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National Service Initiative

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Cooperative
Service

P.O. Box 96576
Washington, DC
20090-6576

January 21, 1994

To: Joel Berg, Director of Public Liaison and National Service

From: Randall E. Torgerson, Administrator, ACS

Subject: National Service Initiatives

Agricultural Cooperative Service FY 94 or FY 95 program initiatives do not lend themselves to AmeriCorps participation. Future programs, assuming reorganization initiatives are achieved, may make participation possible.



The Agricultural Cooperative Service
is an agency of the
United States Department of Agriculture



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

P.O. Box 96456
Washington, DC
20090-6456

FEB 03 1994

MEMORANDUM TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC LIAISON AND NATIONAL SERVICE
JOEL BERG

THROUGH: Patricia Jensen *Patricia Jensen* February 3, 1994
for Acting Assistant Secretary

FROM: Lon Hatamiya *Lon Hatamiya*
Administrator

SUBJECT: Sponsorship of National Service Initiatives

The Agricultural Marketing Service has several programs, particularly in its Transportation and Marketing Division, that fit with the AmeriCorps proposal. Listed below are areas we have identified, a brief description of a participant's role, and a preliminary look at the budgetary demands of such a program.

Wholesale Market Development

AMS' Wholesale Market Development Program conduct research and provides technical assistance to improve wholesale food distribution facilities and farmers' markets.

An AmeriCorps participant could gather information necessary for the design and development of wholesale farmers' markets in rural and urban areas.

Distribution Services Program

The Distribution Services Program studies problems in agricultural marketing systems and develops or applies new technologies to reduce marketing cost, improve efficiencies, and retain product quality.

An Americorps participant could (1) assist in research that uses volunteers to handle samples for tests to extend shelf life, (2) construct prototype equipment to cool product, (3) sanitize food transport vehicles, and (4) collect test results.



The Agricultural Marketing Service
is an agency of the
United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Transportation

AMS conducts economic studies and policy analyses on marketing and transportation issues.

An AmeriCorps participant could assist in gathering data from state departments of transportation on rural rail service. Rural communities could use this information to maintain rail service. A participant could also gather information on rural transportation issues relevant to the implementation of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, which delegates most decisionmaking authority to the state level.

Organic Program

Pursuant to the 1990 Farm Bill (Title XXI), AMS is developing a national system of standards and definitions for organically produced food products.

An AmeriCorps participant could (1) conduct seminars in primary and secondary schools, (2) coordinate (with Extension Service) the establishment of organic gardening projects in cities to enhance the appreciation for fresh produce, and (3) search for literature on successful production methods that meet the standards for organically produced food.

Field Laboratories

AMS' Science Division conducts laboratory tests on agricultural commodities to assist the grading of such commodities.

This program could accommodate up to 4 AmeriCorp participants to assist the testing operations and sample preparations.

This preliminary look at possible program does not yet have firm budget numbers. However, the cost should generally only be salary and the required overhead/fringe obligations for each position. Additionally, a participant would work with a mentor, who would devote a portion of his or her time to assisting the participant.



JAN 25 1994

SUBJECT: Sponsorship of National Service Initiatives

TO: Joel Berg
Director of Public Liaison
and National Service

We are very pleased and excited, as I'm sure you are, about the Administration's national service program, AmeriCorps.

The Office of Personnel (OP) is a Departmental Administration agency and is not set-up like most Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies that have programs, therefore, we will not be identifying current Fiscal Year 94 initiatives that lend themselves to AmeriCorps participation. However, regardless of the program area, all initiatives will involve USDA employees which fall appropriately in the area of personnel.

We continue to offer our participation and advisory services in the personnel area to assist you and the agencies in effectively delivering the national service program, AmeriCorps. OP's representative in this effort is Betty Waters. She can be reached on (202) 720-6905.

205 5679

Frederick R. Cooper
Director
Recruitment and Employment Division



JAN 24 1994

SUBJECT: Response to Sponsorship of the National Service Initiative (AmeriCorps)

TO: Joel Berg
Deputy Director for Public Liaison
Office of Communications

This is in response to a recent memorandum from Ron Blackley. The Office of Information Resources Management is a central policy office. We do not carry out programs in the areas outlined in Mr. Blackley's memorandum. Therefore, we will be unable to participate in the National Service Program.


JOHN L. OKAY
Director

cc: Wardell C. Townsend, Jr.



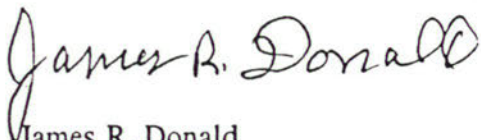
January 24, 1994

SUBJECT: Sponsorship of National Service Initiatives

TO: Joel Berg
Director of Public Liaison
and National Service

This is in response to the Chief of Staff's January 10 memorandum.

WAOB has no FY-94 initiatives which lend themselves to AmeriCorps participation. Further, in anticipation of a continued extremely tight budget situation, WAOB can obligate no FY-95 funds for this purpose.



James R. Donald
Chairperson

02 FEB 1994

SUBJECT: National Services Initiatives

TO: Ron Blackley
Chief of Staff

We are pleased to have the opportunity to support the President's priority for Ameri Corps. We are particularly excited by the prospects of focusing our efforts on the Empowerment and Anti-Hunger Team announced by the Secretary to help achieve our goals of improving nutrition and eliminating hunger in America.

As we considered ways to use the significant resources embodied in the budget and programs of the Food and Nutrition Service to support this initiative, one fact loomed large: virtually all of the Agency's resources are passed through to State and local service providers. Each of the 14 domestic food assistance programs is administered in collaboration with State agencies and all of the services and benefits we provide are mediated through State and local governments and community organizations.

Given the way these programs are structured and the way the Agency does business, we believe the best way to pursue the President's and the Secretary's agenda is to serve as a catalyst for the utilization of national service corps workers in our programs and in other community-based organizations to improve nutrition and fight hunger. An example of this model is the offer by the Los Angeles Service Corps to assist in the Food Stamp application process for quake victims.

We propose to use our share of any resources which might be made available from Ameri Corps to inform and stimulate State organizations to take advantage of the opportunities offered by Ameri Corps.

In general, we would provide information and technical assistance to groups seeking Ameri Corps funds for anti-hunger efforts. Specific activities could include any or all of the following:

- o Fund at least two grants to national organizations to stimulate the utilization of the National Service Corps by local community organizations. One would target the nutrition education community and the other would target local anti-hunger organizations. These grants might be used to develop appropriate materials for use in various communities; to sponsor meetings, workshops, and conferences; and to

disseminate information. The parties could also be called upon to collect and distribute information on successful community initiatives and to track the number of service corps placements created within their network.

- o FNS Headquarters and Regional Office staff will communicate directly to the States which administer our programs about Ameri Corps. We will work with them to identify opportunities where they can use national service corps projects to support their program missions. In the case of food stamps, we will identify when administrative funds which the State expends for the use of national service corps for program purposes could be eligible for Federal match.
- o Build links to ongoing activities with community enterprises and empowerment zones. We can charge staff in both Headquarters and Regions to work with interested States and communities to draw on the combined resources of the national service corps and the enterprise zones to address program outreach and nutrition education.
- o Build on planned competitive grant programs within FNS such as the second round of grants to community organizations to improve participation in the Food Stamp Program (about \$1 million) and an initial round of community challenge grants to better integrate nutrition into food assistance programs (about \$1 million). We can encourage or require that applicants in such competitions describe their plans for tapping into the Ameri Corps.

We have no doubt that other opportunities will emerge as the plans for Ameri Corps take shape. We are eager to take on this challenge.



Ellen Haas
Assistant Secretary for
Food and Consumer Services

FNS:OAE:FPS.SCARLSON.ls:305-2134:January 28, 1994
FILE:J:NSI.SC
retyped 1/31/94



FEB 08 1994

SUBJECT: Rural Development Administration's (RDA) Potential Role in the National Service Initiative

TO: Joel Berg
Director of Public Liaison
Office of Public Affairs

THROUGH: Bob J. Nash
Under Secretary
Small Community and Rural Development

*10% be spent
on food
safety
\$500,000*

There are several Fiscal Year 1994 Rural Development Administration (RDA) Initiatives which could lend themselves to the National Service Corps effort:

- Americorps Volunteers would serve communities well by acting as community and economic development promoters, initiating the establishment of local development entities, and helping municipalities apply for RDA Financial Programs. Through the RDA funds, basic community services such as water systems, libraries, fire stations, etc. could be made accessible. This could be especially helpful in creating applicant entities to apply for RDA funds in areas where lack of an institutional base is a problem.
- The Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities effort is now starting up, and trained National Service Corps members could be very helpful in assisting communities with the development of Strategic Plans, filing grant applications, and implementing projects.
- Similarly, in the Pacific Northwest, the President's Economic Adjustment Initiative would be well served by volunteers working with communities on strategic planning efforts and project implementation.
- RDA has an initiative with selected 1890 Universities into which Americorps participants could be tied. Outreach to underserved populations is a priority for RDA under the Clinton Administration, and Volunteers would find themselves well utilized in this effort.



February 8, 1994

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sharon Longino
Associate Administrator, FmHA

FROM: Joel Berg JB

SUBJECT: Funding for National Service Initiatives

The preliminary concept for funding of national service initiatives involves three possible strategies:

1. A portion of agency funds in specific program areas could be earmarked to be expended using participants in approved national service programs. For example, a portion of the existing grants for housing repair or construction could be designated to be given to an approved national service program managed by USDA or in partnership with other organizations.
2. A portion of agency funds could be combined with funds from other agencies to form a pool of money used to support the Department's national service programs.
3. Funding is requested as a separate line item in the Department's appropriations request.

It is too late to request a line item appropriations for FY 95, so funds for FY 94 and FY 95 will have to come from one of the first two strategies or a combination of both.

In conjunction with the Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA) and the Office of General Counsel (OGC), my staff and I have been doing preliminary investigations into the legality of earmarking existing funds and/or reprogramming funds. As a first step, the Department's FY 94 budget was analyzed to determine program areas where funds might be earmarked or pooled. Obviously, before any final determination is made as to the disposition of funds, each agency must review their programs and assess the impact of earmarking or pooling funds.

In the case of FmHA, the attached table lists the programs that at first glance seem to be a potential source of funds. As a starting point in our effort to frame FmHA's participation in the national service effort, it would be helpful for you and your staff to review the attached list and evaluate if there are any obstacles to either earmarking a portion of the funds or pooling a portion of the funds into a national service "pot". I would also like you to consider other areas in your budget where funds might be available. Mr. Ron De Munbrun of my staff has been working most closely with OBPA and OGC and he is ready to meet with you and your staff to discuss these strategies. He may be reached at 720-3260, (202) 542-3339 (beeper).

POSSIBLE FUNDS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM
ALREADY IN USDA BUDGET

TITLE	DESCRIPTION FROM FY 94 EXPLANATORY NOTES	POTENTIAL FUNDS (IN MILLIONS)
FMHA Very Low-Income Repair Grants	Provides funds for grants to very low-income elderly owner-occupants to make necessary repairs to improve and modernize their dwellings in order to remove safety and health hazards.	25.000
FMHA Rural Housing for Domestic Farm Labor	Provides funds for USDA to share with state or other political subdivisions, public or private nonprofit organizations, or nonprofit organizations of farmworkers the cost of providing low-rent housing, basic household furnishings and related facilities to be used by domestic farm laborers.	8.000
FMHA Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants	Provides funds for grants made to local organizations to promote the development of mutual or self-help housing programs under which groups of usually six to ten families build their own homes by mutually exchanging labor. Funds may be used to pay for construction supervisors who will work with the families.	12.750
FMHA Rural Housing Preservation Grants	Provides funds for grants to eligible private nonprofit groups, Indian tribes, and government agencies for the rehabilitation of single family housing owned by low-income and very low-income families and the rehabilitation of rental and cooperative housing for low and very low-income families.	23.000
FMHA Supervisory and Technical Assistance Grants	Provides funds for grants to public and private nonprofit organizations for packaging loan applications for housing assistance under the various housing programs of FMHA.	1.000

¹The Dollar amounts have been adjusted to reflect approximate budget request amounts for FY 95 but the explanatory notes have not been changed because they were unavailable.

Regarding FY 1995 budget figures in RDA, while projects have been identified for the coming fiscal year, no specific figures are currently available.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wilbur T. Peer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and "P".

WILBUR T. PEER
Acting Administrator



FEB 08 1994

SUBJECT: Rural Development Administration's (RDA) Potential Role in the National Service Initiative

TO: Joel Berg
Director of Public Liaison
Office of Public Affairs

THROUGH: Bob J. Nash
Under Secretary
Small Community and Rural Development

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wilbur T. Peer", written in a cursive style.

WILBUR T. PEER
Acting Administrator

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

From: UNDER SECRETARY FOR
SMALL COMMUNITY AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Date:

1/31

To:

Del Bay - Pub Affair

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ☐ For your signature | ☐ Rewrite—text | ☐ Please return |
| ☐ Prepare reply for my signature | ☐ Rewrite—not enough information | ☐ As you requested |
| ☐ For Secretary's signature | ☐ For your action | ☒ For your information |
| ☐ Reply directly-copy to me | ☐ For your approval | ☐ Please file |
| ☐ Copy to me with copy of incoming | ☐ For your comments | ☐ Set up meeting on this |
| | | ☐ Call me on this |

Remarks:

THANKS, THESE ARE
GOOD FOLK.

Bob

Action Date: _____



300 South Spring Street, Suite 800 / Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-2424
Area Code (501) 374-1103 / FAX # 501-374-1413

DR. CLINTON R. HAMPTON
Board Chairperson

EARL L. MOORE, JR.
Executive Director

January 28, 1994

Joel Berg
Director
Public Liaison
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Berg:

Your letter of January 11 concerning the USDA response to the National Service Trust Act has generated considerable interest among two community service organizations in Arkansas. As a staff member for both groups, I wanted to establish communication with your office to explore strategies for implementation of USDA community service programs in collaboration with well established and highly recognized nonprofit organizations.

These are the Arkansas Human Development Corporation (AHDC) and Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC). Both organizations serve low income people and help individuals and communities develop greater capacity for social and economic progress. AHDC programs train people to establish their own businesses. AHDC programs also work with seasonal farm workers, helping them to gain new employment skills. ALFDC has achieved national recognition for its work with limited resource and minority farmers, addressing issues of land retention, sustainable agriculture, and rural community development.

Additionally, AHDC and ALFDC both have rural housing and youth entrepreneur development programs serving people in the Arkansas Delta. Further, the organizations are members of the Arkansas Delta Consortium, a unique collaboration of nonprofit public service organizations working in east Arkansas. Both have extensive history with VISTA volunteers and both have current assignment of Delta Service Corps members.

In my shared role as Director of Planning and Development for the two organizations, I wanted to briefly introduce these groups and present their strong interest in working with the USDA in the proposal areas identified in your letter. Arkansas is in the

process of developing a state plan for Americorps implementation. If there are additional opportunities to implement the new national service program through direct partnership with USDA, we are eager to learn of them.

I will plan on calling your office next week to arrange a time when we can discuss this opportunity in more detail. I look forward to our conversation.

Sincerely,



Marvin Schwartz
Director of Planning and Development

MS/lsr

cc: Clevon Young, AHDC Executive Director
Calvin R. King, Sr., ALFDC Executive Director

Proposed

USDA AmeriCorps

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Proposal

FmHA Objective: To elevate and advance the capacity development of Delta Region residents through the National and Community Service AmeriCorp by incorporating the existing resources of FmHA through a collaborative effort with the National Service Corp.

FmHA Partnership with Delta Residents: FmHA participants will be targeted in areas where FmHA subsidized (rental) housing facilities are located.

FmHA Collaboration with Welfare Reform: The selected participants would be welfare recipients and at-risk male youth.

Proposed Funding Structure

FmHA Demonstration Project = 40 Slots @ 7 States = 280

1. 25 Current Welfare Recipients (Ages 17-25)

2. 15 At-Risk Male Youth (Ages 13-15)

**** 3. 7 Case Managers @ \$30,000 = \$210,000.00**

(one case manager per 40 participants)

**** 4. 1 Case Manager Coordinator @ \$35,000**

total \$ 245,000.00

280 @ 8,256 = \$ 2,311,680.00

@ 4 years = \$ 9,246,720.00

Cost Savings = \$11,381,720.00

Child Care expenses and health care are not included in the yearly stipend per participant.

Food and Nutrition Collaboration--The Service Corp recipient's food stamp allocation would be reduced based on their stipend.

**** Salary and Fringe Benefits**

-2-

**FmHA AmeriCorp Proposal
National Service**

Health Care Collaboration--The participants would receive a waiver that will allow them to keep their health insurance (Medicaid) from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

FmHA proposal focuses on breaking the welfare cycle in rural areas. the proposal will provide welfare recipients and at-risk male youth with an alternative that would enable them to become self-sufficient.

FmHA's proposal would identify and certify 40 participants; and develop case files on each participant with an assessment of the participant's needs. Additional assistance for each participant will be provided during the application process for entrance to a junior college or four year college within a given area. Each participant would be required to agree to behavior modification counseling. They will be placed in a job within their local or state government. The job placement will correlate with their educational field of study.

Once the participants are in the AmeriCorp training, a follow-up criteria will be utilized to assist them in accessing other resources they may need, such as child care, transportation, etc.

The case manager will also work with the participants in establishing a support group. A year-end progress report on each participant will be provided to the AmeriCorp USDA Coordinator.

FmHA's proposal will not only provide a mechanism for assisting welfare recipients, but it will have a value-added component for local government bodies in the recipients area.

AGRICULTURE
The Honorable Mike Espy
Congressionally Authorized Programs of Volunteerism/Community Service

Chief of Staff: Ron Blackley, phone: 202-720-3631, fax: 202-720-5437

Agency Contact: Joel Berg, Office of Public Affairs, phone: 202-720-4623, fax: 202-720-5043

Name of Program and Contact Person	Program Description	Time Line	FY 1993 Service Funding Level	Number of Partic- ipants	Stipend	Post Service Benefit	Summer 1993 Program	Agency Volunteer Recognition	External Employee Volunteers	Cooperative Program wit other Feder Agencies
Touch America Project AGENCY: Forest Service	During FY 1992 about 109,000 volunteers assisted on the management of the National Forest System. The Touch America Project (TAP) is a special component of the overall volunteer effort. It provides opportunities for youths, ages 14-17, to gain work experience and environmental awareness while working on the public lands. In FY 1992, private sector organizations sponsored over 4,600 youths in TAP. Projects included maintaining and building trails and constructing recreation areas. The FS and cooperating private sector entities provide tools, training, and supervision. The government assumes tort and workmen's compensation liability,									
Youth Conservation Corps AGENCY: Forest Service	The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) provides 8 weeks of summer employment for 15 through 18-year-olds from all strata of society. Youths earn minimum wage and learn while performing conservation work on the National Forest System. The enrollees are paid from Forest Service funds appropriated for resource activities. Each forest decides how much of its work to accomplish through a YCC program as opposed to hiring adult seasonal workers or private sector contracting. In FY 1992, 1,185 youth participated in the program.		\$2.5 million							

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FNS - FS
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SCS

Earth Team Volunteer Program	The Earth Team was established in the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in 1981. Volunteers work in SCS field offices performing an assortment of duties in administration, technical support, information, and education. They also work on farms and ranches helping landowners deal with a variety of conservation problems. The Earth Team has memoranda of understanding with national organizations that help encourage conservation projects at the local level.	\$100,000
AGENCY: Soil Conservation Service		
Summer Employee's Program	OICD's Summer Employee's Program is sponsored in concert with the Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS) and the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). The program provides professional on-the-job (OJT) experience for both college and high school students. The program is tailored like an "internship" in that the OJT experience can be used for academic credit by the students. Once a week a group seminar is conducted by the three agencies to review the work experience and obtain feedback from the participants. Also, the students are exposed to guest speakers that cover an array of subjects from agriculture to transportation. Additionally, their OJT experience is enhanced by field trips that included such activities as: (a) the Congress and its function, (b) Embassy visits with the emphasis on their role and interaction with Government, and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and their role and interaction with USDA/Government.	Minimal amount-- absorbed by agencies
AGENCY: Office of International Cooperation and Development		
Food Stamp Program	Outreach activities (i.e., explaining program rules, helping people apply and fill out forms, etc.). More outreach grants are coming up. Trying for 8-10 grants in FY 1993. (Private-Public Partnership).	Volunteers are unpaid.
AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service- TEFAP - The Emergency Food Assistance Program (donated commodities)	Unload trucks, hand out food at donation sites, help with applications, etc.	Unpaid volunteers. Reimbursements allowed for specific costs incurred, e.g. trans. costs.
AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service		

No program in 1993.

Nutrition Education and Training Program AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service Youth at Risk Program AGENCY: Extension Service	Provide nutrition education information in school meal programs and child care centers, help with distribution of materials, and in teaching principles of nutrition education. Example: High school and college students in costume (Nutrisaurus Rex) to teach nutrition education. The Youth at Risk Program provides funding for community-based programs to address the needs of at risk youth. Programs provide after school educational programs, programs to improve reading and science literacy and programs to address teen pregnancy, drug abuse, depression and other problems. Opportunities are available for youth to receive training and to assist with program delivery. In addition to Federal funding, local and private matching funds are provided. NAL provides opportunities for adult and youth volunteers. Depending on skills of the individual, volunteers provide clerical, technical, or professional assistance to NAL in operating its library and database programs.	Unpaid; small program - no funds for reimbursements \$10 million	1890 institutions serve as partners for several projects. 100,000 participating youth. 20
National Agricultural Library Volunteer Program AGENCY: National Agricultural Library 4-H		N/A	
Extension		Co-op with land grant colleges	3 million school age youths, 10-20 years old 3 million volunteers

National Forest Foundation Youth Camps AGENCY: Forest Service	The National Forest Foundation is a nonprofit corporation established by statute. Its purpose is to raise funds from private sources for activities which support the programs administered by the FS. The Foundation has just begun its activities. One of its first projects will be to finance the operation of three summer camps for youth at risk on the George Washington, Mt. Hood, and Gifford Pinchot National Forests. There will be a special emphasis on supplementing the work experience with social and remedial education skills with a goal of feeding participants into the job corps or private sector employment.	8 and 10 week programs	FS will incur some minimal costs. Most of the program will be financed by FS.	200 expected	Minimum wage
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MEMORANDUM

To: Susan Stroud
From: Stephan Tibbs
Re: Departmental National Service Initiatives
Date: December 8, 1993

The following is a digest of the departmental responses to the October 7, 1993 memo from Eli Segal and Christine Varney, requesting reports on National Service involvement.

Each profile is generally organized around proposed involvement and current involvement in national service. Departmental time lines have been reproduced if provided. Proposed program initiatives have also been included as have ideas and concerns of the departments when provided.

Please note that most reports were dated during mid-October and will not necessarily reflect the current state of affairs. However, I hope this does work as a good starting point to assess each department's programming focus and direction.

Department of Agriculture

Current Involvement

- *Coordinated USDA relief efforts in Midwest with state conservation corps.
- *Created 4 working groups of USDA employees to develop 3 national service corps.
- *Secretary Espy testified on behalf of the National Service Bill before Senate Labor and Human Resource Committee.
- *Secretary Espy discussed national service with Presidents of historically Black Colleges.

Proposed Involvement

- * Rural Development Corps.
- * Environmental Corps.
- * Anti-Hunger/Empowerment Corps.

- *Help constituency groups to participate in the program.
Provide information and technical assistance to environmental, consumer, rural development, agribusiness, and nutrition groups.
- *Expand employee volunteer program.
USDA volunteer tutors in DC schools.
Encourage USDA employees to increase their community service efforts.

Time Line

- January 15, 1994: Sign memos of understanding with other Federal Agencies.
- January 24, 1994: Submit preliminary proposal to CNCS.
- February 1, 1994: Develop with USDA Budget Office. potential line item budget requests for FY95.

Department of Transportation

DOT seeks to encourage states to use Highway and Transit Grant funds for clean up and beautification of transport and highway facilities. DOT would cover the Federal share from its own funds to pay living expenses and health care. While the CNCS would pay the education benefit.

Current Involvement

- *Partnership in Education with DC public schools.
 - Tutoring program
 - The Friendship Program (mentoring for at-risk youth)
 - DOT lecture series (Presentations on DOT mission & careers)
 - "Futures" (relating math & science skills to careers)
 - Cultural enrichment activities
- *Hine Junior High School Community Projects (DC public schools).
 - PRIDE (Parent's Resource Institute for Drug Education) Anti drug awareness and training seminars.
 - Rent a Teen program of Capitol Hill
After school services to individuals and businesses.

Proposed Involvement

- *Community traffic safety and education programs.
- *Urban Youth Corps
 - Clean up & beautification of transportation related facilities.
 - Transportation services to medical facilities.
- *Operation Lifesaver
 - A program currently in existence and run by the Fed. Rail Road Administration to promote rail safety measures.
 - "national service workers could expand visibility and outreach.
- *Hazardous Materials Identification
 - Ongoing program to train " emergency responders", (ie. fire depts. etc) in hazardous materials training.

Department of Justice

DOJ proposes to disseminate information and outreach on national service through existing department resources. In order to pool resources and experience Justice has formed working groups with Action and the Corporation.

Current Involvement

Existing Programs which can incorporate national service volunteers

- *The Bureau of Prisons
 - Volunteers to assist offenders with transition back to the community.
- *Weed and Seed
 - Community policing
 - Research
 - Athletics
 - Nutrition
- *Drug Enforcement Administration
 - Place program participants to "render service directly to client and the community.
- *Community Relations Service
 - Utilize volunteers for conflict resolution and community relations.

Proposed Involvement

*National Performance Review Laboratory

"Pilot effort to assist neighborhoods in enhancing their comprehensive strategies, through single applications for multiple Federal resources." Sites to provide multiple services in a one stop shop: employment, education, health, welfare, criminal justice, and economic development."

*Pre-Professional Corps

DEA would involve program participants with an interest in law enforcement for recent grads or those with 2 years of college.

*Outreach efforts to potential grantees

- Publications
- Electronic bulletin boards
- Conferences
- Specialized academies
- Field offices

Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD plans to slot national service volunteers within the numerous community oriented programs which currently exist under HUD. These programs target public housing residents, homeless persons, Native Americans and the youth.

National Service volunteers in many of the programs will assist in implementing the programs and often act as liaisons between the Agency and the relevant community groups. Volunteers are to be chosen at the local level by the grantees. Volunteers would be required to reside within in the service areas. Therefore, "a youth applying to become a national service volunteer in an empowerment zone must live within the boundaries of the zone."

HUD will require grantees who receive a national service volunteer to pay a portion of the volunteer's stipend and this "match will be used to fund additional volunteers above the amount, if any provided through the Corporation grant. Furthermore, HUD will "award bonus" points to applicants in its own competitive grant programs to applicants who use a national service volunteer.

HUD has targeted several existing programs and targeted groups to be served with national service volunteers. These include:

- Empowerment Zones and Enterprize Communities
- Youthbuild (Opportunities for Youth)

- Native American Housing Program
- McKinney Homeless Program
- Urban Revitalization Demonstration Program
- Community Policing
- Crime Prevention
- Youth Initiatives
- Resident Organizational Development
- Community Outreach Partnership
- Joint CD Program
- Public Housing Resident Initiative Project
- Section 3 Program
- Resident Management Technical Assistance
- Youth Fair Chance and Interagency Collaborative Initiatives
- Drug Elimination Programs
- Community Development Block Grant Program

Department of Health and Human Services

DHHS has requested each of its agencies to identify current and proposed service activities, outreach strategy to involve constituent groups in national service and plans to increase volunteerism among DHHS employees.

DHHS has had discussions with the Dept. of Education on early childhood and youth at risk issues and DOT on transportation barriers to health care.

Proposed Involvement

*Home Visitation Program

*Youth Service Mentor Program

*National Service Regional Coordinator Program

Bureau of Primary Health Care and ACTION have signed an interagency agreement to set up a framework to coordinate national, state and local health related volunteers.

*Junior Health Service Corps

*Effective Use of Volunteers in Public Health -- Center for Disease Control (CDC)

CDC and several health care organizations, including the Public Health Foundation and local and county health associations, plan to provide funds to government and private health organizations to develop a blueprint for the use of national service volunteers in public health.

*KidServe

Collaboration of national organizations, including Nat'l Head Start Assoc. to develop a training strategy and materials for programs targeting early childhood development.

*Health Professions National Service Investment Fund
Corporation dollars, leveraged by a "hard cash match of the educational benefit" from the participating institutions. The fund will be used to encourage students in the health professions to participate in national service.

Time Line

November 1: Compile responses to HHS national service inventory request. Provide technical assistance for final proposals. Coordinate efforts with DOT and DOE.

November 15: Prepare materials for outreach to constituents. Schedule meetings with key constituents for national service briefings. Establish review process.

December 15: Begin internal review of final program proposals. Encourage constituents to develop and submit proposals to state commissions. Develop model programs and distribute technical assistance materials to constituents

Department of Defense

The most prominent DOD program is the Civilian Community Corps. An additional \$20 million is to be provided to establish a nonresidential national service program to be coordinated with the National Guard Civilian Youth Opportunities Program, targeted towards areas heavily affected by defence conversion, these communities will be identified by DOD.

To assist in the search for national service candidates DOD and the Department of the Army has discussed providing lists of military service applicants, who for medical reasons were not qualified for the military. These individuals may be interested and qualified for national service and these lists would be made available to all government agencies participating in the national service effort.

Civil-Military Cooperative Programs

- *Civilian Community Corps
- *Summer of Service
- *National Guard Programs

- *Civilian Youth Opportunities Pilot Program

A program to determine whether the National guard can provide skills and enhance employment opportunities for school drop outs through military-style training. \$44M has been appropriated.

***Medically Underserved Communities Program**

"The primary objective of this program is to provide training and professional development to Guard personnel through provision of health services" in under served communities. \$1.5M has been appropriated and a demonstration program implemented in Arkansas.

***Math and Science Outreach**

A program to encourage students (6-18 years old) in math and science.

***LA School District Outreach**

Similar to above but will include faculty members along with students and engineering as well as math & science.

***JROTC Career Academies**

To provide "at risk inner city youth" with vocational and academic skills emphasizing high school graduation, discipline and citizenship.

***High School Career Academies**

Targeted at communities affected by defense conversion. Emphasizes many of the same elements as the JROTC Academies but does not require JROTC enrollment.

***National Service Registry**

Listing former service members interested in community service.

***Registry of Community Service Organizations**

Note: Both registries will be available to all government agencies participating in national service.

***Military Retirement Credit**

Retired active duty personnel to receive credit toward 20 years of military service through registered community service.

Department of Veterans Affairs

The VA currently coordinates approximately 94,000 volunteers in its health care facilities through the VA Voluntary Service Program. The VA also encourages employee volunteerism and through awards recognizes their community service efforts. The VA plans to publicize opportunities for national service in its newsletters, and employee magazine.

The VA will submit an application to CNCS by February for funding, to meet unmet needs of veterans and communities without "displacing existing VA programs and employees".

The VA's guiding principles in relation to national service:

- * Put Veterans first
- * Empower VA field offices to meet unmet local community needs.
- * Create results not red tape.

Department of Education

The Department has formed an Education Working Group comprised of approximately 45 employees from all principal offices and chaired by Deputy Secretary Kunin and Terry Peterson.

Proposed Involvement

- * An amendment to the Higher Education Act " for an early intervention initiative under Chapter 2 . . . to encourage states to develop programs for at-risk secondary students, in return for guaranteed financial assistance for post-secondary education."
- * Use of PELL Grant and SEOG funds for disaster relief.
- * Request institutions receiving Federal Work Study funds to allocate 10% of these funds to allow students to participate in community service.
- * Request more funding for the Higher Education Innovative Projects for community service.
- * Expand the DOE employee volunteerism initiative by allowing an additional 4 hours leave per month.
- * Efforts to clarify the calculation of the post service benefit and stipend in determining student need. The Department wants to be sure that no financial disincentives exist to prevent financial aid students to participate in national service.

Additional Ideas

*Matching National Service priorities with DOE's selection criteria for its own grant review process.

Leveraging National Service and DOE program funding by allowing organizations to apply to both the Corporation/State Commissions and DOE.

*Title I

Advocating "a more concentrated approach to distributing Title I funds to the poorest schools." Encouraging school districts to use Title I funds for service and service learning programs.

*Safe and Drug Free Schools

Integrating the Safe and Drug Free Schools Initiative with national service, by placing national service volunteers in targeted safe school projects.

Department of the Treasury

Treasury currently sponsors 13 service related programs. The U.S. Savings Bonds Division Marketing effort with "approximately 500,000 volunteers" promotes Savings Bonds. Other financial programs include: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly.

Other community service programs include:

*Leadership Academy of Springarn High School

A partnership between business, education and government "to develop future leaders for law enforcement and related careers"

Contact: Joseph Coffee 202-927-8600

*Community Outreach Programs (2,700 participants)

Provides food and clothing for shelters and children.

Contact: Danna Hawkins 202-927-4220

John Benton 202-927-4480

Department of the Interior

The Department will establish an internal office on National and Community Service to be funded in the FY94 budget.

The Department is currently involved with Youth Conservation Corps in trail maintenance, reforestation, ecological restoration fire prevention and wildlife protection. The Department plans to expand these activities in the future.

Department of Energy

Terry Cornwell, Director of the Office of Science Education and Technical Information has been designated as the lead coordinator for the department's national service issues. Howlie Davis has been designated as the project manager. The Department intends to complete a strategic plan to add national service components to existing programs.

*DOE/NAACP Scholarship Program

Requires a 10 hour national service commitment.

*Weatherization Assistance Program

National Service participants would assist in weatherization efforts.

*State Energy Programs

Participants would work with the Federal Institutional Conservation Program and the State Energy Conservation Program upgrading building codes and efficiency standards.

*Energy Education

High School Seniors and College students will be integrated into K-12 classrooms to promote energy awareness.

*Federal Energy Management Program

Assisting in the efficiency upgrading of Federal buildings.

*High Energy Efficiency Communities

Participants with landscape or architecture backgrounds will plant trees to reduce the "urban heat island effect".

*Upgrade of Federally Assisted Housing

Participants with building skills (carpentry engineering etc.) to upgrade public housing facilities.

*Efficiency and Renewables Information Offices

Participants will help to staff offices providing information on energy efficiency.

*Efficiency and Renewables Assistance for Native Americans

Training Native Americans in installing photovoltaics in remote locations.

*Clean Cities

Data collection on alternative fuel vehicles.

*Alternative Fuels Challenge

An additional reward for college students currently competing in the design of alternative fuel vehicles.

Time Line

October 1993: Strategic Plan finalized, approved and announced.

November 1993: Meeting with DOE program officers and assign coordinators.

December 1993: Review CNCS program regulations.

December

-January 1994: Refinement and execution of strategic plan.

February

- March 1994: Submit proposals to CNCS.