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Proposals: Empowerment Corps

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302

MAY 17 1993

SUBJECT: National Empowerment Corps

TO: Joel Berg
Deputy Director
Office of Public Affairs

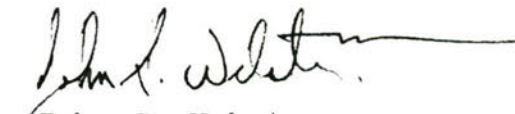
Attached are two pre-proposals regarding the National Empowerment Corps.

The first, which concerns the Food Stamp Program, identifies the assignment or job to be performed, a general description of the job, and potential barriers which may arise. The food stamp section closes with a number of issues to be resolved.

The second portion of the pre-proposal addresses those food assistance programs under the umbrella of Special Nutrition Programs which are listed under Program Descriptions. Job assignments are divided into Outreach/Access Jobs and jobs bolstering the Infrastructure. The special nutrition section closes with issues to be resolved.

This initial assessment and pre-proposal is the work of the headquarters staff and does not include the FNS regional staff nor that of the state and local governments.

We hope this pre-proposal meets your needs and will be beneficial to the USDA National Service Working Group.


John S. Webster
Director
Public Information Staff

FNS Representative
USDA National Service Working Group

attachment

NATIONAL EMPOWERMENT CORPS
APPLICATIONS APPROPRIATE FOR THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

NAME OF PROGRAM: **Food Stamp Program**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Food Stamp Program is designed to aid low-income families by increasing their food purchasing power in order to obtain more nutritious diets. Households - those people who regularly prepare and eat food together - may receive food coupons for exchange at authorized grocery stores. The amount of coupons received depends primarily upon household income, assets, composition and size. Benefits are 100% federally-financed, but the Program is administered by state employees in county or local welfare offices. These "front-line" employees determine who is eligible for benefits and how much in benefits an applicant household may receive. They attempt to "police" the program so that incorrect benefits are not issued and so that fraud does not occur. They administer the Program's work provisions and may refer applicants to other sources of government or local community assistance. They operate under regulations issued by the federal Food and Nutrition Service and with guidance provided by the State welfare agency.

POTENTIAL PARAPROFESSIONAL TASKS/JOBS/RESPONSIBILITIES: The following are possible assignments for members of the National Empowerment Corps. Many more suggestions might be obtained from State and local officials who are intimately familiar with the particular needs of localities and States. Further refinement and augmentation of these suggestions would be worthwhile.

ASSIGNMENT	DESCRIPTION	POTENTIAL BARRIERS
Greeter/facilitator	Meets applicants as they enter the welfare office; determines their needs and guides them through the appropriate processes, including reference to other Federal, State, or local community resources.	Possible union opposition in some locations.
Outreach worker	Operates from county/local welfare office or community-based organization. Seeks out potential food stamp recipients by door-to-door canvas or through being stationed in a local community building,	Potential danger and liability in high-crime areas. Acceptance may dependent in part upon ethnicity, language skills, or cultural similarity.

office, church, or other facility frequented by the target group. Explains Program benefits and aids potential recipients in the application process.

Tutor

Assists food stamp recipients in developing skills such as reading and math which will enable the recipient to get a G.E.D. or successfully compete for a job. May operate from a community-based organization or from the welfare office.

Must be accepted by recipient and may need ability to motivate the learner.

Trainer

Operates specific training programs for recipients designed to increase their employment prospects. May function as a staff person for the food stamp employment and training program or may be a part of a local organization providing services to low-income persons. May train recipients in such basics as work attitudes, job search, and ways to keep a job and earn promotion. May provide training in such areas as nutrition education, food purchasing on a low budget, money management, and use of community resources.

Substantive knowledge and training/motivation skills are imperative for success. Must be accepted by trainees. Possible union problems.

Translator

Works in a variety of settings with non-English-speaking applicants or recipients to facilitate application for food stamp benefits, participation in employment

Extensive knowledge of food stamp procedures and rules required in addition to foreign language proficiency.

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ity resources. Serves
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Deals with the inter-
pretation needs of such
groups as Native Ameri-
cans or Hispanics.

Possible union
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(4)

ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED:

1. How are National Empowerment Corps applicants selected, matched with suitable assignments, and trained?
2. Would applicants be assigned anywhere they are needed in the Nation, or only within their State of origin? The former requires a higher degree of national organization; the latter would reduce re-location costs and might enhance cultural acceptance of the applicant.
3. Who supervises the Corps member? There will be a need to judge performance, initiate additional training when needed, and even perhaps to initiate re-assignment when necessary.
4. Who pays the Corps member? Are re-location costs compensated? Are basic protections such as medical care insurance provided? Liability insurance?
5. What is a suitable assignment? Should local or county welfare agencies or community organizations have free rein in assigning Corps members wherever they wish, or should the assignments be limited to augmenting the functional capability of the agency - for example, providing tutoring services where none existed before. Would assignment as a file clerk, for example, be acceptable on the grounds that it frees up a staff member who can provide higher-level services to recipients, or would that assignment be viewed as supplanting efforts already underway and of no particular value to the Corps member?
6. For what period of time will the Corps member be committed to serving with a cooperating agency? Two years? One year? Six months? Questions of value to the cooperating agency as well as to the Corps member are involved here.

NATIONAL EMPOWERMENT CORPS
APPLICATIONS APPROPRIATE FOR THE SPECIAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

5

Program Descriptions:

The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental foods, health care referrals and nutrition education at no cost to low-income pregnant and postpartum women, and to infants and children up to 5 years of age, who are at nutritional risk.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program provides commodity foods to supplement the diets of low-income infants; children up to age 6; pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women; and persons 60 years of age and over.

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) provides balanced, low-cost or free lunches to about 25 million children each school day.

The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides cash assistance to States to initiate, maintain or expand non-profit breakfast programs in eligible schools and residential child care institutions.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides Federal funds and USDA-donated foods to non-residential child care and adult day care facilities to serve nutritious meals and snacks.

The Nutrition Program for the Elderly (NPE), administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, receives USDA commodity foods and /or cash to provide meals for people age 60 or older and their spouses, regardless of age.

The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) provides monthly food packages to Indians living on or near a reservation.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) gives needy Americans, including low-income and unemployed persons, USDA-donated foods for household use. The foods are free, but recipients must meet eligibility criteria.

The Food Distribution Program for Charitable Institutions helps provide meals to needy people in eligible institutions such as community kitchens for homeless people, orphanages, homes for the elderly, meals-on-wheels programs, soup kitchens, correctional institutions offering rehabilitative activities, group homes for the mentally retarded, and hospitals that offer general and long-term health care.

(6)

If carried out in accordance with Congressional intent, these programs mitigate the effects of poverty and thus contribute to the NEC goal of moving people toward self-sufficiency and from poverty to middle class. Therefore, we are suggesting NEC jobs that would help fulfill current program goals rather than those that would provide new benefits/services. In addition, by providing NEC participants themselves with opportunities to earn or pay off college costs with community service, the programs can help prepare this generation for a poverty-free future.

POTENTIAL JOBS

NEC workers could help our programs more fully achieve their goals in two ways:

providing outreach/access services (educating eligible people about program availability and helping make benefits accessible), and

bolstering the infrastructure (providing the human capital necessary to deliver the programs according to congressional intent).

Outreach/Access Jobs

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| o | Outreach Workers | Inform target populations about program availability (all programs) |
| o | Drivers | Help eligible people apply for and receive program benefits (WIC, CACFP, TEFAP, NPE, CSFP) |
| o | Delivery Aides | Deliver program benefits to homebound elderly, physically disadvantaged, and homeless people (TEFAP, CSFP, FDPIR) |
| o | Bilingual Aides | Provide program information, help with applications, etc. to eligible non-English-speaking people (all programs) |
| o | Service Facilitators | Conduct telephone followup with people who don't keep appointments, direct people to related health and welfare services (WIC, CSFP) |

Infrastructure

- o Food Handlers Stock, warehouse, manage, distribute food products (TEFAP, Charitable Institutions, NPE, CSFP, school programs, FDPIR)
- o Day Care Workers Provide child/adult care services to allow eligible people to apply for and receive program benefits (WIC, TEFAP, FDPIR)
- o Bilingual Case Assistants Assist case manager with non-English-speaking clients (WIC)
- o Kitchen/Cafeteria Aides Help with meal preparation and serving, maintenance, monitoring lunchrooms, and sanitation (school food, CACFP, and commodity programs)
- o Nutrition Assistants Help with nutrition education, cooking demonstrations (WIC, school food programs)
- o CACFC Assistant Improve supervision ratio of provider to participants in child care/meal preparation functions (CACFP)

BARRIERS/PROBLEMS

- Program managers who have been making do with limited resources may have developed tunnel vision for what is possible. May need to raise managers' consciousness of possibilities to create a demand for NEC services.
- Additional responsibilities: training and supervising new workers, monitoring and evaluating their work, new reporting/accounting requirements. In addition to staff time required for these functions, who pays?
- Possible Federal/program liability: licensing requirements, health care concerns (i.e., are shots necessary for workers; if so, who pays?), insurance.

- Availability of space/facilities for additional workers.
- Union concerns: would NEC workers take jobs from others?

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

- Need to research existing program use of volunteers. Also, how would this initiative relate to existing volunteer organizations?
- How would NEC match volunteers and work? Would the work have to be related to workers' interests or educational goals?
- Would workers be evaluated by NEC on quality as well as quantity (for quantity, productivity as well as hours contributed)?
- Will workers receive credit toward Social Security quarters? (This would contribute toward self sufficiency down the road.)
- How much of a commitment will be expected of workers? Will this service be in addition to or in lieu of a job? If in lieu, will workers receive a stipend for living expenses? Can workers perform this service while they attend school (rather than earning a loan in advance or paying it off afterward)?
- What kind of structure will NEC have? Federal/state/local? Establishment of a bureaucracy means cost.
- We assume NEC will match workers/agencies in same geographical area to avoid relocation expenses. True?



May 19, 1993

SUBJECT: Community Self Development Assistance Corps

TO: Joel Berg

My vision of the Community Self Development Assistance Corps is that the emphasis is on youth and communities rather than on the corps members themselves. Rather, the Corps serve as the vehicle to empower young people by providing them with entrepreneurial and leadership skills to be active participants in devising entrepreneurial approaches to dealing with local issues. Further, the Corps participants work with teens who will work with early adolescents and preadolescents creating a multiplier affect.

The goal would be to encourage collaboration among all sectors of the community, business, schools, government, agencies, non profit organizations to work with and for youth. To design nonformal educational programs that build experientially skills in leadership, citizen action, and career development.

STEPHEN R. MULLEN
National 4-H Program Leader



TO: Steve Mullen

FAX 720-9366

CONFIRMING TELEPHONE NUMBER 720-5332

FROM: JOEL BERG/KATHERINE GIBNEY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF NATIONAL SERVICE
202 720-8098 (fax)
202 720-7033 (telephone)

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET 7

MESSAGE: *Feel free to do what
you think necessary with
this.*
JB

I would envision this corps to focus not so much on the corps members themselves, but rather those they reach through the multiplier effect. To teach economic & leadership skills requires an older, ~~more~~ educated & experienced CORPS.

USDA NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM

PROJECT PROPOSAL

I. TITLE: Community Self Development Assistance Corps

II. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

The Department of Agriculture would establish a corps of "professional" and "paraprofessional" members who could assist communities to identify needs and resources necessary for economic well being. This group of individuals would be able to assist communities of all sizes facing economic recovery issues to plan and prioritize efforts ^{combining formal + non formal education for} ~~items that will~~ work locally. The corps will then assist the community to locate financial resources, prepare proposals, design educational programs, and implement strategies necessary ^{for} ~~to~~ revitalization. The entire focus would be on the community generating their own vision for the future and the USDA corps assisting them in creating and attaining that vision.

III. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of the program would be to provide opportunities for America's youth to "earn and learn." Corps members would ^{work with early + pre adolescent} ~~be able to earn wages for the~~ work performed, ^{in identifying areas for entrepreneurial efforts in conjunction with local governments} ~~earn a stipend towards further schooling or pay off student~~ ^{work & interpersonal} ~~loans,~~ and learn valuable skills.

The objectives of the program would be:

- o accomplish much needed community planning activities necessary to assure the economic vitality and productivity of our rural and midsized communities
- o ~~teach corpsmembers self discipline skills on~~ coping with the world as ~~adults~~
- o teach specific skills in community building, coalition building, strategic planning and visioning, *etc leadership dev*
- o teach numerous skills in working with the "3rd Sector" the private nonprofit sector of the volunteer
- o develop skills in working with units of local government which they encounter in their everyday living
- o develop skills in career planning and other post-secondary education possibilities

IV. APPROACH:

Most states have local Planning and Development Districts which provide for the overall strategic and project planning efforts for a multijurisdictional area. Some of these cover several counties, and some cover multiple communities within a county or township. They all have one thing in common. They are understaffed.

This corps would provide trained people with community involvement skills to begin to go into the communities and build from the bottom up the kind of plans that will be able to assure local support for the needed economic changes to occur. The participants would need to spend a period of training before being

through development of local leadership, especially among older youth, & the multiplier effect where teens work with ^{the} adolescents. These youth would explore with local governments possible avenues to serve as entrepreneurs within local government.

assigned to the local districts. They would then live and work in the communities for which they are providing the assistance.

To support these corps members there would need to be a small national group that would be responsible for maintaining a national data base of organizations who provide financial support to communities. This data base would then be available to the corpsmembers for assisting the community in developing its own

action plan and apply for funding. *From the framework Curriculum for teaching leadership & volunteer development a program manager would be necessary along with basic life skills*

V. AUDIENCE AND CLIENTELE:

& understanding of basic business principles
~~A~~ major target audience for these programs would be ^{secondary &} post-secondary education youth. Because of the skill level needed for some of these activities ^{Many} some of the corps members would be ~~already~~ graduated students seeking to pay back their student loans. *as those seeking to strengthen their communities* Others could perform the work either before, after, or during their career development education.

A second target group would be the currently unemployed. The corps would allow for new career planning and skill building to occur as well as for the participants to get back into the world of work. This would allow the utilization of people already residing in the affected community and would provide a level of realism and continuity to the program.

Finally, as the program expands it could move to include High School youth.

This is the age to begin to develop good work habits, improve self image, and self discipline. This age group could be developed to do the follow-up activities and studies needed to document the success of the efforts. *This is also a key target group for working with early adolescent & pre-adolescent groups*

*I disagree this is a key audience right from the beginning
 we are talking rural & light here!*

VI. POTENTIAL PILOT LOCATIONS:

*I do not believe
this has to be a
limitation*

Because of the need to work with States that currently have economic development councils or rural development councils the early pilot programs would be limited. Currently Oregon, Washington, and ???????? have such councils and an infrastructure to assist in assuring a successful pilot.

North Carolina, Texas, Missouri

VII. ANTICIPATED RESULTS:

There would be multiple outcomes and benefits derived from this program. The outcomes would be local and national at the same time. First there would be the learning while earning of the corps persons themselves *& those with whom they work.* While the objectives of that learning have been chronicled elsewhere it is necessary here to again emphasize its critical importance to our country and to the communities that will come to *benefit from* ~~possess~~ these skilled citizens.

*Emphasize
multiple
affected where
corps trans
adults to help
youth to help
each other*

The opportunity to develop skills, to learn about a variety of career paths, and the opportunity to approach career options at a pace not currently available would be other outcomes of the program. With the current economic conditions in our country, it is difficult for youth or people needing to change careers to have the time to do that in a planned and organized way. They feel the pressure to quickly make career choices and begin to earn income. The corps would provide that space to explore options while also providing for food and shelter, as well as focus energies on

the most pressing ~~local~~ community issues.

The increased economic viability of our rural communities and small towns is the next major outcome expected. With the assistance of the corps communities will be better able to develop a sound economic base that will take them into the next century. Results such as increased agricultural production, a viable pollution free light industry, increased local tourism, and many other outcomes are possible through planning and implementation of long range strategies.

As well as developing a community leadership core for the future.

VIII. SCHEDULE OF MAJOR TASKS AND COMPLETION DATES:

- o July 1, 1993, agencies identify possible pilot project locations and partnerships
- o September 1, 1993, have preliminary proposal ready for Corporation for National Service.
- o October 15, 1993, complete startup planning for projects submitted
- o December 30, 1993, begin final startup phase of projects, begin developemnt of skills training cirriculum, begin development of financial opportunity data base nationally and for pilot states.
- o April 1, 1994, begin first training of corps members with assignment to communities at completion of training.

IX. POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- o State Rural Development Councils
- o State Economic Development Councils or Agencies
- o Local Planning and Development entities both private and public
- o National Association of State Foresters
- o Department of Defense Agencies such as Corps of Engineers, Air Force.
etc/

X. POTENTIAL CAPACITY

At least 100 corps members could be utilized in each state at the peak of the program. During the pilot phase, a cadre of at least 50 would be necessary to provide an adequate network of both professional and paraprofessional skills necessary to reach a significant number of communities.

XI. PROJECT LIAISON

During the start up phase, the project liaison with the Forest Service would be through the Economic Development Staff of Cooperative Forestry. Staff specialist is Steve Yadoff.

During the startup phase, the project liaison with the Rural Development Administration would be through the ????? staff. Current staff specialist assigned is ??????????.

Ex During the startup phase, the project liaison with Extension Service would be through the *4-H Youth Development* ????? staff. Current staff specialist assigned is ??????.

NATIONAL EMPOWERMENT CORPS
APPLICATIONS APPROPRIATE FOR THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

NAME OF PROGRAM: Food Stamp Program

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Food Stamp Program is designed to aid low-income families by increasing their food purchasing power in order to obtain more nutritious diets. Households - those people who regularly prepare and eat food together - may receive food coupons for exchange at authorized grocery stores. The amount of coupons received depends primarily upon household income, assets, composition and size. Benefits are 100% federally-financed, but the Program is administered by state employees in county or local welfare offices. These "front-line" employees determine who is eligible for benefits and how much in benefits an applicant household may receive. They attempt to "police" the program so that incorrect benefits are not issued and so that fraud does not occur. They administer the Program's work provisions and may refer applicants to other sources of government or local community assistance. They operate under regulations issued by the federal Food and Nutrition Service and with guidance provided by the State welfare agency.

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office, church, or other facility frequented by the target group. Explains Program benefits and aids potential recipients in the application process.

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Assists food stamp recipients in developing skills such as reading and math which will enable the recipient to get a G.E.D. or successfully compete for a job. May operate from a community-based organization or from the welfare office.

Must be accepted by recipient and may need ability to motivate the learner.

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1. How are National Empowerment Corps applicants selected, matched with suitable assignments, and trained?
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APPLICATIONS APPROPRIATE FOR THE SPECIAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Program Descriptions:

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programs mitigate the effects of poverty and thus contribute to the NEC goal of moving people toward self-sufficiency and from poverty to middle class. Therefore, we are suggesting NEC jobs that would help fulfill current program goals rather than those that would provide new benefits/services. In addition, by providing NEC participants themselves with opportunities to earn or pay off college costs with community service, the programs can help prepare this generation for a poverty-free future.

POTENTIAL JOBS

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Infrastructure

- o Food Handlers Stock, warehouse, manage, distribute food products (TEFAP, Charitable Institutions, NPE, CSFP, school programs, FDPIR)
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- o Nutrition Assistants Help with nutrition education, cooking demonstrations (WIC, school food programs)
- o CACFC Assistant Improve supervision ratio of provider to participants in child care/meal preparation functions (CACFP)

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UNRESOLVED ISSUES

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USDA NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM

PROJECT PROPOSAL

I. TITLE: Community Self Development Assistance Corps

II. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

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- o teach corpsmembers self discipline-skills on coping with the world as adults
- o teach specific skills in community building, coalition building, strategic planning and visioning, etc.
- o teach numerous skills in working with the "3rd Sector" the private nonprofit sector of the volunteer
- o develop skills in working with units of local government which they encounter in their everyday living
- o develop skills in career planning and other post-secondary education possibilities

IV. APPROACH:

Most states have local Planning and Development Districts which provide for the overall strategic and project planning efforts for a multijurisdictional area. Some of these cover several counties, and some cover multiple communities within a county or township. They all have one thing in common. They are understaffed.

This corps would provide trained people with community involvement skills to begin to go into the communities and build from the bottom up the kind of plans that will be able to assure local support for the needed economic changes to occur. The participants would need to spend a period of training before being assigned to the local districts. They would then live

and work in the communities for which they are providing the assistance.

To support these corps members there would need to be a small national group that would be responsible for maintaining a national data base of organizations who provide financial support to communities. This data base would then be available to the corpsmembers for assisting the community in developing its own action plan and apply for funding.

V. AUDIENCE AND CLIENTELE:

A major target audience for these programs would be post-secondary education youth. Because of the skill level needed for some of these activities some of the corps members would be already graduated students seeking to pay back their student loans. Others could perform the work either before, after, or during their career development education.

A second target group would be the currently unemployed. The corps would allow for new career planning and skill building to occur as well as for the participants to get back into the world of work. This would allow the utilization of people already residing in the affected community and would provide a level of realism and continuity to the program.

Finally, as the program expands it could move to include High School youth. This is the age to begin to develop good work habits, improve self image, and self discipline. This age group could be developed to do the follow-up activities and studies needed to document the success of the efforts.

VI. POTENTIAL PILOT LOCATIONS:

Because of the need to work with States that currently have economic development councils or rural development councils the early pilot programs would be limited. Currently Oregon, Washington, and ???????? have such councils and an infrastructure to assist in assuring a successful pilot.

VII. ANTICIPATED RESULTS:

There would be multiple outcomes and benefits derived from this program. The outcomes would be local and national at the same time. First there would be the

learning while earning of the corps persons themselves. While the objectives of that learning have been chronicled elsewhere it is necessary here to again emphasize its critical importance to our country and to the communities that will come to possess these skilled citizens.

The opportunity to develop skills, to learn about a variety of career paths, and the opportunity to approach career options at a pace not currently available would be other outcomes of the program. With the current economic conditions in our country, it is difficult for youth or people needing to change careers to have the time to do that in a planned and organized way. They feel the pressure to quickly make career choices and begin to earn income. The corps would provide that space to explore options while also providing for food and shelter.

The increased economic viability of our rural communities and small towns is the next major outcome expected. With the assistance of the corps communities will be better able to develop a sound economic base that will take them into the next century. Results such as increased agricultural production, a viable pollution free light industry, increased local tourism, and many other outcomes are possible through planning and implementation of long range strategies.

VIII. SCHEDULE OF MAJOR TASKS AND COMPLETION DATES:

- o July 1, 1993, agencies identify possible pilot project locations and partnerships
- o September 1, 1993, have preliminary proposal ready for Corporation for National Service.
- o October 15, 1993, complete startup planning for projects submitted
- o December 30, 1993, begin final startup phase of projects, begin development of skills training curriculum, begin development of financial opportunity data base nationally and for pilot states.

- o April 1, 1994, begin first training of corps members with assignment to communities at completion of training.

IX. POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- o State Rural Development Councils
- o State Economic Development Councils or Agencies
- o Local Planning and Development entities both private and public
- o National Association of State Foresters
- o Department of Defense Agencies such as Corps of Engineers, Air Force. etc/

X. POTENTIAL CAPACITY

At least 100 corps members could be utilized in each state at the peak of the program. During the pilot phase, a cadre of at least 50 would be necessary to provide an adequate network of both professional and paraprofessional skills necessary to reach a significant number of communities.

XI. PROJECT LIAISON

During the start up phase, the project liaison with the Forest Service would be through the Economic Development Staff of Cooperative Forestry. Staff specialist is Steve Yadoff.

During the startup phase, the project liaison with the Rural Development Administration would be through the ????? staff. Current staff specialist assigned is ??????????.

During eh startup phase, the project liason with Extension Service would be through the ???????? staff. Current staff specialist assigned is ?????????.

Second Harvest Study Shows Widespread Domestic Hunger

AMI Seeks Donors for 1994 'Meating the Need' Project

Hunger is more widespread than many people realize, according to a new study released this week by the Second Harvest National Food Bank Network, the nation's largest private sector hunger relief organization.

The study revealed that 10.4 percent of the population -- nearly 26 million people -- rely on the food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and other emergency feeding programs served by the Second Harvest network. In addition, 46 percent of these people did not expect to need assistance three months ago.

A significant portion of those who need help are children, with 42.9 percent of network clients aged 17 and younger.

Many network clients are unemployed professionals. Of the 44 percent that currently are unem-

ployed, 31.4 percent were last employed in skilled positions that include technical, management, professional, clerical and secretarial. Well over half of the network clients have a high school diploma or completed higher education.

While nearly half presently receive food stamps, most state that food stamps do not last the entire month. Twenty percent of clients worry often or always about the source of their next meal and nearly a third had skipped meals in the previous month because they did not have food or money to buy food.

The people surveyed have come to rely on a total of 41,587 charitable agencies for some form of food security. Still, charitable agencies are forced to turn away people at times because of a lack of food resources.

The 18-month study was conducted by the VanAmburg Group and funded by a grant from Kraft General Foods. A nationwide sampling of 34 food banks, 3,182 agencies and 8,596 network clients participated in the study.

Meating the Need

Since 1989, AMI has worked in partnership with Second Harvest through the Institute's "Meating the

Need" program. Under the program, AMI member companies donate surplus meat and poultry products to Second Harvest food banks.

Since 1989, more than 12 million pounds of surplus product have been donated by the meat and poultry industry. According to Second Harvest, meat and poultry products are the most desired and least available products in the network.

Recently, AMI sent "Meating the Need" information and pledge forms to all of its members. In addition to surplus food product, members also may contribute cash, equipment and services. Pledges should be sent to AMI's Director of Public Affairs Janet Riley.

Also in the packet was a list of 1993 donors. If your company donated product to a Second Harvest food bank last year, but was not listed, please notify Janet Riley. Occasionally, Second Harvest headquarters is not notified that product has been donated at the food bank level. As a result, AMI is not aware of the donation either.

AMI will publish an updated list of 1993 donors in an upcoming issue of the *AMI Newsletter* and regrets any oversights in the recently-mailed packet.

AMI Deli Day Slated for May 18 in Washington, DC

AMI's Deli Day on Capitol Hill will be held May 18 at the Rayburn House Office Building Courtyard in Washington, DC. The luncheon will be the concluding event to the 1994 Government Affairs Conference, May 16-18, at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC.

The theme of the lunch -- "The Great American Hero" -- honors both the hero sandwich and a real American hero who has performed an heroic action.

Congressional wives will serve on a committee to select the hero from nominees submitted by the Carnegie Foundation. The wives include Rose Cochran, Rhoda Glickman and Shirley Volkmer.

AMI member companies will serve their products from booths decorated with company logos. Lawmakers again are invited to submit recipes for their favorite sandwiches which will be compiled into the Congressional Deli Day Cookbook.

Companies interested in participating in the luncheon should contact AMI's Manager of Convention Services Suzy Schief.

Off the Charts

The Skinny on Pork

Based on a 3-oz., cooked and trimmed serving.

	FAT (g)	CALORIES	CHOLESTEROL (mg)
Tenderloin	4.1	139	67
Boneless Sirloin Chops	5.7	164	78
Boneless Loin Roast	6.1	165	66
Loin Chops	6.9	172	70
Boneless Loin Chops	6.6	173	65
Boneless Rib Roast	8.6	182	71
Sirloin Roast	8.7	184	73
Rib Chops	8.3	186	69
Blade Steaks	10.7	193	80

Source: National Pork Producers Council

From: Wasserman, Bill (BWASSERMAN)
To: JBERG
Date: Tuesday, July 6, 1993 11:40 am
Subject: National Service

I hope you had a good Fourth of July weekend. I just read your latest memo about establishing working groups for the department's plans for national service programs. I would be pleased to chair the Anti-Hunger/Empowerment Corps Task Force. I shared your last memo with Ellen. She was very supportive and we both feel that the national service program offers us an opportunity to advance many of the goals we identified at the forum, such as, outreach, nutrition education and promoting self-sufficiency. I did have a few questions after reading the latest memo -- maybe we could get together for lunch this week to discuss the next step.

From: Sally Katt (SKATT)
To: Skinsella,Mevans,Mdixon
Date: Tuesday, May 25, 1993 3:23 pm
Subject: Lists for Hunger Conference

Last week Meg asked for some suggestions on sources for a good list of reporters covering hunger. I sent her a memo with several suggestions. I'm not sure if you've gotten everything you want yet, but I have several other ideas which come from Pay Young, U.S. Coordinator for World Food Day: 1. The John Morrell of the now non existant Select Committee on Hunger had a very good press list, according to Pat. If you haven't contacted him already, you might do so. His number is 226-1127. 2. Also, much of what's written about hunger is in what Pat calls the "underground press"-- newsletters of the various non-governmental organizations active on the hunger issue. Pat has this list and is in the process of updating it. She'd be happy to share it with us. These are the people who really care, whether or not they can use what you're sending out because of deadline time, they'd be very impressed to hear from us.

CC: Jberg,Dwarren,Sthornton

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***THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN DATAFAXED FROM
THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
FOOD AND CONSUMER SERVICES***

.....

DATAFAX NUMBER IS (202) 690-3100

***IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGE(S) SENT, PLEASE
CALL (202) 720-7711.***

DATE: 8/20

TO: Kathryn Gibney

FROM: Bill Wasserman

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 2

REMARKS/COMMENTS

MEMORANDUM TO HUNGER/EMPOWERMENT TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Date: August 20, 1993

TO:	Jim Pace - OPA/OIA	690-1131
	John Webster - FNS	305-2464
	Majorie Davidson - FSIS	720-9063
	Phil Villa Lobos - OPA	720-8429
	Wells Willis - ES	690-2469
	Elizabeth Tuckermanty - ES	690-2469
	Pat Seward - FNS	305-0928
	Dianne Odland - HNIS	301-436-7626
	Kathryn Gibney - OPA	720-5043
	Joel Berg - OPA	720-5043

From: Bill Wasserman, OCA

Message:

The meeting of the Hunger/Empowerment Task Force for National Service scheduled for Monday, September 23 has been **changed to Thursday September 2, at 2:00 p.m.** Please contact me if you are unable to attend. My phone number is 720-3975 or EMAIL BWASSERMAN.