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE
INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA
APRIL 28, 1997**

Acknowledgments: Presidents Bush and Ford; President Carter; Vice President Gore; Members of Congress; First Lady Nancy Reagan; Lady Bird Johnson; Linda Robb; Henry Cisneros; Harris Wofford; General Powell....

At our last meeting when he was Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff, I asked General Powell if there was another mission that might bring him back. He said that if there were anything, it would be to help AmeriCorps, our national service program. General Powell, with your leadership of this summit, you have done a great thing for national service, and I thank you for it.

We stand before the house where America was born -- the place where "We The People" took the first step on our 220 year journey to form a more perfect union. On the last day of the Constitutional Convention, Ben Franklin walked out of this Hall and encountered a woman eager for news on how things went. The woman asked Franklin, "Well Doctor, what have we got -- a monarchy or a Republic?" Franklin replied, "A Republic, if you can keep it."

For more than 200 years, we have struggled to redeem their faith and keep this Republic. The question we face today is nothing less than this: will we keep our republic for the next 200 years?

Today, we are at the edge of another new century -- a time of hope and opportunity, a time when the gale force winds of technology and change are literally reshaping our national landscape. The young people whom we seek to serve will have before them opportunities that the framers, that any generation before us, could only have dreamed of.

Yet these very forces of progress threaten to pull us apart, to break our community into isolated atoms of individualism. The 21st Century can be a time of abundance, but it can also be a time when more of us lock ourselves away, building barricades of indifference to those around us.

We are at peace; our economy is its healthiest in a generation; social problems like crime and welfare dependency are receding. The nation born on this spot is as strong as it has ever been. But we cannot rest; we cannot squander this moment of hope. America has stumbled only when we fail to face frankly the problems that confront us.

The era of big government is over. But the era of big challenges is not over. Our

challenges today are those of the heart. Our challenges today must be faced person by person, neighbor by neighbor, community by community. Our challenges today demand that above all else, we renew the spirit of community that has always bound us together. We must face our future and our challenges united, as One America. The era of big government is over – a new era of citizenship must begin. And let it begin, here, today.

Citizenship is more than paying taxes; more than going to work; more than obeying the law; more than casting a vote. From the days that the framers pledged their lives and fortunes and sacred honor to their new nation, citizenship has meant much more. Citizen service is how we recognize that we are responsible for one another. It is the very American idea that we meet our challenges not through government alone, or as isolated individuals, but as a true community, all of us working together.

Today, at the edge of the 21st century, Americans are faced with the greatest moment of growth and opportunity in our history. In this new time, a full definition of citizenship must include the obligation to serve. We must foster a spirit of service that lasts a lifetime -- not merely a weekend or a week -- an ethic of service that is woven through the very fabric of our lives.

There is another important benefit. As we look around the world, and see nations torn asunder by racial and religious and ethnic strife, as we see people who share the same land and the same history turn on each other because of artificial differences, we have an obligation to ourselves and to the world to work harder to live with one another. An ethic of citizen service that brings together all people in common cause to conquer common problems, is the way we will bind our nation together in this new era. As we move forward into a new age of possibility, let us be the nation that is too busy to hate.

Government, as the rightful representative of the people, has and must continue to play its proper role. In America, the government we created right here has always been the instrument of the common will of the people. Citizen service and volunteerism are not substitutes, but extensions of that will. I pledge to you, that as long as I am President, government will do its part. But all Americans must do their part. We will work to create opportunity -- but all Americans must take responsibility.

We have made it possible for parents to take time off from work to care for their children. But it will not matter unless more caring adults step forward to give our young people the support they need to build positive futures and make good choices.

We must restore order to our streets. We must keep our children safe and teach them to obey the law. But parents, teachers and churches must be our first line of defense. We will continue to put community police into neighborhoods across America. -- but they cannot do their job without the active involvement of citizens.

We want to give every child a healthy start -- to make sure every child in this country has health care. But our efforts will not matter if communities and citizens don't come together to open those clinics, immunize our young people and keep them away from deadly substances like cigarettes.

And we have pledged to give our children the best education in the world -- to lift standards in all our schools. But excellent schools and teachers will not be enough if all of us, especially parents, do not take an active role in the education of our young people.

We must all serve our young people, but it is even more important to challenge them to serve. And we must recognize that volunteers alone cannot do all the work that needs to be done in our communities. Volunteers in churches and charities all over America are doing more than ever to provide needed services. But many of our problems require full-time effort. And young people, above all others, have the energy and time to devote themselves to service.

Of all the actions I have taken, of all the causes I have championed during my time as president, none makes me prouder than our national service initiative, AmeriCorps. When I first ran for President, I believed that America could only reach its full potential if more of us understood the value of working together. I believed that we had to especially reinspire more of our young people to give something back to their communities. Just as the G.I. Bill provided a powerful incentive to serve, we created AmeriCorps as a way to give today's young people a way improve their lives in return for improving the life of their country.

Since the creation of AmeriCorps, 50,000 young people have earned college tuition by serving their communities -- working with non-profit groups to rehabilitate housing, protect our environment, immunize poor children, and help young people learn to read. And we know that the benefits of service compound; service leads to more service. A typical AmeriCorps member trains or recruits a dozen or more volunteers.

I will never forget the sight of the Red River, swollen and overflowing its banks, submerging entire communities and miles of farmland under its murky water. Last week, I was blessed to have the opportunity to visit the communities of North Dakota who still battle the flood. I was stirred by the men, women and children who piled sandbags high to protect their homes. I was moved by the thousands who came from Minnesota and South Dakota to help. I was proud, deeply proud, of the AmeriCorps members I saw there. And I was prouder still to know that a month from now, when the waters recede and the volunteers return to their jobs and life struggles to return to normal, those AmeriCorps members will still be there, in it for the duration.

Today, as we seek to build a country ablaze with civic spirit, AmeriCorps can be a spark that lights the fire. I challenge every charity, every religious group, every community group here today: If you hire young people to do a year of full-time service, we'll give them an AmeriCorps

scholarship. Put them to work as teachers, as mentors, as team leaders to help lead and train your armies of volunteers -- and we'll give them the chance to earn their way through college and launch a lifetime of service. Match our commitment, and we will be able to give 50,000 more young people this opportunity. This is how every member of the highly renowned Teach for America program currently gets help for college. With this dramatic expansion, by the year I leave office, we will have given more young people the chance to serve in AmeriCorps than have served in the entire 40-year history of the Peace Corps.

We must do more to challenge young people to serve, to make service a part of every life and an expectation of every young person.

We must challenge young people to enter the service professions -- like teaching and police work -- for a few years or for a lifetime. Today, we are giving out grants that will nearly triple the number of young people who can earn four years of college by agreeing to serve at least four years as police officers, through the Police Corps.

I want to issue a special challenge today to the best and brightest students in America: commit yourselves to becoming teachers where you are desperately needed -- in our central cities. Here in Philadelphia and in cities across the country, there are classrooms full of children whose God-given talents will go to waste if no one shows up to teach them or stays long enough to make a difference in their lives.

We must make it easier for college students and recent graduates to take time off for service. A few months ago, Rev. Tony Campolo from here in Philadelphia challenged us to make it easier for young people with student loans to serve. Today, I am proposing legislation that will allow any young person with a college loan to take a year off to serve without increasing the amount they owe. I call on Congress to pass this legislation so more of our young people can fulfill their obligation to give something back.

Our nation's young people are brimming with energy, and we know they want to serve. They simply need to be asked. It is up to us to ask them. [*USA Today survey*] I call on every high school in America to follow the lead of the State of Maryland and make service a graduation requirement -- and give students real opportunities to serve.

Today we have heard stirring words. But the success of this day and this summit will be whether it produces stirring deeds as well. We will be judged not by what we say today but by what we do in the days and months to come. It is up to you:

Go back to your communities and give light to young people who cannot see the promise of America.

Go back to your communities and teach our children right from wrong, and resolve that

not one more generation will grow up on the streets.

Go back to your communities organize new ways for people to give back, so that this becomes a true season of service across the nation.

There are many people on this podium with eminent titles. Senator. Vice-President. General. Governor. President. But I know that I speak for every one of us here, that the most important title we bear is the one we share with everyone here and across this great nation -- and that is the title of citizen. Let us honor that title by pledging today to renew the sense of duty that was born in this place more than 200 years ago. Remember, this is our Republic. Service is the way we keep it.

Thank you and God bless you all.