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SERVE HOUSTON

Houston's Center for Youth Service

MARTIN B. COMINSKY
President and CEO

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Community
Service
groups to get
involved.
with
Nat'l Service

SERVE HOUSTON

Houston's Center for Youth Service

October 1, 1993

Mr. Eli Segal
Assistant to the President
and Director
Office of National Service
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Segal:

I write to congratulate you on your work to bring the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 to reality and on your recent appointment as the executive of the new Corporation for National and Community Service. We are all very excited about the potential for National Service under your leadership.

I wanted you to be aware of SERVE HOUSTON and our efforts in Texas. I am working full-time to develop a resource center for national and community service along with a youth service corps in Houston. We hope to become an AmeriCorps affiliate as that program develops. Currently, we are building a strong collaboration of funders, educators, youth service organizations, nonprofit organizations and government to support our local efforts. The community is very enthusiastic about the potential benefits of this project.

Realizing that our local success depends on the success of our state organization, I have recently been working to build grassroots support for national service in Texas. This week, in conjunction with the Governor's Conference on Volunteer Leadership, we convened an informal working group meeting with 30 participants to get interested citizens together to discuss the new bill and how Texas could become a leading participant in the movement. We are working with the Governor's Office and our state Action agency to build statewide interest and support. A follow-up meeting is planned for next month.

Frank Slobig of Youth Service America has been helpful in our state planning efforts as has Kathleen Selz of the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps. Chris Murphy of the Commission also provided materials at Commissioner Maria Ferrier's request. Any additional information and support that you can provide would be appreciated.

continued

Mr. Segal, 10/1/93

Page 2

As you plan your regional meetings and orientation sessions, I hope you will look to Texas as a key staging site. We have a strong community service network and we will do everything possible to mobilize support for these programs. If Houston might be a possible site, we would work closely with your staff to make any local arrangements. Our city is eager to help.

I would appreciate if you would add us to your mailing list so that we may be apprised of the developments and regulations for the program as soon as they are announced.

Good luck in your important tasks. I look forward to meeting you personally in the coming weeks and months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Martin B. Cominsky".

Martin B. Cominsky
President and CEO