

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an  
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton  
Presidential Library Staff.**

---

**Collection/Record Group:** Clinton Presidential Records

**Subgroup/Office of Origin:** Americorps

**Series/Staff Member:** General Files

**Subseries:**

---

**OA/ID Number:** 24229

**FolderID:**

---

**Folder Title:**

USDA/Americorps Progress Reports 1995-1996 [2]

**Stack:**

**S**

**Row:**

**66**

**Section:**

**1**

**Shelf:**

**5**

**Position:**

**2**

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                      | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. list                | re; SSNs [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (8 pages) | 08/15/1996 | b(6)        |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
AmeriCrops  
General Files  
OA/Box Number: 24229

### FOLDER TITLE:

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps Progress Reports, 1995-1996 [2]

2013-0661-F  
rc3053

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

February 15, 1996

TO: USDA AmeriCorps Project Directors and Managers  
THRU: Agency Program Managers  
FROM: Joel Berg, Director of National Service, USDA  
SUBJECT: AmeriCorps Annual Training

Once again it is time to plan for this year's training conference. We would like to have the training sometime in June if possible. We are considering sites that are centrally located. We will let you know as soon as possible what site will be selected.

I would like to take this opportunity to solicit thoughts and ideas from you as to what you would like to see at this training session. This is your training, and it should meet your needs. So if you have any ideas, please submit them to this office as soon as possible.

One idea we are considering is to set up displays to demonstrate projects that are currently going on across the country. For instance, Louisiana has developed a display for Dry Fire Hydrants. Some states have as part of their objectives display development. I would like to see these displayed at the training. We are also going to pursue the possibility of setting up displays of new technology.

Anyone who has a display and would like to set up at the training, should contact Donna Hines at (202) 690-0693 or Dee DiFiore at (202) 690-3051. Information may also be faxed to (202) 720-4614.

Again, I urge you to submit your ideas for training. Let us know how we can help you. Your ideas should be submitted to us no later than March 1.



303 293-5328  
Denver

As of 3/25/96, 9:00 a.m.

Cher Kaiser  
Susan  
912-424-6935  
253

# Target Media Markets for Glickman AmeriCorps Teleconference

**Markets from which at least 120 AmeriCorps Members will be participating in Teleconference from Jackson, Mississippi**

Anchorage, Alaska (Members are actually physically located in the rural "bush" areas of Alaska)

Jonsboro, Arkansas

Little Rock, Arkansas (actual site in Brinkley)

Casa Grande, Arizona (actual site in Eloy)

Douglass, Arizona

Flagstaff, Arizona

Nogales, Arizona

Yuma, Arizona/El Centro, California (actual sites in San Luis and El Centro)

Bakersfield, California (actual site in Shafter)

Fresno, California (actual sites in Hanford and Firebaugh)

Monterey/Salinas/Santa Cruz, California (actual sites in Watsonville, Hollister)

Tallahassee, Florida (actual site in Marianna)

Cordele, Georgia

Valdosta, Georgia

Cairo, Illinois

Albany, Kentucky

703 904-9600  
Megan

86  
18  
104  
27  
131  
121  
152  
5

185  
21  
164  
58  
243  
71

3 297

157  
15  
172  
13  
185



Barbourville, Kentucky

Bowling Green, Kentucky

London, Kentucky

Middlesboro, Kentucky

Oneida, Kentucky

Presntonburg, Kentucky

Williamsburg, Kentucky (actual site in Whitley City)

Bastrop, Louisiana

Cullen, Louisiana

Franklin, Louisiana

Jennings, Louisiana

Jonesville, Louisiana

Many, Louisiana

Natchitoches, Louisiana

New Iberia, Louisiana

Opelousas, Louisiana

Ruston, Louisiana

Tallulah, Louisiana

Marksville, Louisiana

Winnsboro, Louisiana

Greenville, Mississippi

Jackson, Mississippi (actual sites in Edwards, Canton)

Natchez, Mississippi (sites also in Lorman and Ferriday, Louisiana)

Albuquerque, New Mexico (site also in Bernalillo)

Clovis, New Mexico

Grants, New Mexico

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Taos, New Mexico

Asheville, North Carolina (actual site in Marshall)

Hendersonville, North Carolina

Jefferson, North Carolina

Sylva, North Carolina

Eugene, Oregon

McMinnville, Oregon

Altoona, Pennsylvania (actual site in Holidaysburg)

Beaufort, South Carolina (actual location is St. Helena Island)

Denmark, South Carolina

Fairfax, South Carolina

Kingstree, South Carolina

Lake City, South Carolina

Orangeburg, South Carolina

Walterboro, South Carolina

Memphis, Tennessee (actual sites in Helena, Forest City and Blytheville, Arkansas)

Carizo Springs, Texas

Hebronville, Texas

Laredo, Texas

McAllen Texas (actual sites in Mercedes and Edinburg)

Rio Grande City, Texas

San Antonio, Texas (actual sites in Luling, Gonzales, and Uvalde)

Jonesville, Virginia

Nassawadox, Virginia

Moses Lake, Washington

Charleston, West Virginia (actual site in Hamlin)

Fairmont, West Virginia

Logan, West Virginia

Morgantown, West Virginia

Phillipi, West Virginia

Welch, West Virginia (actual site in Wilcoe)

Webster Springs, West Virginia

Williamson, West Virginia



**Markets in which AmeriCorps Members will be downlinkining Teleconference  
in or near the community(ies) in which they are serving**

1. Media Market: Little Rock, Arkansas 20  
 Actual Downlink site: Room 5404, 700 W. Capitol  
 Directions to downlink site: Corner of Capitol & Gaines Street, Room 1416  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 20  
 Site Spokesperson: Linda Messenger  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:
2. Media Market: Holbrook, Arizona 8  
 Actual Downlink site: USDA Building, 51 W. Vista Drive, #4  
 Directions to downlink site: under the water tower  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 8  
 Site Spokesperson: NO PHONE LINK IN CONFERENCE ROOM  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Holbrook
3. Media Market: Davis, California 5  
 Actual Downlink site: 2121 2nd Street, Suite 102  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5  
 Site Spokesperson: James Newman  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Central California
4. Media Market: Los Angeles, California 50  
 Actual Downlink site: USC School of Gerontology, Davis Auditorium  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 50  
 Site Spokesperson: Lisa May, AmeriCorps Team Leader  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Los Angeles
5. Media Market: Gainesville, Florida 3  
 Actual Downlink site: 2614 NW 43rd Street  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 3  
 Site Spokesperson: Ken Murray, Jerry Joiner, Jessica Payne  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Jacksonville 86

- 6 Media Market: Homestead, Florida  
 Actual Downlink site: 15600 SW 288th Street, Suite 402  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5  
 Site Spokesperson:  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Homestead
7. Media Market: Hoolehua, Hawaii  
 Actual Downlink site: 3 W Ala Mlana Blvd, phone 8108-541-2602  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2  
 Site Spokesperson: Linda Marie  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Molokai Island
- 8 Media Market: Boise, Idaho  
 Actual Downlink site: 3244 Elder Street  
 Directions to downlink site: NRCS State Office  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
 Site Spokesperson: Jim Wood  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:
- 9 Media Market: Twin Falls, Idaho  
 Actual Downlink site: 246 3rd Avenue E  
 Directions to downlink site: Blues Lakes Ave., SW to Soshone St, proceed 2 stoplights, turn left onto 3rd ave.E, go 1 ½ blocks to address on right  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2  
 Site Spokesperson: Rebecca Bengel  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Soda Springs
- 10 Media Market: Decorah, Iowa  
 Actual Downlink site: 911 S. Mills  
 Directions to downlink site: Yurn North ogg Hwy 9 at Mill St. exit  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1  
 Site Spokesperson: Connie Boehlke  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Postville
- 11 Media Market: Bourbonnias, Illinois  
 Actual Downlink site: 685 Larry Power Road  
 Directions to downlink site:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
 Site Spokesperson:

4  
 18

Salina

7

12 Media Market: Chicago, Illinois  
Actual Downlink site:  
Directions to downlink site:  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
Site Spokesperson: Angela Parrish  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Chicago

4

13 Media Market: Springfield, Illinois  
Actual Downlink site: State fairgrounds  
Directions to downlink site:  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 17  
Site Spokesperson: Jefferey Stewart  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
East St. Louis, Pittsfield, Havana

17

14 Media Market: Des Moines, Iowa  
Actual Downlink site:  
Directions to downlink site:  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5  
Site Spokesperson: Chris LaRue  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

5-

15 Media Market: Marengo, Iowa  
Actual Downlink site: Iowa County Fairgrounds  
Directions to downlink site: East Marion Street, Zentmire hall  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2  
Site Spokesperson: Patrick lake  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

2

16 Media Market: Salina, Kansas  
Actual Downlink site: 760 S. Broadway  
Directions to downlink site: S of Crawford on Broadway (next to Wendy's)  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site  
Site Spokesperson: Kurt Grimm  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
Marquette & Wakefield, KS

27



- 17 Media Market: Hill City, Kansas  
Actual Downlink site: 100 N 12th  
Directions to downlink site: North of Highway 24 on 12th  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 15  
Site Spokesperson: Lance Hockett  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
Hays and Glen Elder, KS 15
- 18 Media Market: Hutchinson, Kansas (also 1 hour drive from Wichita)  
Actual Downlink site: 9 w 28th street, Suite B  
Directions to downlink site: Just off N Main on 28th  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
Site Spokesperson: Carolyn Wooten  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Cheney 4
- 19 Media Market: Lyndon, Kansas  
Actual Downlink site: 115 w 17th street  
Directions to downlink site: North end of town just off highway 75  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site  
Site Spokesperson:  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
Topeka, Valley Falls, and Burlington, KS 2
- 20 Media Market: Alexandria, Louisiana  
Actual Downlink site: 3737 Government Street  
Directions to downlink site: Southern University Campus  
Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2  
Site Spokesperson: Nancy Dyer  
Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Natchitoches 21



21 Media Market: Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
 Actual Downlink site: Southern University Lab School  
 Directions to downlink site: Southern University Campus  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1  
 Site Spokesperson: Robin Torrence  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
 Denham Springs

22 Media Market: Galliano, Louisiana  
 Actual Downlink site: South LaFourche High School  
 Directions to downlink site: 16911 East main Street  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site  
 Site Spokesperson: Susan Terrebonne  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Galliano

23 Media Market: Jonesville, Louisiana  
 Actual Downlink site: 870 First street  
 Directions to downlink site: One block of US 84  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site  
 Site Spokesperson: Kimberly Kitterlin  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Jonesville

24 Media Market: West Monroe, Louisiana  
 Actual Downlink site: Delta Quachita Vo Tech School  
 Directions to downlink site: Off I-20 West at Camp Road  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
 Site Spokesperson: Sandra Smith  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Tallulah

25 Media Market: Presque Isle, Maine  
 Actual Downlink site: *University of Maine campus*  
 Directions to downlink site: *from southern end of campus, at the Cooperative Extension*  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site  
 Site Spokesperson: Amanda Smith-Hatch, Gary Marquis  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: *Servier*

*no members at Presque Isle*

*4*

*5*

26 Media Market: Orono, Maine (near Bangor)

Actual Downlink site: 5 Godfrey Drive

Directions to downlink site: Take exit 51 off of I-95 North or South. Godfrey Drive is the first road on the right. The USDA building is on the left side across from the Best Western. 5-

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5

Site Spokesperson: Michael Johnston, Charlie Armstrong, Michelle Grant,  
Joel Stetson, Andy Reid

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
Cherryfield, Machias, Madawaska, Augusta and Belfast ME

27 Media Market: Adrian, Michigan 2

Actual Downlink site: 1040 S. Winter Street, Suite 2020

Directions to downlink site: Health Department Building

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2

Site Spokesperson:

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

28 Media Market: Bay City, Michigan

Actual Downlink site: 1220 Washington Avenue

Directions to downlink site: MSU Extension Building

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1

Site Spokesperson:

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: 1

29 Media Market: East Lansing, Michigan

Actual Downlink site: 1405 S. Harrison Road, Room 101

Directions to downlink site: Corner of Crescent and Harrison, Many Miles Building

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5

Site Spokesperson: Chris Coulon

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: 5

30 Media Market: Fremont, Michigan

Actual Downlink site: 817 South Stewart Avenue

Directions to downlink site: MSU Extension Building

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2

Site Spokesperson:

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: 2

15

- 31 Media Market: Gaylord, Michigan  
 Actual Downlink site: 400 W. Main  
 Directions to downlink site: Alpine Executive Center  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2-3  
 Site Spokesperson:  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: 3
- 32 Media Market: Wesson, Mississippi  
 Actual Downlink site: Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
 Directions to downlink site: Mutton Building - 2nd Floor.  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1  
 Site Spokesperson: Brian McDonald  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Monticello ✓
- 33 Media Market: Ainsworth, Nebraska  
 Actual downlink site: 520 E. 2nd Street  
 Directions to downlink site: Ainsworth High School  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 1  
 Site spokesperson: Bonnie Tyrrel  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Red Cloud /
- 34 Media Market: Beatrice, Nebraska  
 Actual downlink site: 100 N 16th street  
 Directions to downlink site: Library - Price Room  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 3  
 Site spokesperson: Jeff Gorgen  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Crete 3
- 35 Media Market: Concord, Nebraska  
 Actual downlink site: Auditorium downstairs  
 Directions to downlink site: Northeast Experiment Sation  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 4  
 Site spokesperson: Carmen Shaffer  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Plainville 4
- 36 Media Market: Red Cloud, Nebraska  
 Actual downlink site: Man in Land Building  
 Directions to downlink site: West highway 136  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 1  
 Site spokesperson: Chuck Burr  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Red Cloud /



- 37 Media Market: Durham, New Hampshire  
 Actual downlink site: Man in Land Building  
 Directions to downlink site: University of New Hampshire, Taylor Hall  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 5  
 Site spokesperson: Jennifer Moyo, Michelle Fullerton  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
 Laconia and Meredith
- 38 Media Market: Somerset, New Jersey  
 Actual downlink site: 1370 Hamilton Street  
 Directions to downlink site: NJ TPK, exit 9, Rt 18 N to New Brunswick, to Eaton Ave to JFK Blvd, left on Hamilton Blvd, building on right  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at the site: 7  
 Site spokesperson: Kevin Braniff  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:  
 Flemington, Mount Holly, Hackettstown, and Freehold, NJ
- 39 Media Market: Buffalo, New York (site is 45 minute drive from Buffalo)  
 Actual Downlink site: East Aurora  
 Directions to downlink site: 21 South Grove Street  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 3  
 Site Spokesperson: Gayla Gross  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: East Aurora
- 40 Media Market:  
 Actual Downlink site: Elizabeth City, North Carolina  
 Directions to downlink site: Elizabeth City State University  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 3  
 Site Spokesperson: Sherri Midgette, Team Leader  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving
- 41 Media Market:  
 Actual Downlink site: Waynesville/Clyde, North Carolina  
 Directions to downlink site: 1 Freedlander Dr. Clyde - Follow signs from I-40 to Haywood Community College - Library  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 3  
 Site Spokesperson: Gayla Gross  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: East Aurora



42 Media Market: Columbus, Ohio  
 Actual Downlink site: 200 N. High Street, Room 522  
 Directions to downlink site: Federal building, corner Spring St and High St.  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 10  
 Site Spokesperson: Steve Flint  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Columbus

43 Media Market: Cheyenne, Oklahoma  
 Actual Downlink site: 1 Ag Pavilion Road  
 Directions to downlink site: 2 blocks N of Highway 47  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
 Site Spokesperson: Robert Jencks  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Cheyenne

44 Media Market: Clinton, Oklahoma  
 Actual Downlink site: Custer County Fairgrounds  
 Directions to downlink site: From Cordell, go North on Highway 183 to Clinton,  
 Fairgrounds are on South edge of Clinton the left --- across from the State Highway  
 Department --- conference in main exhibit building  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 4  
 Site Spokesperson: Cindy Jones  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Sentinel

45 Media Market: Columbia, SC  
 Actual Downlink site: 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007  
 Directions to downlink:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 20  
 Site Spokesperson: Paul Perry  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

46 Media Market: Georgetown, SC  
 Actual Downlink site: 1837 Fraser Street  
 Directions to downlink:  
 Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 20  
 Site Spokesperson: Roy  
 Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

## 47 Media Market: Mission SD

Actual Downlink site: 1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007, Strom Thurmond Federal Build

Directions to downlink:

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 5

Site Spokesperson: Paul Perry

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

## 48 Media Market: Gonzales, Texas

Actual Downlink site:

Directions to downlink:

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1

Site Spokesperson: Dan Rodriguez

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Baytown, Texas

## 49 Media Market: Houston, Texas

Actual Downlink site: U of Houston Clear lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd

Directions to downlink cedarwood I45 to Bay Area

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 9

Site Spokesperson: Corey Froelich

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Baytown, Texas

## 50 Media Market: Spokane, Washington

Actual Downlink site: Rock Point Tower, Suite 568, W 316 Boone

Directions to downlink site: 5th floor conference room - Farm service Agency

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 6

Site Spokesperson: Scott Hallett, Project Director (AmeriCorps member?)

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Spokane

## 51 Media Market: Keysville, Virginia

Actual Downlink site: Southside Community College, John H. Daniel Campus

Directions to downlink site: 1/2 mile South of Keysville, VA on Highway 40

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 2

Site Spokesperson: Emily Pritchard or Doug Spencer

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Keysville

## 52 Media Market: Washington, DC

Actual Downlink site: Plant materials Center, Beltsville, MD, 9100 Soil Conservation Blvd., 509 BARC-East

Directions to downlink site: 295 to Powder Mill Road

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 1-7

Site Spokesperson: Matt Shunderman

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving: Beltsville

53

Media Market: Morgantown, West Virginia

Actual Downlink site: NRCS, 75 High Street, Room 301

Directions to downlink site: Federal building, 3rd floor of post office

Number of AmeriCorps Members to be at site: 3

Site Spokesperson: Patrick Bowen (USDA staff)

Communities in which the members at the downlink site are serving:

3

3



August 4, 1995

Editorial Page Editor  
*The Belleville News-Democrat*

q  
ww

To the Editor:

The recent article by George Pawlaczyk --- and accompanying editorial and cartoon --- on the USDA-sponsored AmeriCorps project in East St. Louis and Belleville contained many serious inaccuracies and omissions.

Last Fall, your paper also ran a negative article on the project --- also by Mr. Pawlaczyk --- that inaccurately reported that the program started without the proper tools and that severely misquoted AmeriCorps Members. Subsequent to publication of that original story, my staff and I each made individual site visits to the project. We discovered first-hand that project is "getting things done" while strengthening the community, expanding educational opportunity, and encouraging personal responsibility.

When I learned a number of weeks ago that Mr. Pawlaczyk was preparing another story unfairly and inaccurately attacking the program, I called him immediately. Upon my request, he called me at home that Sunday and we spoke for over an hour. In our conversation, he admitted the bias of both himself and his editor, saying that neither of them personally believe that East St. Louis needs either more gardens or more trees.

It seemed clear in our conversation that he had made his mind up that the whole idea for the program was stupid and that his article would say so, regardless of the facts presented by myself or anyone else. Still, at a few points during our conversation, he admitted that he had misunderstood a few things about the program before speaking to me and that he would correct those issues in his article; unfortunately, his final article included almost all of those mistaken ideas. Even though

For example, during our conversation, Mr. Pawlaczyk admitted to me that he knew that preliminary cost estimates leaked to the media by Congressional opponents of AmeriCorps were false, yet he included these numbers in his article as if they were fact. The truth is that each AmeriCorps Member costs at most \$21,000 per year, including a \$4,725 educational award to be used for further college or job training. This per member figure is \$6,000 less per year than the figure reported by your newspaper.

In addition, the article and editorial both:

- \* Exaggerated the cost of the project by at least \$48,000.
- \* Severely underreported the amount, the complexity, success, and the importance of the community service performed.
- \* Failed to report that the food grown in the community gardens has been used to help feed hundreds of low-income families.
- \* Incorrectly failed to describe the vital planting, outreach, and education service provided by the AmeriCorps Members throughout the winter.
- \* Fabricated untrue stories that AmeriCorps Members were paid for quitting early on hot days.
- \* Claimed erroneously that the project did not have the required tools and equipment.
- \* Confused the reality that the Members are successfully completing the program during the Summer with the false notion that they are somehow being laid-off.

The truth is that the AmeriCorps Members worked hard throughout the Winter and Summer providing vital services to the people of East St. Louis and Belleville. The truth is the project correctly spent the budget allowed to it. The truth is that Belleville and East St. Louis have both significantly benefited from the service of the AmeriCorps Members.

In our conversation, Mr. Pawlaczyk promised his article would include full coverage of the flood-relief work performed by the USDA AmeriCorps crew serving in Belleville. However, his lengthy article only included one eleven-word sentence on flood relief. It is clear that his article did not seriously describe the flood relief work for two reasons: 1) describing such obviously worthwhile work would undermine his assignment to prove AmeriCorps was a "boondoggle," and 2) focusing on Belleville --- where the your paper's readers live --- would hold your paper you much greater reader scrutiny over the accuracy of your claims.

Had the article been fair, it would have reported that the USDA AmeriCorps crew based in Belleville 4,000 feet of stream and land adjoining Bluff Road, which suffered from massive flooding in 1993. Among other things, the AmeriCorps Members surveyed the area, drew survey chart, removed trees that would interfere with the stabilization work, cut out ditches and removed silt, and placed "filter fabric" and rip rocks in the stream to prevent future flooding and erosion. This service was performed far more cheaply by the AmeriCorps crew than had it been performed by government employees or private contractors.



Mr. Pawlaczyk also failed to report a very moving story from my site visit to the project, which I related to him in our conversation. In June, I travelled to a project site Centerville, where the AmeriCorps Members were working to create a park on land that had been donated by a mother in memory of her son that had been recently shot. On that day, a mostly white group of about 15 7th and 8th grade volunteers from St. Phillips Church in Belleville worked alongside the mostly African-American AmeriCorps Members from E. St. Louis building a playground in that new park. This day provided a inspiring testament not only to AmeriCorps' ability to bring people together across racial lines, but how AmeriCorps boosts local volunteer efforts and and empowers local communities.

The true facts are clear. AmeriCorps is cost-effective. AmeriCorps rewards work instead of welfare. AmeriCorps renews the spirit of community involvement that made AmeriCorps great.

I simply hope that when the *News-Democrat* covers this issue in the futures, it reports the facts -- and only the facts.

Sincerely,

Joel Berg  
Director of National Service  
United States Department of Service



Editorial Page Editor  
*The Belleville News-Democrat*

q  
 ww

To the Editor:

In attempt to smear both the people of East St. Louis and President Clinton's AmeriCorps program with one cheap shot, the *New-Democrat* just printed a factually incorrect news article, editorial, and cartoon about the USDA AmeriCorps program.

The fact that the article, editorial, and cartoon appeared in the newspaper on the same day indicates that the *News-Democrat* had made a high-ranking editorial decision in advance to attack the program, and then has simply instructed its reporter to fabricate facts to support the pre-arranged attack.

The factual errors are numerous,. and glaring:

**False Claim:** The project costs the Federal government "\$658,000."

**Reality:** While the final costs can not be precisely calculated until the service year ends, the project will cost the Federal government no more than \$610,000, including the educational awards for each Member who successfully completes the program.

**False Claim:** "Community gardens are planted but become overgrown with weeds."

**Reality:** The project's original community service objective was to create 15 community gardens, which would subsequently be maintained by community residents. The project exceeded its original goal by creating 22 gardens. The vast majority of the gardens we created are fully functioning, are maintained regularly by community residents, and are actively producing food. The two largest of those gardens alone have produced so many vegetables that they have fed hundreds of low-income citizens after being distributed by local food pantries. Like virtually every garden or farm in Southern Illinois, the AmeriCorps gardens grew a few extra weeds because of the heavy rains in the Spring and abnormally hot temperature in the Summer. However, AmeriCorps Members and community residents have regularly removed weeds from the gardens.

**False Claim:** "The workers are paid during the winter to sit around and do nothing."

**Reality:** Throughout the winter, the we performed valuable service and obtained necessary training. In the few cases when some AmeriCorps Members were caught not performing their assigned duties, they were disciplined and they were not paid for those hours. During the winter, the we accomplished the following: started growing a minimum of 4,000 tomato, cabbage, collard green, watermelon, and cucumber plants in greenhouses for later re-planting in community gardens; taught a grade school class about horticulture; planted 64 trees on the campus of the community college; met with over 150 different community residents to plan the gardens; conducted eight site investigations and drafted work plans for those sites; and transferred community college blueprints to a computer database in order to meet state requirements. In addition, we received the bulk of our year's worth of training -- less than 20% of the overall service hours for the year --- during the winter.

**False Claim:** "The same workers are sent home at noon during the summer because its too hot."

**Reality:** In the few cases where AmeriCorps we stopped worked early during extreme heat, we either started earlier in the morning to make up the time or were not paid for the time. In the very few instances in which our manager made this option available, East St. Louis was in an official "heat alert," which literally killed residents in other parts of Illinois. The bottom line is that we only got paid for hours they actually worked.

**False Claim:** "These and other factors have turned an ambitious \$658,000 federal jobs program in East St. Louis into what the director admits has been a disappointment."

**Reality:** Again, the article exaggerated the cost of the project by at least \$48,000. It is a service program, not a "jobs' program. The Director, Don Wallace, never, ever called it a "disappointment." While Wallace mentioned to the reporter few minor frustrations he faced in the course of the year, Wallace's comments continually returned to the remarkable accomplishments of the project.

**False Claim:** "After ten months, the program still lacks basic equipment."

**Reality:** There has not been one single day in the project in which we have been unable to perform valuable community service due to lack of proper tools and equipment. The project has purchased, obtain donations of, or borrowed equipment sufficient for all its projects.



**False Claim:** "Director Don Wallace plans to lay off workers early because the program is nearly out of money."

**Reality:** We Members who are ending our service soon are doing so because we successfully completed our full 1,700-hour term of service. We are not being laid-off. The program did not run out of money. We are serving exact the term of service proscribed by law and the project is spending only the funds originally granted.

**False Claim:** "'I'll take the blame for letting them sit around all January,' Wallace said. 'I should have given them the month off. Maybe then we would have had enough money to pay them.'"

**Reality:** Wallace was severely misquoted. He was explaining that since many of us worked so hard, we finished our hours in the Summer with a few weeks still left in the prime growing season. Wallace was expressing his own personal view that, if some of the members had taken some vacation time in the Winter, they would take a longer time to finish their hours in the summer.

**False Claim:** A small garden in Rush City that was supposed to provide fresh vegetables for neighborhoods residents has been abandoned and is overgrown with weeds. A "no trespassing" sign was posted after it was learned the garden was placed on public lands."

**Reality:** Out of the 22 gardens we created, the Rush City site is the only one not currently in operation as a garden. The service performed at this site was in addition to the regular scheduled activities of the project. The service was performed in response to a request from Operation New Spirit, a community-based group that knew that land was owned by the county but was unaware that the county was planning to soon sell the land. Moreover, even without a garden at the site, the work performed by Members who cleaned debris from this site will save the county money when the county sells the land.

**False Claim:** "Behind the Lessie Bates David Neighborhood House, another garden effort has failed. A few cabbages can be seen in it, but little else. Kids yanked out most of what was planted there."

**The Reality:** The reporter gave his personal opinion in the guise of news by stating the project has "failed." It is true that local children have continually vandalized the site, but it is equally true that our project has continually replaced the vandalized plants. Blaming our project for this problem is like blaming a graffiti removal project for the fact that graffiti may later be added again to any site that was cleaned.



**False Claim:** These and 13 other gardens are the most visible results of the horticulture program funded by AmeriCorps."

**Reality:** The reporter purposely described the two weakest garden sites out of the 22 -- not 15 --- created. One 1/2 acre garden at the community college has successfully grown tomatoes, cabbage, collard greens, squash, green beans, peppers, okra, eggplant, cabbage, lettuce, turnips, and spinach that have fed 130 people through local food pantries. This garden will has three seasons of crops: Spring, Summer, and Fall. Another garden created by AmeriCorps --- the Lovejoy Garden --- is an acre in size and has fed over 150 through food pantries. The article also failed to mention other gardens such as the 1/3 acre garden at the AM Jackson Grade School or and the 1/4 acre garden the project created for use by the local 4-H club.

**False Claim:** "Nine workers were later shifted to flood relief work."

**Reality:** The Members were selected at the very start of the program expressly for flood relief work. Moreover, the article included absolutely no description of the vital service these Members have provided to the flood-impacted areas of Belleville.

**False Claim:** "As the program nears the end of its first year, the 15 gardens built by AmeriCorps Members have been turned over to residents to tend. Many have been overtaken by weeds."

**Reality:** The reporter has greatly oversimplified the process of community involvement and exaggerated the number and impact of weeds growing on some of the lots. The project is focused on long-term sustainability, ensuring that the community will continue to care for the gardens itself --- whether or not the AmeriCorps project continues. Thus, the project started by running a notice in the *East St. Louis Monitor* requesting proposals for gardens from citizens and community groups. Over 30 groups and citizens applied, and 22 were selected. All the selected groups and individuals were sent a letter explaining that it is their responsibility to maintain the gardens that are created by AmeriCorps. Again, most of the 22 gardens created by the members are now producing food. It is not accurate to state the sites are "overtaken by weeds." There may be weeds at some sites, but there are weeds on any commercial farm, no matter how productive.

**False claim:** Picture of a garden with the caption: "UNTENDED: Dying plants fill a garden behind Lessie Bates."



**Reality:** This incorrect caption, which purports to show okra, even contradicts the incorrect information in the body of the story, which claims the only thing growing in the garden is "a few cabbages." So much for the paper's knowledge of agriculture. In fact, the plants pictured in the photo are very much alive, despite the heat wave.

**False Claim:** "Lacking equipment and supplies, workers now spend much of their time mowing grass, pruning trees, or picking up trash."

**Reality:** Again, the project is not "lacking equipment or supplies" critical to completion of the project. Just in the last few weeks, the Members are continuing flood recovery work in Belleville, working in Kenneth Hall Park (formerly Jones Park cutting down and into pieces dead and dangerous trees and saving the city \$700 per tree, working in Kenneth Hall Park restoring the shoreline of the lake, providing technical assistance to help the community groups learn how to maintain their gardens, and maintaining flower beds, pruning, and mowing on the campus of the community college. Members are also now working with mental health patients to teach them how to plant gardens.

**False Claim:** "Besides building gardens, workers cleared eight vacant lots."

**Reality:** The Members cleaned up 12; in some, they planted flowers and/or trees.

**False Claim:** The Members "cleaned out a small greenhouse at East St. Louis Senior High School ... and a second greenhouse project in Kenneth Hall Park has barely been touched."

**Reality:** The so-called "small" greenhouse at the high school is actually 30 feet by 60 feet, or 1,800 square feet. At this site, we removed a dumptruck load of debris, removed and fully replaced a brick floor, replaced rotten wooden benches, removed and replaced a rusted water system, replaced a cooling system, and repaired furnaces so that the greenhouse can once again be used to both grow plants and house horticultural classes for the students. The second greenhouse, at Kenneth Hall Park, is huge: 24 feet by 96 feet, or 2,300 square feet. Despite the report's claims that this site "has barely been touched," we have cleaned it completely, removed its broken roof, repaired its wood supports, painted new studs along the side, and used it to produce plant materials for the gardens. We are now re-paneling the building. In addition, the reporter totally ignored the work performed on the campus of the community college, which is a vital center serving countless East St. Louis residents. At the college, we have planted 64 trees, planted 50 shrubs, created 5 flower beds with 6,000 flowers, and generally help improve and maintain more than 15 acres of land on the college's campus.

**False Claim:** A plan to sell vegetables from the gardens was scuttled when it was learned that the gardens could not be placed on public land. Homeowners who later agreed to have gardens planted on their lots said they were unwilling to tend the plots, only to see the produce trucked off for sale."

**Reality:** There was never a plan to sell the vegetables. Sites were simply informed that they had the option of working with USDA's "WIC Farmer's Market" program to sell the produce at markets to recipients of Federal nutrition assistance. Although none chose this option, most of the produce --- including that produced by Reverend Davis' garden --- is being distributed to low-income community residents. It is absurd to imply that those maintaining the gardens have any different expectations about the use of those gardens than does the AmeriCorps project. Our gardening partners are generally extremely pleased with the service we have provided.

**False Claim:** "Much of the \$30,000 allocated for equipment and supplies was spent on gasoline and other expenses, Wallace said. Last week, only \$500 of the money remained and is reserved for emergencies."

**Reality:** This money was spent on equipment. No significant funds were spent on gasoline. Given that the program year is virtually over, it is fully logical that the equipment money has almost all been used. The project spend every dollar allotted to it in the correct budget category.

The reality is that the people of Belleville and East St. Louis have benefited greatly from our service. The reality is that the program was well run and taxpayer funds were well spent. The reality is that this is one of the best personal experience we have ever had and that it will make us far better citizens. We are proud to be Members of AmeriCorps. We have "gotten things done," improved our community, learned personal responsibility and increased educational opportunity.

Sincerely,

John Doesmith

Jermemy Berkowitz

Mary Contrary

Ellen Jones

Tanya Hansen

Tom Leary

AmeriCorps/USDA Members in East St. Louis and Belleville



## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Corporation Programs and Grantees

FROM: Terry Russell, General Counsel 

RE: Lobbying, Political or Advocacy Activities

Date: April 12, 1996



In light of the fact that we are in the midst of an election year, the Corporation wanted to re-state and re-issue our policy on lobbying, political and advocacy activities. Since its inception, the Corporation for National Service has strictly prohibited programs or participants from using Corporation funds to lobby Congress or to engage in other partisan political activities or advocacy activities. As you know, individuals who are serving in programs funded by the Corporation are prohibited from engaging in lobbying activities or partisan political activities, in the course of their duties, at the request of program staff, or in a manner that would associate their activities with their programs or with the Corporation. Examples of political activity that would be unlawful in the above circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- organizing a letter-writing campaign to Congress;
- printing politically charged articles in a Corporation-funded newsletter;
- advocating for changes in state or local laws, including state or local ballot initiatives;
- organizing or participating in voter registration drives;
- taking part in political demonstrations or rallies; and
- engaging in other advocacy activities related to protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes.

The Bill of Rights guarantees the freedom of speech to all Americans, including the right to contact members of Congress. Accordingly, individuals serving in Corporation-funded programs may exercise their First Amendment rights. However, they should do so on their own time, at their own expense, at their own initiative and not wearing an AmeriCorps uniform. For example, if AmeriCorps Members, as individuals, want to lobby a Member of Congress, that is their right to do so. However, they may not use AmeriCorps funds for

1201 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20525  
Telephone 202-606-5000

Getting Things Done.  
AmeriCorps. National Service  
Learn and Serve America  
National Senior Service Corps

Draft May 11, 1994

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of Communications  
Director of National Service  
ES- 0301**

I. Introduction

The primary function of the incumbent of this office is to serve as Director of National Service for the Department. The incumbent is responsible for planning, organizing, directing, reviewing, and coordinating the functions and operations of all national service and employee volunteerism efforts in the Department.

The mission of the Center for National Service is: to incorporate the Department of Agriculture into the President's national service initiative, to run USDA national service programs, to provide technical assistance to constituency groups seeking to run national service programs, and to promote the volunteer efforts of Department of Agriculture employees. The Center will manage with budget of over \$25 million that will start in the fall of 1994 with an estimated 1,500 participants at 30 sites in every region of the country.

II. Duties and Responsibilities

The incumbent holds full responsibility for the following:

- 1) Advising the Secretary of Agriculture, the White House, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department Deputy, Under, and Assistant Secretaries, agency administrators and office heads, and the Director of Communications on all matters relating to Department of Agriculture USDA national service and employee volunteer programs.
- 2) Representing the Secretary of Agriculture on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.
- 4) Coordinating all national service partnerships and interactions between the Department of Agriculture and other federal agencies.
- 5) Creating department-level program proposals to be submitted to the Corporation for National and Community Service.



- 6) Overseeing the day-to-day management of all USDA national service pilot programs, including issues relating to budget, financial management, administration, programmatic activities, recruitment, supervision, and intergovernmental affairs.
- 7) Managing the daily activities of national service staff in OC.
- 8) Coordinating the work of all Department of Agriculture employees outside of OC who conduct national service planning or management work.
- 9) Serving as the primary liaison to Congressional offices and state and local government offices relating to Departmental national service initiatives.
- 10) Acting as a member of the Office of Communications' management team, fully participating in the activities of the office.

## II. Responsibility for the Work of Others

Is fully responsible for building and managing a culturally diverse work force at all levels, establishing and communicating annual equal opportunity and civil rights expectations, promoting the advancement of employees through effective career counselling, and affording all employees equal access to developmental training and work assignments. Is fully responsible for creating national service programs that have participants that are diverse in every way.

Responsible for implementing the Secretary's policy in Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights. Provides equal opportunity in employment for all subordinates, applicants, and hires; prohibits discrimination in employment based on race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or handicap condition; and promotes a full realization of equal employment through continuous affirmative actions within the work environment. When employees under the direct supervision of the incumbent have been assigned specific EEO or Civil Rights functions and responsibilities, the incumbent is responsible for assuring adequate time, resources, and support for the accomplishment of these duties.

## III. Scope and Effect of Work

The incumbent of this position shares in high-level work that impacts the U.S. Department of Agriculture's policies, programs, and decisions, which have immense impact on the agricultural well-being of the U.S. and also affect intergovernmental relations and U.S. relations with foreign countries.





## Three Wishes...

### Great AmeriCorps Stories!

The Corporation for National Service's office of public affairs has three wishes we ask you to grant us. Please send us:

1. Copies of your **public relations materials**.
2. Copies of any **letters** you receive from recipients of AmeriCorps service (parents, teachers, police officers, community members, etc.).
3. **Great AmeriCorps stories!** SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR DETAILS. Here are some examples to get you started.

*from the National Council of Churches, Pittsburgh, PA*

At the beginning of 1995, a bright young student at Pittsburgh's Peabody High School was shot and killed. Because AmeriCorps members were there, the community was able to recover from this tragedy and avert an onslaught of reactive violence.

"Our school and our community were devastated," says Principal Vernon Phillips Jr. "AmeriCorps members played an instrumental role in helping us through a major grieving process. By holding late night rap sessions with students and parents, monitoring hallways, and working with teachers to sensitively address resulting behavioral problems in the classroom, they prevented a retaliation that would have had monumental impact on the whole east side of the city. AmeriCorps was right there with us."

*from the Washington Conservation Corps, WA*

AmeriCorps members who helped contain one of the largest wildfires in the history of Washington State found that they were even more valuable in the fire's aftermath. The area burned supported over 5,000 mule deer. These animals would have starved to death this winter if not fed by this crew who, on average, deliver 9,000 pounds of alfalfa pellets to these animals every day.

*from SERVE HOUSTON, Houston, TX*

Starting from scratch and using the youth programming expertise of the local YMCA, AmeriCorps members in the gang-ridden Gulfton area created youth activities "clubhouses" inside three apartment buildings. The clubhouses serve as after-school learning, recreation and nutrition centers for 150 children between the ages of six and fourteen, many of whom have limited language and social skills. The project has been so successful that AmeriCorps members are currently creating a new set of clubhouses on Houston's near north side.

March 15, 1995

To: State Commissions and National Direct Grantees (*Please share with programs and their staff, service partners and AmeriCorps members*)  
From: Office of Public Affairs  
Re: **Telling Great AmeriCorps Stories**

---

Next to ensuring high quality, the single most important thing you can do to make your AmeriCorps program succeed is to communicate effectively about it. How much or little community support your program receives is at least partly dependent upon how well you convey the amount of work you're doing and the amount of impact this work is having on people's lives.

Many outstanding AmeriCorps programs are not yet communicating as effectively as they might just how good they really are. Following are a few suggestions for doing so. The public affairs office may be calling you (through your State Commissions or parent organizations) from time to time to gather these kinds of program descriptions and stories.

**1. Describe program activities clearly.** Ask yourself, "*Could a stranger picture what I'm describing?*" If the answer is no, get more specific. It's impossible to picture "enhancing the educational achievement of school-age youth," but much easier to picture "helping 200 second graders learn to read" Other examples:

- Clear: "In a highly visible partnership with the constable, SERVE HOUSTON AmeriCorps members visit the homes of truants to confirm their absentee status and encourage better school attendance."
- Clear: "Washington Gardens Head Start Program had recently lost its licensing because of an enormous amount of broken glass in the gravel playground area. EnviroCorps has begun the clean-up that will enable those children to again use the playground equipment."
- Unclear: "AmeriCorps members are mobilizing more community volunteers and outreach programs to act as parenting resources and to work for education."

Note that it's not important to describe all of your program's activities. In fact, it's probably preferable to focus on one or two components.

**2. Emphasize results.** There are several effective ways to do this.

a. Whenever possible, use numbers; quantify your achievements. Say how many homes were built, immunizations given, volunteers recruited, after school programs created, dollars saved. There are some exceptions, though. In particular, numbers of hours served are not in themselves impressive, since we don't know from the numbers how well each of those hours was spent!



- "They participated in a community-wide river cleanup project that removed a total of 120 tons of river trash from the St. Joseph River."
- Impressive: "By providing computer upgrading services ordinarily valued at as much as one hundred dollars an hour, Members are saving the city of New York \$3.5 million in the program's first year."
- Less impressive: Number of conferences, workshops, leaflets distributed, hours served.

b. Where results are less quantifiable, use personal testimony to strengthen the story. This means everything from formal letters and reports to one-on-one conversations.

- "In less than six months, Members have secured 7 neighborhood parks used by more than 200 children. Police officers report that the Members' presence has helped reduce the incidence of crime in this gang-ridden community."
- "'Last year, we had so many fires that went untended,' says Joe Brabender, Fire and Fuel Suppression Manager of Deerlodge National Forest. 'With AmeriCorps Members, we can catch fires earlier, before they cost millions of dollars to put out.'"
- "'It sure is easier to get in and out of my house now that I have the new steps and the hand rail,'" writes Luella Mitzkers of Missoula. "I want to thank you for everything."

c. State a clear problem and clear solution addressed by a single project or an entire program. This makes for outstanding stories.

- Problem: The Washington Gardens Head Start program lost its license because of an enormous amount of broken glass on the playground. Solution: AmeriCorps Members removed the glass.
- Problem: Texas had one of the lowest immunization rates in the country. Solution: The state created the Texas VISTA Health Corps which, in the first summer of operation, immunized 104,000 children.

d. Highlight your creativity. For example, some service projects meet multiple needs with the same activity. This often happens in service learning oriented projects (the benefits are always education and whatever the program is getting done). Another example comes from SERVE HOUSTON: Members cleaned and replanted five community gardens. Because one of these gardens was adjacent to an elder care center, the members used the (literal) fruits of their labor to provide nutritious meals for the residents.

Hope this gets your story-telling juices flowing. If you have any questions or would like more examples, please contact Jodi Kanter in the office of public affairs, (202) 606-5000 x273.



## TALKING POINTS ON THE USDA AMERICORPS PROGRAM

\* USDA is sponsoring approximately 1,000 AmeriCorps Members who are serving in over 45 different states in projects fighting hunger, improving the environment, and re-building rural communities. The USDA portion of AmeriCorps is a relatively small, yet important, portion of the larger overall program; the overall program now enrolls approximately 23,000 AmeriCorps members serving in every state of the nation. The USDA portion of the program is highly unusual because the vast majority of AmeriCorps projects are not funded or managed by Federal agencies --- most are funded through state commissions appointed by each state's governor and are managed by non-profit organizations and local government organizations. USDA AmeriCorps projects do **NOT** duplicate the functions of AmeriCorps projects funded by state commissions; rather, USDA AmeriCorps fill unique needs that can not generally be filled by state commission-funded projects.

\* USDA AmeriCorps Members are reducing government bureaucracy by performing community service that rapidly and directly aids citizens. USDA AmeriCorps Members are not Federal employees and are not performing functions generally performed by Federal employees. However, they are performing work far more cost-effectively than would be provided through normal government methods.

\* USDA AmeriCorps projects are "getting things done" providing vital and mainstream service to rural, suburban, and urban communities throughout America. For instance, USDA projects are building trails and fighting fire on National Forests, improving city parks, aiding rural fire departments, creating urban gardens, bringing running water to low-income rural families, and teaching children how to improve their nutrition.

\* USDA AmeriCorps projects provide taxpayers with double the "bang for the buck." USDA is simply utilizing funds already appropriated to the Department. For instance, USDA Forest Service projects use some funding from existing trail repair budgets. Not only do the AmeriCorps Members repair more trails than would be repaired by other means, they also bring communities together, promote personal responsibility, and help the earn their own way through college --- all for the same tax dollars that normally would fund just the trail repair.

\* USDA AmeriCorps projects are strengthening communities. Usually working in partnership with community-based organizations, USDA AmeriCorps Members are meeting the most pressing needs in each of hundreds of locales in which they are operating. The service projects are not designed or implemented as a cookie cutter approach dictated from Washington --- all the projects are locally-proposed and locally-administered. Consequently, virtually all of the USDA AmeriCorps projects have



received broad-based bi-partisan support from local community leaders.

\* Most USDA AmeriCorps projects are in rural and suburban areas that often receive less aid from the Federal government. These areas also often lack significant non-profit sector support networks. USDA has a field structure that is uniquely suited to run programs in traditionally under-served areas. USDA AmeriCorps projects are particularly important in North and South Dakota, which currently do not have state national service commissions.

\* The USDA program enables AmeriCorps Members to perform tasks requiring technical expertise far beyond the capabilities of the vast majority of non-profit organizations. For instance, under direct and sustained supervision from experts in the field, USDA AmeriCorps Members are inspecting flood-damaged dams, implementing strategic plans to create local jobs, designing and implementing entire recycling programs for counties, helping farmers diversify their crops, bolstering Empowerment Zones and Enterprise communities, designing and building timber bridges, and decreasing ground water pollution. If AmeriCorps Members are to "get things done" that require more than simple physical labor and that result in long-lasting improvements in communities, then Members need the kind of advanced technical training and supervision that can be provided by entities such as USDA.

\* The USDA AmeriCorps program forges common bonds of unity among all Americans. By bringing together Americans of all races, classes, genders, religions, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, AmeriCorps strengthens the cords that bind us together as a people. The "sweat equity" created by AmeriCorps is playing a role in healing the nation's wounds and bridging our divisions. AmeriCorps is changing the country because it creates a new civic compact in which any citizen can be tied to the nation by the simple virtue of making a difference in the lives of others.

\* The USDA AmeriCorps program expands educational and economic opportunity. Participants in the program receive a small living stipend and an educational award worth \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college, graduate school, job training, or to pay back existing student loans. There is NO economic needs test to participate in this program -- the only requirement to participate is a desire to serve the country. Thus, this program greatly boosts students from the middle class, who were previously told that their families "make too much money" to qualify for most existing Federal aid programs. Yet the program also helps low income families for whom aid programs are clearly insufficient.

\* The USDA AmeriCorps program promotes personal responsibility.



All AmeriCorps projects require extremely hard work in exchange for educational benefits, while helping AmeriCorps Members build a life-long commitment to community service. AmeriCorps gives all Americans a new way of giving something back to the country. It reminds us that, along with rights we enjoy as citizens, we all have certain obligations to protect those rights and to aid our own communities. Furthermore, AmeriCorps gives young people a tangible way to take charge of their own lives.

#### USDA AMERICORPS SUMMER OF GLEANING

\* In partnership with literally dozens of locally based anti-hunger groups, youth service corps, food pantries, and food recovery organizations, USDA is sponsoring special Summer of Gleaning AmeriCorps projects in 20 states. This special summer initiative is a small, but important, part of both the USDA AmeriCorps program and the overall AmeriCorps program.

\* The Summer of Gleaning projects promote the general idea of food recovery, a top personal priority of Secretary Glickman. These projects are designed to work with farmers, agribusinesses, food distribution organizations, institutions, and restaurants to recover and glean food that would be otherwise thrown away and to distribute that food to hungry people.

\* The Summer of Gleaning projects are based on the so-called volunteer generator model in which a handful of AmeriCorps Members recruit numerous non-compensated volunteers to help implement the project.

\* The Summer of Gleaning Projects last twelve weeks, during which the AmeriCorps Members receive small living stipends. All AmeriCorps Members who successfully complete this special summer program will receive a \$1,000 educational award that can be used to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

\* The Summer of Gleaning is **NOT** based on the traditional liberal premise that a heavy-handed, bureaucratically driven, large government program based in Washington has all answers to the nations' problems. Conversely, the Summer of Gleaning is **NOT** based on the traditional conservative premise that the free-market, volunteers, and non-profit organizations alone --- without any government help at all --- can solve all the nation's social problems. Rather, the Summer of Gleaning is based on the reinventing government philosophy of President Clinton, Vice-President Gore, and Secretary Glickman which believes that government must provide energy, vision, and some limited Federal funds as a catalyst to empower local communities to help solve their own problems.



## AmeriCorps

### Overview

- On September 21, 1993, President Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act into law, creating AmeriCorps.
- This year, 20,000 AmeriCorps members will be living the motto of national service by "Getting Things Done" in American communities to meet education, public safety, human and environmental needs.
- Two AmeriCorps programs are run directly by the Corporation for National Service. These programs are Volunteers in Service to America (AmeriCorps \* VISTA) and the new National Civilian Community Corps (AmeriCorps \* NCCC).
- AmeriCorps \* VISTA is the next chapter in VISTA's thirty year history of serving low income communities. Through AmeriCorps, VISTAs will continue to be placed individually in high need communities. They will work with community members to establish programs and services which respond to the needs of their communities. VISTAs must be at least 18 years old.
- AmeriCorps \* NCCC is a residential service program for young people between the ages of 18 and 24. NCCC corps members serve in teams on regional campuses located on downsized military bases. The NCCC builds on the tradition of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's and the Peace Corps. It puts young people to work meeting community needs in education, public safety, human needs and the environment. While they serve, corps members build their own teamwork and leadership skills. Improving the environment is NCCC's number one goal.
- Other AmeriCorps programs (AmeriCorps \* USA) will be run by nonprofit organizations and local, state and federal agencies supported by grants administered by the Corporation for National Service. AmeriCorps is part of the Corporation's broad service ethic encompassing every stage of life, every "Season of Service" -- from service learning



programs for K-12 students to the programs of the National Senior Service Corps for older Americans. In general, AmeriCorps \* USA members must be at least 17 years old.

### Impacts and Benefits

- AmeriCorps programs will be designed and implemented to achieve three kinds of impacts in communities and across the country. First, AmeriCorps will **get things done** through direct and demonstrable service which addresses urgent community needs in our national priority areas. Second, AmeriCorps will **strengthen communities** by creating partnerships among institutions and individuals. AmeriCorps will bring together citizens of all ages and backgrounds to make lasting, constructive change in our communities. Finally, AmeriCorps will **develop participants** by enhancing their educational opportunities, skills, and commitment to active citizenship.
- In exchange for a year of full-time service, AmeriCorps members can receive a living allowance, health insurance, child care and, upon successful completion of a term of service, an education award of \$4,725. NCCC corps members may choose to accept half the education award in cash. Participants in AmeriCorps \* USA may also serve part-time over a two to three year period.

### Priorities

To ensure that the Corporation is "Getting Things Done" in American communities, we have established priorities among the educational, public safety, human, and environmental needs we will address. These priorities are:

#### In education:

- School Readiness: furthering early childhood development by working in day care and Head Start centers and teaching literacy and other basic skills to parents of young children.
- School Success: mentoring, tutoring and providing after-school

learning opportunities to school-aged youth and to adults who lack basic skills.

In public safety:

- Crime prevention: reducing the incidence of violence by creating safe havens, providing conflict resolution training and substance abuse counseling.
- Crime control: working with local law enforcement, creating neighborhood watch associations, escorting seniors and providing victims with social service referrals.

In human needs:

- Health: providing independent living assistance to the homebound elderly and others in need; offering prenatal care, parenting education and health care through home visits and community health clinics.
- Home: rebuilding neighborhoods by providing shelter support, renovating and rehabilitating low-income housing, and providing job training.

In the environment:

- Neighborhood environment: creating and maintaining recreation areas, green spaces, and community gardens; eliminating environmental risks through education, testing and cleanup; reducing waste through energy efficiency, recycling and other efforts.
- Natural environment: conserving and restoring public lands, forests, rivers, streams, and wetlands; maintaining trails; sampling, mapping, monitoring and recording air and water quality.

### How To Get Involved

- AmeriCorps \* VISTAs are selected by local projects or by regional VISTA placement officers. To get an application for VISTA, call your regional placement office or call the Corporation for National Service at 1-800-94-ACORPS. (TDD# 1-800-833-3722)



- AmeriCorps \* NCCC corps members are selected by the national AmeriCorps staff. To get an application for NCCC, call the Corporation.
- AmeriCorps \* USA members are selected by local AmeriCorps programs, but some participants will be referred through our national recruitment database.

To find out about AmeriCorps \* USA programs in your area, contact your State Commission on national service. You can locate your Commission through your governor's office or by calling the Corporation for National Service in Washington at (202) 606-5000.

- To enter the AmeriCorps national referral system, call our toll free number, 1-800-94-ACORPS. You will receive an AmeriCorps brochure and referral form. Once you fill out the referral form and mail it in, you will be placed into our database. You will receive information on programs as they become part of the AmeriCorps national service network. You can then contact the local program directly to request an application.
- Programs across the country will be able to access your referral form through the expanded AmeriCorps national database and contact you concerning available service opportunities.
- To find out more about how you can get involved in AmeriCorps programs, call 1-800-94-ACORPS.

#### Requirements for Participants and for Programs

- In general, to receive education awards, AmeriCorps members must be at least seventeen years of age and must have a high school diploma or its equivalent, or agree to obtain one before using their education award. The award is paid directly to a lending or educational institution.
- Programs eligible for AmeriCorps \* USA funding include those run by nonprofit organizations; local, state and federal governments; Indian tribes; institutions of higher education; and school and police districts.

## Federal Agency AmeriCorps Talking Points

- President Clinton has directed his Cabinet to get incorporate service into their missions and to get involved in AmeriCorps, the new national service initiative.
- Most federal agency programs are community-based. National service can provide the seed money to get things done in communities long after the AmeriCorps grant has expired.
- Funding to AmeriCorps programs will flow roughly as follows:
  - \* 1/3 to States on a population based formula
  - \* 1/3 to States on a competitive basis
  - \* 1/3 reserved by the Corporation for National Service to fund programs operated by federal agencies, national non-profits, professional corps and multistate programs. Up to 1/3 of this share may go to federal agencies.
- Federal can apply for AmeriCorps funding independently or form partnerships with other agencies; non-profit organizations; local, state and federal governments; Indian tribes; institutions of higher education; or school and police districts.
- State Commissions or Alternative Administrative Entities will receive two-thirds of AmeriCorps funding. Although federal agencies cannot be the lead agencies for local AmeriCorps programs, we encourage them to partner with state and local programs. Commissions will be nonpartisan and are mandated by law to include youth and representatives of local labor organizations, local service programs, the State education agency, local governments, business and youth service agencies.
- Federal agencies can use AmeriCorps funds to support existing service programs or to develop and implement new ones.
- AmeriCorps is an extraordinary opportunity for federal agencies to leverage their resources to help strengthen communities. By embracing this opportunity, agencies can further the common interests of their constituents and of all American citizens.



## Public Safety AmeriCorps Talking Points

- AmeriCorps' mission is to provide direct service which addresses our nation's most pressing educational, public safety, human and environmental needs and to provide educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- To help ensure that AmeriCorps fulfills its mission, the Corporation for National Service has established national priorities. In public safety, these priorities are: **Crime Prevention: reducing the incidence of violence** and **Crime Control: improving criminal justice services, law enforcement and victim services.**
- There is much that AmeriCorps members can do to prevent and control crime and violence. They can assist in community policing efforts, organizing neighborhood watch associations and working at police precinct houses. They can help provide victims services, supervising children at courtroom day care centers and staffing victim assistance hotlines. They can help fight substance abuse by providing counseling and education. And they can help reduce domestic violence by conducting outreach efforts, providing social service referrals, organizing support networks and helping to operate domestic violence shelters.
- At the same time, AmeriCorps helps create a stronger citizenry through the work of service itself and by providing future educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- AmeriCorps can help create a stronger, safer America.

## The Environment

### AmeriCorps Talking Points

- AmeriCorps' mission is to provide direct service which addresses our nation's most pressing educational, public safety, human and environmental needs, and to provide educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- To help ensure that AmeriCorps fulfills its mission, the Corporation for National Service has established national priorities. In the environment, these priorities are: **Neighborhood Environment: reducing community environmental hazards** and **Natural Environment: conserving, restoring and sustaining natural habitats.**
- There is much that AmeriCorps members can do to restore our neighborhoods and natural environment. They can help eliminate environmental risks through education, testing and cleanup. They can help restore public lands, forests, rivers, streams and wetlands. They can create and maintain recreation areas, green spaces, and community gardens. And they can reduce waste through energy efficiency efforts, recycling and other conservation efforts.
- One AmeriCorps program, the National Civilian Community Corps (AmeriCorps NCCC) will focus particular attention on environmental concerns, from disaster relief to lead paint removal and other neighborhood clean-up efforts to conservation of natural resources.
- At the same time, AmeriCorps helps create a stronger citizenry through the work of service itself and by providing future educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- AmeriCorps can help meet environmental needs and strengthen America.
- To find out more, call 1-800-94-ACORPS.



## Education AmeriCorps Talking Points

- AmeriCorps' mission is to provide direct service which addresses our nation's most pressing educational, public safety, human and environmental needs, and to provide educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- To help ensure that AmeriCorps fulfills its mission, the Corporation for National Service has established national priorities. In education, these priorities are **School Readiness: furthering early childhood development** and **School Success: aiding the educational achievement of school-aged youth and adults who lack basic education skills.**
- There is much that AmeriCorps members can do help young people prepare for and succeed in school. They can tutor and mentor at risk youth. They can help to strengthen Head Start programs and provide day care. They can create and run after school programs for children in need. And they can help engage parents by teaching parenting education classes, arranging job search workshops, and involving parents in activities to improve their own basic skills while they help their children learn.
- At the same time, through post-service education awards, AmeriCorps helps provide future educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- AmeriCorps can help educate and strengthen America.
- To find out more, call 1-800-94-ACORPS.

## Human Needs AmeriCorps Talking Points

- AmeriCorps' mission is to provide direct service which addresses our nation's most pressing educational, public safety, human and environmental needs.
- To help ensure that AmeriCorps fulfills its mission, the Corporation for National Service has established national priorities. In human needs, these priorities are: **Health: providing independent living assistance, home and community based health care and Home: rebuilding neighborhoods and helping people who are homeless.**
- There is much that AmeriCorps members can do to improve health care and rebuild our neighborhoods. They can help improve infant and child health care by conducting health outreach, teaching preventive health classes, arranging child care and transportation, providing nutritional counseling and ensuring that children are immunized. They can facilitate the independent living of those in need including seniors, veterans and AIDS patients by conducting home visits, providing routine preventive health checks, and offering companionship. They can help bring people out of homelessness by conducting home management sessions and linking homeless people to community services. And they can aid disaster relief efforts by assisting local authorities with coordinated responses to national emergencies.
- At the same time, AmeriCorps helps create a stronger citizenry through the work of service itself and by providing future educational opportunities for those who make a substantial commitment to service.
- AmeriCorps can help meet human needs and strengthen America.
- To find out more, call 1-800-94-ACORPS.



## Federal Agency AmeriCorps Talking Points

- President Clinton has directed his Cabinet to get incorporate service into their missions and to get involved in AmeriCorps, the new national service initiative.
- Most federal agency programs are community-based. National service can provide the seed money to get things done in communities long after the AmeriCorps grant has expired.
- Funding to AmeriCorps programs will flow roughly as follows:
  - \* 1/3 to States on a population based formula
  - \* 1/3 to States on a competitive basis
  - \* 1/3 reserved by the Corporation for National Service to fund programs operated by federal agencies, national non-profits, professional corps and multistate programs. Up to 1/3 of this share may go to federal agencies.
- Federal can apply for AmeriCorps funding independently or form partnerships with other agencies; non-profit organizations; local, state and federal governments; Indian tribes; institutions of higher education; or school and police districts.
- State Commissions or Alternative Administrative Entities will receive two-thirds of AmeriCorps funding. Although federal agencies cannot be the lead agencies for local AmeriCorps programs, we encourage them to partner with state and local programs. Commissions will be nonpartisan and are mandated by law to include youth and representatives of local labor organizations, local service programs, the State education agency, local governments, business and youth service agencies.
- Federal agencies can use AmeriCorps funds to support existing service programs or to develop and implement new ones.
- AmeriCorps is an extraordinary opportunity for federal agencies to leverage their resources to help strengthen communities. By embracing this opportunity, agencies can further the common interests of their constituents and of all American citizens.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

OUTLINE OF LEGISLATION

**NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE TRUST ACT**

The national service initiative is designed to tackle the nation's problems by mobilizing Americans of every background, and particularly young people, in service to our communities and country. The program extends support for service from the youngest elementary students to our oldest citizens, and includes everything from part-time volunteer activities to full-time public service jobs. The centerpiece of the effort to support service is a new program to offer educational awards to Americans who make a substantial commitment to service. In addition to this program, which builds on the youth corps and demonstration programs of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, the National and Community Service Trust Act includes:

- Extension and improvement of programs in the National and Community Service Act of 1990 that enhance elementary and secondary education through community service in schools, support after-school and summer programs for school-age youth, and fund service programs on college campuses.
- Support for the Civilian Community Corps, to provide service opportunities in areas adversely affected by defense cutbacks.
- Support for the Points of Light Foundation, to support volunteerism.
- Extension and improvement of VISTA and the Older American Volunteer Programs authorized by the Domestic Volunteer Service Act.
- Acceleration of implementation for the Stafford Loan Forgiveness program.



# NATIONAL SERVICE INITIATIVE

## Focus of Service

- National service must address unmet educational, environmental, human, or public safety needs.
- The Corporation and State Commissions must establish priorities among these needs that programs must address.
- National service must improve the life of the participants, through citizenship education and training.
- Participants may not displace or duplicate the functions of existing workers.

## Corporation for National Service

### *Structure*

- The national service program will be administered by a government Corporation for National Service, created by combining two existing independent federal agencies, the Commission on National and Community Service and ACTION.
- The Corporation will be responsible for administering all programs authorized under the National and Community Service Act and Domestic Volunteer Service Act, including VISTA and the Older American Volunteer Programs. The Corporation will also fund training and technical assistance, service clearinghouses and other activities.
- The Corporation will have authority to combine the functions of the two sets of programs in order to reduce bureaucracy, but will maintain the distinct operational features of the VISTA and Older American Volunteer programs.
- Current ACTION employees will transfer into the Corporation within the civil service system, but other employees will be governed by a more flexible, merit-based, competitive personnel system exempt from certain civil service requirements.
- In order to build private and non-government support, the Corporation may solicit and accept private funds.

### *Governance*

- The Corporation will have a fifteen-member volunteer Board of Directors appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. It will be bipartisan, representing a broad range of viewpoints, and include persons experienced in national service and similar programs; experts in providing educational, environmental, human, or public safety service; and at least one person between the ages of 16 and 25. Board members will serve for a term of 5 years.

- Eleven Cabinet secretaries will serve as non-voting ex-officio members.
- The President will appoint the first Chairperson of the Board. The Board will appoint subsequent Chairpersons.
- The Board will review and approve the Corporation strategic plan, grantmaking decisions, regulations and policies, and evaluation plan. It will also review and advise the Corporation Chief Executive Officer concerning overall policies of the Corporation, receive and act on reports of the Inspector General, make recommendations regarding research, ensure the effective dissemination of information, and advise the President concerning service.
- The President will appoint the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation.
- The Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation will have control over personnel, prepare the strategic plan, prepare grant decisions, make grants, prepare regulations and implement them, prepare an evaluation plan, establish measurable performance goals for programs, consult with agencies, suspend payments in certain instances, prepare the annual report, and submit to Congress such reports as are required.

#### *Oversight*

- An Inspector General will oversee programs to guard against fraud and abuse.
- Programs must arrange for independent audits and evaluations, and may also be required to participate in national or State evaluations.
- The Chief Executive Officer will establish measurable performance goals for all programs.

### **State Commissions**

#### *Structure*

- In order to receive a grant, each State must establish a commission on national service or comparable entity. The Corporation will provide funding for the State commission on a sliding matching scale, declining from 85 percent in year one to no more than 50 percent in year 4. The Corporation will provide to State Commissions not less than \$125,000 in the first year, and not less than \$175,000 in subsequent years. The Corporation will provide to State Commissions not more than \$750,000.
- With the approval of the Corporation, States may utilize alternative administrative entities, as long as they involve diverse participation in policymaking.
- Commissions will have 15 to 25 members appointed by the governors on a bipartisan basis. There must be at least one individual with expertise in training youth, one individual with experience promoting volunteerism among older adults, one



representative of community-based agencies, the head of the State educational agency, a representative of local governments, a representative of local labor organizations, a representative of business, a youth, and a representative of a national service program. Other members may include local educators, experts in the delivery of certain services, representatives of Indian tribes, and out-of-school youths.

- A representative of the Corporation will sit on each commission as an ex officio member (unless the State chooses otherwise) and act as liaison between the commission and the Corporation.
- State commissions will be responsible for States' strategic plans, State applications for funding, assistance providing health and child care, State recruiting and information systems, grant administration, and projects and training methods. State Commissions may not operate programs, though they may fund State agencies that do.
- State commissions must allocate at least 60 percent of their funds to non-State entities.

### **Allocation of Funds**

- States submitting plans approved by the Corporation will receive one-third of funds according to a population-based formula and one-third on a competitive basis.
- One-third of funds will be allocated directly by the Corporation. Programs eligible for priority consideration include federal programs, national nonprofit organizations operating multiple programs or competitive grant programs, national service initiatives in more than one State and meeting priority needs, proposals to replicate successful programs in more than one State, professional corps, and innovative national service programs. In cases of programs of comparable quality, there is a general priority for non-profit organizations. States may also receive certain of these funds.

### **Programs**

#### *Goals*

- The Corporation will establish measurable goals regarding the impact of the service on the community and on participants. Programs will also develop their own goals particular to their situation.

#### *Eligibility*

- Programs eligible for national service designation include diverse community corps, youth corps, specialized service programs focusing on a specific community need, individual placement programs, campus-based service programs, programs that train and place service-learning coordinators in schools or team leaders in corps programs, intergenerational programs, national service entrepreneurship programs, professional

corps, youthbuild programs, safe schools programs, programs for rural communities, programs to fight hunger, and current national service demonstration programs.

- Programs may be run by non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, local governments, school districts, States, or federal agencies.
- Programs may not provide direct benefits to for-profit businesses, labor unions, or partisan political organizations, or use program assistance for religious activities. Programs must comply with restrictions on political activity in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### *Selection*

- Selection criteria include quality (based on criteria developed in consultation with experts in the field), innovation, sustainability, and replicability of programs.
- Past experience and management skills of program leadership, extent of building on existing programs, and recruitment from communities served and their involvement in program design, leadership and operation will also be taken into account.
- Programs serving communities of greatest need will receive special priority. These include communities designated as economically disadvantaged, environmentally distressed, adversely affected by reductions in defense spending, adversely affected by Federal land management practices, or areas of high unemployment. Fifty percent of assistance should be distributed to these areas, with a priority for recruitment from such areas.

### *Funding*

- All participants will receive educational awards.
- To develop programs, one-year planning grants will be available. To support national service participants, three-year renewable grants will be available for program expansion or replication.
- Administrative costs will be limited to five percent of all grants other than planning grants.
- Programs must pay 15 percent of the stipend and health care benefits in cash and 25 percent of other program costs receiving federal support. The 25 percent match may be in cash or in kind from any source other than programs funded under the National and Community Service or Domestic Volunteer Service Acts.
- Federal funds must supplement, not supplant, State and local dollars.



## Participants

### *Eligibility*

- Individuals may serve before, during, or after post-secondary education.
- In general, participants may be age 17 or older. Youth corps participants may be age 16 or older.
- Participants must be high school graduates or in most cases agree to achieve their GED.

### *Selection*

- Participants will be recruited and selected on a nondiscriminatory basis and without regard to political affiliation by local programs designated by States or the federal government.
- National and State recruitment system will help interested individuals locate placements in local programs. Information about available positions will be widely disseminated through high schools, colleges and other placement offices. Recruitment efforts must pay special attention to the needs of disadvantaged youths. A special leadership corps may be recruited, trained, and placed to assist in the development of new national service programs.

### *Term of Service*

- To earn an educational award, a participant in a designated program may serve a term of service full-time over one-year or part-time over two years (three years in the case of students). The term of service is 1700 hours for full-time service and 900 hours for part-time service (with a correspondingly smaller award). An individual may serve up to two terms and earn up to two educational awards. The Corporation has authority to develop provisions to offer smaller awards for shorter periods of service.

### *Educational Awards*

- Educational awards of \$4,725 will be provided for a term of full-time service. Educational awards may be used to repay loans for higher education or to pay for higher education or training.
- Educational awards will be federally funded and deposited into a national service trust on behalf of all participants accepted into the program. Organizations and individuals may donate funds to support national service participants in the donor's community.

- Payments will be made directly to qualified post-secondary educational institutions, including two- and four-year colleges, training programs, and graduate or professional programs.
- In the case of participants with outstanding loan obligations for qualified educational activities, awards will be paid directly to lenders.
- Awards must be used within seven years of completion of a term of service.

#### *Stipends*

- Programs will set stipends within guidelines. Programs may provide stipends no less than the amount received by VISTA volunteers and no greater than twice that amount. Federal support will be limited to a match of 85 percent of the VISTA allowance, with programs paying any stipend costs above that amount.
- In the limited case of designated professional corps in areas of great need, such as teaching and public safety in underserved areas, participants may be paid a salary in excess of the guidelines and receive an educational award. However, no federal support will be available for a stipend, and professional corps will be selected on a case-by-case basis directly by the Corporation.

#### *Health and Child Care*

- All participants without access to health insurance will receive health coverage. Federal dollars will pay up to 85 percent of the cost of these benefits.
- Participants will receive child care assistance, if needed.



## SERVE-AMERICA

The proposal extends and expands the existing Serve-America program for school-age youth and Higher Education Innovative Projects for Community Service. Modifications to these programs are described below.

### Service-Learning Program

#### *Program Goals*

- To build a foundation for service among the nation's youth, inspiring them to serve and instilling in them the values and attitude to serve effectively after graduation.
- To create opportunities for all American children to serve our country.

#### *Types of Programs*

- Programs may be partnerships of local education agencies and community-based organizations.
- Local educational agencies may receive planning grants to hire service-learning coordinators.

#### *Types of Funding*

- School-based programs will be eligible for funding through State educational agencies, partly based on formula and partly through competition.
- State educational agencies must develop State plans that indicate programs to be funded and detail 3-year strategies for service-learning in their States. The Corporation must approve State plans.
- Programs may receive one-year planning grants for school-based programs. Subgranting to experienced institutions for school-based programs will also be allowed.
- All local programs will be required to provide at least 10 percent of total program costs in the first year of funding, increasing to 50 percent in the fourth. Local programs may utilize other federal education funds to meet the match requirement.

#### *Training and Technical Assistance*

- Clearinghouses will be expanded to further enable them to disseminate information and curriculum materials; train teachers, service sponsors and participants; and provide needs assessments or technical assistance.
- States will also receive additional resources to train and educate State educational personnel.

### **Community-based Program for School-Age Youth**

- Community-based organizations working with school-age youth may receive grants from the State Commission for programs to involve such youth in community service.
- National non-profit organizations may apply to the Corporation to make subgrants or run multi-state community-service programs for this population.

### **Higher Education Innovative Projects**

- Higher Education institutions, consortia of such institutions, or partnerships of higher education institutions and non-profit institutions may receive grants from the Corporation for student community-service programs or programs to train teachers in service-learning methods.
- Funds may supplement College Work-Study funds being used for community service placements.

### **EXTENSION OF THE DOMESTIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE ACT OF 1973**

The proposal extends and expands VISTA and Older American Volunteer Programs authorized by the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. Following a transition period, these programs will be administered by the Corporation for national service.

### **VISTA**

- Extends authority for the VISTA program and increases number of VISTA volunteers.
- Authorizes new VISTA Summer Associate program.
- Authorizes a University Year for VISTA program to encourage student volunteer efforts addressing the needs of low-income communities.
- Removes restrictions limiting the flexibility to manage VISTA, while reaffirming commitment to recruiting a diverse group of VISTA volunteers including young and older adults.
- Increases post-service stipends by \$30 for each month of service. Such stipends are not available if VISTA volunteer accepts an educational award under the national service trust.
- Continues support for VISTA Literacy Corps.



## **Special Volunteer Programs**

- Provides broadened authority under the Special Volunteer Programs to supporting demonstrations and innovations, provide technical assistance, and promote other entrepreneurial activities. Eliminates specific authority for student community service and drug programs, which are covered under the broadened demonstration authority and under the National and Community Service Act.

## **Older American Volunteer Programs**

- Renames the Older American Volunteer Programs as National Senior Volunteer Corps and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program as the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).
- Lowers eligibility age for participation in the RSVP program to 55.
- Clarifies that Foster Grandparents may work with children with special and exceptional needs in Head Start programs, schools, and day care centers.
- Provides for a new demonstration authority to enrich and strengthen older American volunteer programs across the country.
- Eliminates restrictions that limit the flexibility to administer the program.
- Increases the stipend for low-income Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions once over the next five years to account for inflation.

## **Administration**

- Encourages relationships between ACTION and other federal agencies where ACTION volunteers might help further the purposes of other Federal programs.
- Authorizes a Center for Research and Training on Volunteerism to strengthen volunteer programs across the country.
- Provides a technical amendment to restore the crediting of VISTA service for federal pensions.

### AmeriCorps-Federal Partnership Talking Points

- The National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 allows federal agencies to apply for AmeriCorps grants.
- At the President's very first Cabinet meeting in January 1993, he directed members of the Cabinet to incorporate the concept of service into their missions. He wanted this to be the hallmark of his Administration, bringing problem-solving to the local level by engaging citizens in their communities.
- An AmeriCorps grant to a federal agency is intended to act as seed money, allowing the agency to leverage existing resources and integrate activities into its ongoing programs at the local level. Most agency programs are community-based, involving a wide range of local partners -- businesses, non-profit organizations, community service organizations, city governments, police departments, schools and colleges, as well as ordinary citizens. AmeriCorps Members in these programs do not work at the agencies in Washington. They work out in the communities with these local partners.
- Local partners work closely with the federal agencies to design these programs. Once the program is funded, the local partners have the responsibility for recruiting the members, developing the programs and overseeing the day-to-day operations. This local involvement is consistent with the theory that agencies will work better if they are less reliant on Washington structures, and more connected to citizens outside the beltway.
- Federal agencies often have a unique role to play in delivering particular services to communities. If AmeriCorps wants to help deliver these services, it must work in cooperation with federal agencies. *For example, the Department of Interior is responsible for the stewardship of our national parks. Veterans turn to the Department of Veterans Affairs to address their concerns and FEMA helps communities recover from natural disasters. In order to get things done in these vital areas, AmeriCorps works with these federal agencies - through conservation efforts in the Florida Everglades, and in partnership with the VA and the Collaboration to Help Homeless Veterans in order to help homeless vets move to self-sufficiency.*
- Working with agencies allows AmeriCorps to tap into their extensive network of community organizations to meet particular needs. *Our partnership with the Department of Justice has allowed us to become a part of their successful Weed and Seed program in seven communities, which works with local organizations in cities around the country to reduce crime.*



- The federal government has the ability to access under-served areas through its national network. *Many USDA sites are in rural areas that would not receive any type of assistance from national service but for the fact that the federal government is involved and has resources on the ground;*
- Grants to federal agencies in FY 1995 amounted to approximately \$14.5 million, which represents just 2% of the \$537 million in grant funding that the Corporation made this year;
- Federal agencies were not given special treatment in the application process. They were not given a set-aside in the legislation. They had to compete on their merits like every other organization. In addition, federal programs are subject to the same high standards as all our programs. If the programs affiliated with the federal agencies do not meet our high standards of program quality, they will not be renewed.
- The charge that AmeriCorps members are federal employees is simply untrue. AmeriCorps members working in federal agency programs are not civil servants, and have no status whatsoever as employees of the federal government. Members are recruited, hired and supervised by the local organization that is administering that particular program and work out in these communities, not in Washington.
- It is not our intention to fund these projects for more than a few years - we intend that the programs will put down roots in the communities in which they serve and that the citizens of those communities will want to sustain them;
- Many of the federal agency programs leverage significant resources from local entities -- city governments, non-profit organizations, etc. thus reducing the program's dependence on federal dollars. *These contributions come in various forms, from cash to in-kind donations such as office space or equipment to recruitment of volunteers. For example, each of the local organizations affiliated with the Department of Justice's program has contributed approximately \$42,000 to their projects. The Baltimore Department of Public Works has assigned a full-time employee to work with the Department of Transportation's Sandtown project and has made dump trucks available to AmeriCorps members at no charge. The Sprague Memorial Institute contributed \$30,000 to an HHS program in Chicago which does health outreach to low-income families.*
- Like all AmeriCorps programs, these programs have also provided a structure for non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers to serve their community. *The 212 AmeriCorps Members with the Department of Justice's JustServe program have recruited over 3,000 volunteers to help them in their public safety efforts. These volunteers have added over 18,000 additional hours*

*of service, significantly increasing the impact and cost-effectiveness of the program;*



**TALKING POINTS FOR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE DAN GLICKMAN**

**USDA AMERICORPS NATIONAL VIDEO TELECONFERENCE**

**MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1996, 11:00 A.M.**

**Welcome**

- On behalf of President Clinton and Vice-President Gore, I welcome all the USDA AmeriCorps Members, project managers, and representatives of partner organizations who are participating in this teleconference. I especially welcome the Rural Economic and Community Development-sponsored AmeriCorps Members from around the nation who are now at their national training in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Congressional Update**

- As I'm sure you know, funding for AmeriCorps is currently undergoing vigorous debate. Congress is now debating funding and authorization for the THIRD year of AmeriCorps. However, you should know understand that the current, SECOND year of AmeriCorps, in which you are now enrolled, is ALREADY FUNDED. Your stipends and educational awards for this year are already fully funded.
- AmeriCorps is a top personal priority of President Clinton --- he has vetoed appropriations bills that would have eliminated the program. Yet we deeply hope we can move towards cooperation rather than confrontation with Congress. After all, community service is neither a Democratic or Republican issue --- it is an American issue.
- AmeriCorps is receiving greater and greater support from elected officials and community leaders of all political beliefs. In fact, Senator Charles Grassley, the leading Republican critic of AmeriCorps, has reached an agreement with Harris Wofford, who now heads the entire AmeriCorps program for President Clinton, to improve the program while saving it.
- While USDA runs the largest single component of AmeriCorps, our program is still only a relatively small piece of the entire program ---- which now engages up to 25,000 Americans of all backgrounds in service. We will make a special effort to work with Congress to preserve both the overall program and USDA's unique role in the program.

### **The Four Goals of the Program**

- AmeriCorps is focused on four, basic goals:
  - \* **“Getting things done”**
  - \* **Strengthening communities**
  - \* **Expanding educational and economic opportunity, and**
  - \* **Encouraging personal responsibility**

### **“Getting Things Done”**

- All USDA AmeriCorps Members should achieve concrete, measurable results directly aiding communities. “Getting things done” is more than just a slogan you wear on your uniforms --- it should be the basis of everything you do in the program. USDA AmeriCorps Members fight hunger, protect the environment, and boost rural development.
- In just the first year of the program, USDA AmeriCorps Members provided services to over 828,000 citizens and performed environmental work on more than 234,000 acres.

### **Specific First-Year Examples of How AmeriCorps/USDA “Got Things Done”**

- In the **Galveston Bay area of Texas**, Members planted provided coastal and shoreline protection by creating an 220 acre island that serves as habitat for an endangered species.
- Members in **Vermont** project implemented an effective food salvage program with the cooperation of local grocery chains in the Burlington area.
- In **El Rito, New Mexico**, a Member helped 2,000 residents to obtain safe drinking water.
- In **Belleville, Illinois**, Members stabilized over 4,000 feet of stream and road damaged by flooding.
- In **West Virginia**, a Member performed archaeological site investigations on over 100 acres of historic sites in seven communities.



DRAFT 3/20/96 - 12:00 noon

- Members based on the **Olympic National Forest in Washington State** constructed and maintained 110 miles of trails; rehabilitated 14 campground sites; and planted 253 acres of trees.
- In **Yazoo City, Mississippi**, a Member designed and instituted a micro enterprise program to assist low-income residents become self-sufficient through entrepreneurship.
- In **Chicago, Illinois**, the Members provided environmental education to over 1,100 students and recruited 500 volunteers to improve public housing developments.
- In **Los Angeles**, Members increased the number of children across the city receiving lunches during the summer months by 6,000.
- In **Denmark, South Carolina**, a Member established a tutorial program.
- In **Arkansas**, a Member in **Fargo** helped the town to obtain street lights in town for the first time, reducing the risk of traffic accidents and crime.
- In the **Atlanta, Georgia** area, Members created 25,000 plants for use in schools, parks, and beautification projects for the Olympics.
- In **McCreary County, Kentucky**, Members helped establish a 911 emergency system.
- In **Western Oklahoma**, Members planted 65,4000 trees in 10 counties to restore 44 windbreaks..
- In **South Dakota**, Members completed a 23-county land-use survey to identify threats to the water quality of the Big Sioux, Vermillion, and James rivers.
- In **Maine**, Members raised and stocked 26 million soft-shell clams, resulting in a positive economic impact of \$3 million for the local communities.
- In **Tennessee**, Members helped one county increase its volume of solid waste recycling by 25% and collected 7,500 pounds of hazardous materials 120 households.

### **Strengthening Communities**

- USDA AmeriCorps projects strengthen communities. By bringing together Americans of all races, ages, classes, genders, religions, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, USDA AmeriCorps projects create bonds of "sweat equity" that helped bridge the divisions of society. Furthermore, by designing and implementing projects at the lowest possible grassroots level, the projects empower communities to help themselves.

### **Expanding Educational and Economic Opportunity**

- USDA AmeriCorps projects expand educational and economic opportunity. The program provides college aid for students from middle class families who would normally be ineligible for such aid, as well as to students from low-income families for whom existing levels of student aid are inadequate.

### **Encouraging Personal Responsibility**

- USDA AmeriCorps projects encourage personal responsibility. All USDA projects require extremely hard work in exchange for educational benefits, while helping AmeriCorps Members build a life-long commitment to community service. The program reminds us that all Americans have responsibilities as well as rights.

### **New Gleaning Initiative**

- The whole area of gleaning presents another opportunity to find innovative ways to marshal citizen activism into solving social problems.
- Gleaning generally means one of two things: working with farmers to collect extra food that cannot be marketed or working with restaurants and institutions to rescue perishable food. In both cases, the food is delivered to the hungry families.
- This summer, special USDA AmeriCorps projects will be created to focus on gleaning.
- In addition, all the Members now at the RECD training in Jackson, Mississippi will receive special training on gleaning this week.
- I urge all USDA AmeriCorps Members to make an extra special effort --- whenever practical --- to add gleaning activities to their already existing community service objectives.

### **Thanks to AmeriCorps Members, Staff, and Partner Organizations**

- I want to thank the AmeriCorps Members for your willingness to work hard as you make history. You are building a proud legacy.



- I want to thank all the USDA employees who have made AmeriCorps a reality. I understand that most of you have taken on additional AmeriCorps duties without losing any of your old duties.
- I want to thank all the representatives of non-profit organizations and state and local government agencies who have built unique new public/private partnerships with USDA.

### **The Challenge for the Future**

- I am confident that --- given the increasing bi-partisan support for the program --- AmeriCorps will continue and flourish.
- We hope to continue expanding the program so that, some day, it will be a right of passage for all Americans to earn their way through college by providing a year or two of community service.
- Your greatest challenge is to maintain your focus on providing high quality community service --- do not let yourself be distracted by critics who do not understand the program. The value of your service will be the single greatest factor in saving the program.

### **Closing**

- Thank you again for your time. I would like to hear briefly from each site as to how many members are at your site and what service you have been performing in your community. Then I will take questions.

11/18/96

## **FACT SHEET ON STATUS OF USDA AMERICORPS PROJECTS**

### **Summary**

In the previous two years, USDA has sponsored hundreds of AmeriCorps community development, environmental, and anti-hunger projects in over 40 states --- mostly in under-served rural areas.

**A third year of the USDA AmeriCorps program was scheduled to have started on October 1, but all the projects have been placed on hold pending continued negotiation with key Congressional leaders with oversight over AmeriCorps.**

Up to 1,000 people around the country --- who were either expecting to complete their second year of the program or hoping to start their first year of the program --- are waiting to determine how to proceed with their lives as negotiations continue. The hundreds of communities which were expecting to host projects are also in limbo, unable to determine whether the projects planned will still be accomplished.

**USDA and the Corporation for National Service (CNS) are now seeking to reach a consensus with Senators Christopher Bond (MO) and Senator Charles Grassley (IA) to allow USDA to continue supporting AmeriCorps projects this year only, as those projects transition to a new arrangement in which they are no longer run by USDA.**

If such a compromise is not reached immediately, all the projects planned for this year --- most of which are in under-served rural areas --- will be canceled.

**USDA and CNS do NOT need any additional funds --- nor do they need Congress to take any formal legislative action. USDA and CNS simply need to reach an informal consensus with key members of Congress that would allow USDA to continue to aid AmeriCorps projects during one year of transition.**



## Changes in Funding for USDA AmeriCorps Projects

In both the 1994-1995 program year and the 1995-1996 program year, USDA sponsored community-based AmeriCorps projects throughout the country that fought hunger, protected the environment, and boosted rural community development. In both program years, the projects were supported by four sources of funding:

- 1) Corporation for National Service (CNS) funding paid for educational awards for AmeriCorps Members that successfully completed the program. *These funds were not transferred to USDA* --- they were deposited into a trust fund that will later pay the lending and/or educational institutions of AmeriCorps graduates.
- 2) CNS funds were granted from CNS to USDA, which USDA, in turn, sub-granted to local AmeriCorps projects --- principally to five anti-hunger projects.
- 3) USDA utilized money from the Department's own appropriated funds. USDA used funds from several agencies to support AmeriCorps projects that provided critical community services in areas directly related to the mission areas of those agencies.
- 4) State and local governments and private sector organizations provided matching funds. In the 1994-1995 program year, non-Federal sources provided \$1.7 million in funding to USDA-sponsored AmeriCorps projects.

However, in order to meet concerns raised by Senator Bond, Senator Grassley, and others, CNS will no longer make grants of *operating* funds to Federal agencies.

The legal result of this policy is that USDA funding source #2 --- operating funds transferred from CNS to USDA --- has been eliminated.

The few USDA AmeriCorps projects that were most dependent on this source of funding --- the five anti-hunger projects --- banded together as a consortium under the umbrella of the non-profit Congressional Hunger Center to successfully apply for funding directly from CNS.

## Why A Transition Period is Needed

In the future, AmeriCorps projects previously sponsored by USDA may be funded directly by the Corporation for National and Community Service and/or by governor-appointed state commissions of national and community service.

However, CNS and state commission funds have already been committed and application deadlines have already passed for this year. **Therefore, there is no legal, financial, or logistical way to continue the projects now on hold without some form of USDA funding and involvement during a one-year transition period.**

### **Current Legal Status of the Program**

**The prohibition on the distribution of CNS operating funds (funding source #2) to Federal agencies does NOT restrict the ability of CNS to enter into cooperative agreements with Federal agencies, such as USDA, in order to provide non-financial assistance to AmeriCorps projects and provide educational awards (funding source #1) to the AmeriCorps Members in those projects.**

Thus, USDA still has the *legal* ability to use their own appropriated funds (source #3) and obtain state, local, and private matching funds (source #4) to support AmeriCorps projects.

Consequently, if CNS signs a cooperative agreement providing non-monetary assistance to USDA, AmeriCorps programs sponsored by the Department will still have the legal ability to continue --- and the graduates of those projects will still be able to obtain educational awards.

Thus, new legislation and/or additional appropriations are NOT required to continue the USDA AmeriCorps program.

### **Agreement Sought By USDA**

**Even though both CNS and USDA have both the legal and financial ability to ensure that USDA can continue to support AmeriCorps projects, the Department and CNS are seeking to reach a bi-partisan *policy* agreement with key leaders in Congress that USDA will do so during a one-year transition period.**

**USDA and CNS are seeking at least tacit approval for such an agreement from Senator Bond and Senator Grassley.**

USDA and CNS both want to be sure that members of Congress do not have even the perception that USDA and CNS are violating Congressional intent by continuing to sponsor AmeriCorps projects.



In a recent letter to Senator Leahy (VT) , Senator Bond expressed reservations about allowing USDA to continue to sponsor AmeriCorps projects. However, Senator Bond wrote that he did “agree the USDA AmeriCorps programs are beneficial and service the community well. Be assured that when Congress convenes in January, I will work with Members to ascertain new ways of funding these programs.”

**Thus, there already is agreement between the Administration and Congress that new ways must be found to fund and manage such projects in the future. The only immediate issue at stake is whether such projects will be allowed to continue this year during the transition period or whether all such projects will be canceled immediately.**

## TALKING POINTS FOR AMERICORPS SITE VISIT IN MILWAUKEE

### Overall AmeriCorps Program

- \* President Clinton has made AmeriCorps a top personal priority. It is one of the clearest examples of how the President has boosted education by both providing more funding from government and demanding more personal responsibility from citizens.
- \* The House and the Senate have just reached a bi-partisan agreement to continue funding AmeriCorps through fiscal year 1997, which will fund the 1997-1998 program year. This means that AmeriCorps currently has funding for at least the next two years.
- \* USDA is currently sponsoring approximately 1,000 AmeriCorps Members who are serving in over 45 different states in projects fighting hunger, improving the environment, and re-building rural communities.
- \* The USDA portion of AmeriCorps is a relatively small, yet important, portion of the larger overall program; the overall program now enrolls approximately 23,000 AmeriCorps members serving in every state of the nation.
- \* AmeriCorps projects are "getting things done" providing vital and mainstream service to rural, suburban, and urban communities throughout America.
- \* For instance, USDA projects have built trails and fought fires on National Forests, improved city parks, helped farmers decrease their pesticide use, aided rural fire departments, created urban gardens, provided disaster-relief, brought running water to low-income rural families, and recovered excess food.
- \* AmeriCorps projects are strengthening communities. Always working in partnership with community-based organizations, AmeriCorps Members are meeting the most pressing needs in each of hundreds of locales in which they are operating.
- \* The AmeriCorps program forges common bonds of unity among all Americans. By bringing together Americans of all races, classes, genders, religions, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, AmeriCorps strengthens the cords that bind us together as a people.
- \* The AmeriCorps program expands educational and economic opportunity. Participants in the program receive a small living stipend and an educational award worth \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college, graduate school, job training, or to pay back existing student loans. There is NO economic needs test to participate in this program -- the only requirement to participate is a desire to serve the country.
- \* AmeriCorps program promotes personal responsibility. All AmeriCorps projects require extremely hard work in exchange for educational benefits, while helping AmeriCorps Members build a life-long commitment to community service.



### **Milwaukee Anti-Hunger AmeriCorps Project**

- \* The Clinton Administration put special emphasis on placing AmeriCorps projects in Enterprise Communities, such as the one in Milwaukee, so that both initiatives could bolster each other.
- \* The community garden is just one example of how the USDA AmeriCorps anti-hunger project in Milwaukee and similar projects nationally have achieved concrete results in fighting hunger.
- \* The AmeriCorps program has enabled the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, whose previous anti-hunger activities consisted mainly of construction work at pantries, to grow into an organization respected for its leadership in developing holistic approaches to fighting the entire problem of hunger.
- \* Including the USDA AmeriCorps Members, the Milwaukee Community Service Corps runs the largest overall AmeriCorps program in the State of Wisconsin.
- \* Next year, the project will also focus on rescuing prepared and perishable foods.
- \* The project was instrumental in helping Wisconsin implement the AC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program in the summer of 1995, and continues to work closely with the FMNP.
- \* The Milwaukee project already has been granted Federal funding for next year.
- \* Over the next 9-10 months, the project plans to create 40 new urban gardens from vacant lots, triple the average number of customers at farmers' markets in the HUD Enterprise Community, work with over 2,400 children teaching nutrition through gardening and food preparation.

### **USDA AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger Projects Nationally**

- \* In addition to the project in Milwaukee, USDA AmeriCorps Anti-Hunger projects now exist in Los Angeles, the District of Columbia, Mississippi (the Delta), and Vermont (state-wide). In the current program year, these projects: aided 152 community gardens, cooked and served 40,155 meals at soup kitchens, implemented 51 new sites for the Summer Food Service Program that fed 40,912 children, provided 391,542 people with donated food, gave food safety and nutrition presentations to 25,257 students and senior citizens, and helped establish four farmers markets.
- \* The USDA AmeriCorps program also sponsored special "Summer of Gleaning" projects in 22 states that recovered excess food, which normally would have been discarded, and distributed that food to citizens in need. For instance, at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, USDA AmeriCorps Members, in conjunction with the Atlanta Community Food Bank and the Congressional Hunger Center, led efforts that salvaged 174 tons of excess food.



## **TALKING POINTS ON THE USDA AMERICORPS PROGRAM**

**\* USDA is sponsoring approximately 1,000 AmeriCorps Members who are serving in over 45 different states in projects fighting hunger, improving the environment, and re-building rural communities.** The USDA portion of AmeriCorps is a relatively small, yet important, portion of the larger overall program; the overall program now enrolls approximately 23,000 AmeriCorps members serving in every state of the nation. The USDA portion of the program is highly unusual because the vast majority of AmeriCorps projects are not funded or managed by Federal agencies --- most are funded through state commissions appointed by each state's governor and are managed by non-profit organizations and local government organizations. USDA AmeriCorps projects do **NOT** duplicate the functions of AmeriCorps projects funded by state commissions; rather, USDA AmeriCorps fill unique needs that can not generally be filled by state commission-funded projects.

**\* USDA AmeriCorps Members are reducing government bureaucracy by performing community service that rapidly and directly aids citizens.** USDA AmeriCorps Members are not Federal employees and are not performing functions generally performed by Federal employees. However, they are performing work far more cost-effectively than would be provided through normal government methods.

**\* USDA AmeriCorps projects are "getting things done" providing vital and mainstream service to rural, suburban, and urban communities throughout America.** For instance, USDA projects are building trails and fighting fire on National Forests, improving city parks, aiding rural fire departments, creating urban gardens, bringing running water to low-income rural families, and teaching children how to improve their nutrition.

**\* USDA AmeriCorps projects provide taxpayers with double the "bang for the buck."** USDA is simply utilizing funds already appropriated to the Department. For instance, USDA Forest Service projects use some funding from existing trail repair budgets. Not only do the AmeriCorps Members repair more trails than would be repaired by other means, they also bring communities together, promote personal responsibility, and help them earn their own way through college --- all for the same tax dollars that normally would fund just the trail repair.

**\* USDA AmeriCorps projects are strengthening communities.** Usually working in partnership with community-based organizations, USDA AmeriCorps Members are meeting the most pressing needs in each of hundreds of locales in which they are operating. **The service projects are not designed or implemented as a "cookie cutter" approach dictated from Washington --- all the projects are locally-proposed and locally-administered.** Consequently, virtually all of the USDA AmeriCorps projects have received broad-based bi-partisan support from local community leaders.



**\* Most USDA AmeriCorps projects are in rural and suburban areas that often receive less aid from the Federal government.** These areas also often lack significant non-profit sector support networks. USDA has a field structure that is uniquely suited to run programs in traditionally under-served areas. USDA AmeriCorps projects are particularly important in North and South Dakota, which currently do not have state national service commissions.

**\* The USDA program enables AmeriCorps Members to perform tasks requiring technical expertise far beyond the capabilities of the vast majority of non-profit organizations.** For instance, under direct and sustained supervision from experts in the field, USDA AmeriCorps Members are inspecting flood-damaged dams, implementing strategic plans to create local jobs, designing and implementing entire recycling programs for counties, helping farmers diversify their crops, bolstering Empowerment Zones and Enterprise communities, designing and building timber bridges, and decreasing ground water pollution. If AmeriCorps Members are to "get things done" that require more than simple physical labor and that result in long-lasting improvements in communities, then Members need the kind of advanced technical training and supervision that can be provided by entities such as USDA.

**\* The USDA AmeriCorps program forges common bonds of unity among all Americans.** By bringing together Americans of all races, classes, genders, religions, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, AmeriCorps strengthens the cords that bind us together as a people. The "sweat equity" created by AmeriCorps is playing a role in healing the nation's wounds and bridging our divisions. AmeriCorps is changing the country because it creates a new civic compact in which any citizen can be tied to the nation by the simple virtue of making a difference in the lives of others.

**\* The USDA AmeriCorps program expands educational and economic opportunity.** Participants in the program receive a small living stipend and an educational award worth \$4,725 that can be used to pay for college, graduate school, job training, or to pay back existing student loans. There is NO economic needs test to participate in this program -- the only requirement to participate is a desire to serve the country. Thus, this program greatly boosts students from the middle class, who were previously told that their families "make too much money" to qualify for most existing Federal aid programs. Yet the program also helps low income families for whom aid programs are clearly insufficient.

**\* The USDA AmeriCorps program promotes personal responsibility.** All AmeriCorps projects require extremely hard work in exchange for educational benefits, while helping AmeriCorps Members build a life-long commitment to community service. AmeriCorps gives all Americans a new way of giving something back to the country. It reminds us that, along with rights we enjoy as citizens, we all have certain obligations to protect those rights and to aid our own communities. Furthermore, AmeriCorps gives young people a tangible way to take charge of their own lives.

**"If you look at what this national service project does --- they're working in the San Bernadino National Forest; people who are helping to clean-up the forest, maintain it, strengthen it, keep it there for our children and our grandchildren, make sure it's an important resource... These are the kinds of things that are going on all over America, and I think it emphasizes what I'm saying. For a small amount of federal money we have increased opportunity with no bureacracy. This is all done at the grass-roots level."**

**President Clinton in San Bernardino,  
California on February 14**

PHOTOCOPY  
PRESERVATION



## USDA AMERICORPS SUMMER OF GLEANING

\* In partnership with literally dozens of locally based anti-hunger groups, youth service corps, food pantries, and food recovery organizations, USDA is sponsoring special "Summer of Gleaning" AmeriCorps projects in 20 states. This special summer initiative is a small, but important, part of both the USDA AmeriCorps program and the overall AmeriCorps program.

\* The "Summer of Gleaning" projects promote the general idea of food recovery, a top personal priority of Secretary Glickman. These projects are designed to work with farmers, agribusinesses, food distribution organizations, institutions, and restaurants to recover and glean food that would be otherwise thrown away and to distribute that food to hungry people.

\* The "Summer of Gleaning" projects are based on the so-called "volunteer generator" model in which a handful of AmeriCorps Members recruit numerous non-compensated volunteers to help implement the project.

\* The "Summer of Gleaning Projects last twelve weeks, during which the AmeriCorps Members receive small living stipends. All AmeriCorps Members who successfully complete this special summer program will receive a \$1,000 educational award that can be used to pay for college, job training, graduate school, or to pay back existing student loans.

\* The "Summer of Gleaning" is **NOT** based on the traditional liberal premise that a heavy-handed, bureaucratically driven, large government program based in Washington has all answers to the nations' problems. Conversely, the "Summer of Gleaning" is **NOT** based on the traditional conservative premise that the free-market, volunteers, and non-profit organizations alone --- without any government help at all --- can solve all the nation's social problems. Rather, **the "Summer of Gleaning" is based on the reinventing government philosophy of President Clinton, Vice-President Gore, and Secretary Glickman which believes that government must provide energy, vision, and some limited Federal funds as a catalyst to empower local communities to help solve their own problems.**

## **TALKING POINTS:**

Many of the Congressional offices that have supported the USDA AmeriCorps program have suggested that all USDA projects could continue immediately by applying directly to the Corporation for National Service (CNS) or state commissions on national service. As of next year (the 1997-1998 program year), this may occur. However, CNS and state commission funds have already been committed and application deadlines have already passed for this year (the 1996-1997 program year). Thus, this option can help start new projects *next* program year, but is not relevant to projects planned for *this* program year.

**Therefore, there is no legal, financial, or logistical way to continue the projects now on hold without some support from USDA for at least one year of transition.**

If a compromise is not reached by next Friday, December 13, all the USDA AmeriCorps projects planned for this year in over 40 states will be canceled.

**Thus, the request would be to allow USDA to continue funding and supporting AmeriCorps projects for one year only as the projects were allowed to transition into a new arrangement, starting next year, in which they would receive funding directly from the CNS and/or from state commissions of national service. Bond would simply need to agree to this compromise; since USDA already has the legal ability to fund AmeriCorps projects, no additional appropriations or authorizations are required.**

## **POSSIBLE STEPS TO TAKE:**

**1) Call Congressman Jerry Lewis, who, as Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, is Bond's counterpart in the House.** USDA has had successful AmeriCorps projects in Lewis' district sponsored by both the Forest Service and NRCS, and Lewis has voiced no personal objections to USDA continuing to fund AmeriCorps. The request would be for Congressman Lewis to contact Senator Bond.

**2) Call Congressman Joe Skeen, Chair of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, and/or Senator Thad Cochran, Chair of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.** USDA has sponsored successful AmeriCorps projects throughout Cochran's home state of Mississippi. Congressman Skeen's personal staff has previously urged USDA to continue to support a successful project in Mr. Skeen's district. Both Bond and Grassley have couched their opposition to the USDA AmeriCorps program on the statement --- either implicit or explicit --- that the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees oppose USDA spending on AmeriCorps. If Skeen and/or Cochran could be convinced to communicate with Bond and Grassley that such a belief is not accurate, this might convince Bond and Grassley to allow us to continue funding projects.



**3) Call Senator Barbara Mikulski, who is ranking member on the Senate appropriations Committee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies.** The request would be would be for her to contact Bond.

**4) Send personal notes to Senators Bond and Grassley.** A copy of the "Citizens Guide to Food Recovery" would be sent to Bond with a cover note that thanks him for his help on the Emerson Bill, points out that the guide is dedicated to Emerson, and asks for his help on a compromise on AmeriCorps. In addition, Grassley's staff recently called the Department to praise our food recovery efforts and request a copy of the guide; a copy of the guide could be sent to Grassley along with an AmeriCorps gleaning newsclip from Iowa and a note asking for his help on AmeriCorps.

**5) Determine whether the President, the Vice-President, the Head of OMB, or the White House Chief of Staff would be willing to call Bond about this matter.** Given the fact that the President highlighted the USDA AmeriCorps program in his recent radio address, this may be an available option. While Harris Wofford will not take a lead role in making this request, he will support USDA efforts to do so.

**6) Meet jointly with Harris Wofford, Senator Bond, and Senator Grassley.** Wofford has suggested that we attempt to have such a meeting next week.

## **TALKING POINTS:**

Many of the Congressional offices that have supported the USDA AmeriCorps program have suggested that all USDA projects could continue immediately by applying directly to the Corporation for National Service (CNS) or state commissions on national service. As of next year (the 1997-1998 program year), this may occur. However, CNS and state commission funds have already been committed and application deadlines have already passed for this year (the 1996-1997 program year). Thus, this option can help start new projects *next* program year, but is not relevant to projects planned for *this* program year.

**Therefore, there is no legal, financial, or logistical way to continue the projects now on hold without some support from USDA for at least one year of transition.**

If a compromise is not reached by next Friday, December 13, all the USDA AmeriCorps projects planned for this year in over 40 states will be canceled.

**Thus, the request would be to allow USDA to continue funding and supporting AmeriCorps projects for one year only as the projects were allowed to transition into a new arrangement, starting next year, in which they would receive funding directly from the CNS and/or from state commissions of national service. Bond would simply need to agree to this compromise; since USDA already has the legal ability to fund AmeriCorps projects, no additional appropriations or authorizations are required.**

## **POSSIBLE STEPS TO TAKE:**

**1) Call Congressman Jerry Lewis, who, as Chair of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, is Bond's counterpart in the House.** USDA has had successful AmeriCorps projects in Lewis' district sponsored by both the Forest Service and NRCS, and Lewis has voiced no personal objections to USDA continuing to fund AmeriCorps. The request would be for Congressman Lewis to contact Senator Bond.

**2) Call Congressman Joe Skeen, Chair of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, and/or Senator Thad Cochran, Chair of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.** USDA has sponsored successful AmeriCorps projects throughout Cochran's home state of Mississippi. Congressman Skeen's personal staff has previously urged USDA to continue to support a successful project in Mr. Skeen's district. Both Bond and Grassley have couched their opposition to the USDA AmeriCorps program on the statement --- either implicit or explicit --- that the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees oppose USDA spending on AmeriCorps. If Skeen and/or Cochran could be convinced to communicate with Bond and Grassley that such a belief is not accurate, this might convince Bond and Grassley to allow us to continue funding projects.



**3) Call Senator Barbara Mikulski, who is ranking member on the Senate appropriations Committee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies.** The request would be for her to contact Bond.

**4) Send personal notes to Senators Bond and Grassley.** A copy of the "Citizens Guide to Food Recovery" would be sent to Bond with a cover note that thanks him for his help on the Emerson Bill, points out that the guide is dedicated to Emerson, and asks for his help on a compromise on AmeriCorps. In addition, Grassley's staff recently called the Department to praise our food recovery efforts and request a copy of the guide; a copy of the guide could be sent to Grassley along with an AmeriCorps gleaning newsclip from Iowa and a note asking for his help on AmeriCorps.

**5) Determine whether the President, the Vice-President, the Head of OMB, or the White House Chief of Staff would be willing to call Bond about this matter.** Given the fact that the President highlighted the USDA AmeriCorps program in his recent radio address, this may be an available option. While Harris Wofford will not take a lead role in making this request, he will support USDA efforts to do so.

**6) Meet jointly with Harris Wofford, Senator Bond, and Senator Grassley.** Wofford has suggested that we attempt to have such a meeting next week.

## **SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR CALL TO SENATOR MIKULSKI ON AMERICORPS**

### **THANK MIKULSKI FOR HER OVERALL LEADERSHIP ON AMERICORPS**

First, I would suggest acknowledging that Mikulski has been the Senate's leader in preserving the entire AmeriCorps program and that the Administration appreciates her success in saving the overall program. Then acknowledge that you understand that political reality dictates that Federal agencies will --- in the long run --- no longer directly run AmeriCorps projects. Make it clear that you are asking only for a one year "grace period" to help our local projects transition.

### **HIGHLIGHT SUCCESS OF USDA AMERICORPS PROJECTS IN MARYLAND**

In the last two years, USDA has sponsored highly successful AmeriCorps projects in rural, suburban, and urban Maryland.

This program year, USDA AmeriCorps Members based in Beltsville, Centreville (on the Eastern Shore), and Waldorf (in Southern Maryland):

- \* **Helped restore the Chesapeake Bay** - The AmeriCorps Members constructed 600 oyster shell bags at a shellfish restoration in Piney Point in St. Mary's County. Senator Sarbanes and Congressman Hoyer --- who helped get funding for this project --- recently met with the AmeriCorps Members at the site and pledged their full support.

- \* **Improved rural fire protection** -- The AmeriCorps Members contacted all 24 South Maryland and all 100 Eastern Shore volunteer fire departments to provide technical assistance to help reduce fire risks and lower insurance rates.

- \* **Aided the environment** - The AmeriCorps Members renovated public parks and recreation centers, reduced erosion and flood risks on streams, provided conservation education and recycling presentations, grew plants for later conservation projects, protected beeches and shoreline, and tested the quality of private water sources

This Summer, USDA provided funds to the Baltimore-based youth corps, Civic Works, and to the Baltimore Area Gleaning Network to enable the groups to jointly sponsor an AmeriCorps "Summer of Gleaning" project, which recruited 500 volunteers who recovered over 78,000 pounds of produce that normally would have been discarded and helped distribute that food to soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and other meal sites.



## **STRESS THAT ALL MARYLAND PROJECTS MAY BE ABRUPTLY ENDED**

**USDA had planned to continue critical AmeriCorps projects in Southern Maryland, the Eastern Shore, and Beltsville to improve rural fire protection, protect the environment, and aid shellfish restoration in the Chesapeake Bay. However, all these projects are now on hold pending negotiations with Senator Bond.**

Many of the Congressional offices that have supported the USDA AmeriCorps program have suggested that all USDA projects could continue immediately by applying directly to the Corporation for National Service (CNS) or state commissions on national service. As of next year (the 1997-1998 program year), this may occur. However, CNS and state commission funds have already been committed and application deadlines have already passed for this year (the 1996-1997 program year). Thus, this option can help start new projects *next* program year, but is not relevant to projects planned for *this* program year.

Therefore, there is no legal, financial, or logistical way to continue the projects now on hold without some support from USDA for at least one year of transition.

**If a compromise is not reached by next Friday, December 13, all the USDA AmeriCorps projects planned for in Maryland --- and in 40 other states --- will be canceled. AmeriCorps Members who were expecting to start a second term of service -- and communities expecting to receive this vital service --- would be immediately cut-off.**

## **ASK FOR HELP WITH SENATOR BOND**

Explain that you understand the political reality that, in the long-term, USDA would no longer be able to directly support AmeriCorps projects.

**You would ask Senator Mikulski to speak to Senator Bond and request that he agree to allow USDA to continue funding and supporting AmeriCorps projects for a "grace period" that would last one year. This one year reprieve would allow local projects to transition into a new arrangement, starting next year, in which they would receive funding directly from the CNS and/or from state commissions of national service.**

**Bond would simply need to personally agree to this compromise. CNS would provide NO funds to USDA; CNS would simply provide educational awards to the AmeriCorps Members. Since USDA already has the legal ability to fund AmeriCorps projects, no additional appropriations or authorizations are required.**



**USDA/AmeriCorps**

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
760 South Broadway  
Salina, KS 67401-4642  
(913) 823-4500  
FAX (913) 823-4540

---

February 7, 1995

Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1319 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tiahrt:

By copy of this letter, we are inviting you and/or an assistant to stop at one or more of our AmeriCorps/USDA sites, if only for a brief time, and talk with our AmeriCorps members and observe them at work.

Two types of AmeriCorps/USDA teams work in Kansas: Rural Development Corps and Public Lands and Environment Corps. The Rural Development Corps consists of six wetland and riparian teams headquartered at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) area offices in Dodge City, Hutchinson, Emporia, Manhattan, Hays, and Topeka. In addition, two members serve in Abilene and Salina. The member for watershed area delineation is mapping the natural drainage areas of Kansas watersheds for use by county, state, and federal agencies. Agricultural Waste Management Systems are being designed for producers by the Abilene member. Currently, there are nineteen members on the rural development teams.

The Environmental Corps consists of five teams under the direct supervision of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. These teams, with twenty-one members total, are located at the following state reservoirs: Webster, Kanopolis, Glen Elder, Milford, and Perry. Members at the state reservoirs are repairing damage in the wildlife and park areas created by the 1993 floods.

Sincerely,

**ACTING FOR**  
James N. Habiger  
State Conservationist



The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston  
December 20, 1995  
Page 2

This correspondence was also sent to the following addressees:

The Honorable John B. Breaux  
United States Senate  
516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-1803

The Honorable Robert Livingston  
House of Representatives  
2406 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1801

The Honorable William J. Jefferson  
House of Representatives  
240 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1802

The Honorable Billy Tauzin  
House of Representatives  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1803

The Honorable Cleo Fields  
House of Representatives  
218 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1804

The Honorable Jim McCrery  
House of Representatives  
225 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1805

The Honorable Richard Baker  
House of Representatives  
434 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1806

The Honorable Jimmy Hayes  
House of Representatives  
2432 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1807

## USDA/AmeriCorps Activities in Louisiana

Natural Resources Conservation Service

### *Class of 1995*

*During fiscal year 1995, seven AmeriCorps national service members working with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana contributed over 12,000 hours of direct service to rural communities. These members served as coordinators for a statewide dry fire hydrant program and as implementors of the Farm\*A\*Syst groundwater protection program.*

#### ***Dry Fire Hydrant Project***

A dry fire hydrant is a pipe with special attachments installed on a rural lake, pond, or water body which enables fire departments to draw water from the water body and shuttle the water to a rural fire. Dry fire hydrants save lives and property and reduce the cost of fire insurance for rural homeowners.

Four USDA AmeriCorps members served rural Louisiana by working with Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils, volunteer fire departments, police juries, and other local, federal, and state agencies planning and facilitating the statewide dry fire hydrant project. The statewide dry fire hydrant project was developed by the Trailblazer RC&D Council, and is being implemented throughout Louisiana by Trailblazer, Northeast Delta, Twin Valley, Imperial-Calcasieu, and Capital RC&D Councils with the assistance of USDA AmeriCorps members.

The goal of the statewide dry fire hydrant project is to install over 2,000 dry fire hydrants throughout rural Louisiana. During the first year of the dry fire hydrant project, USDA AmeriCorps member efforts were directed at planning and coordination of resources--- people, sites, materials, equipment, etc. Members assisted with the formation of parish dry fire hydrant committees, located at least 35 dry fire hydrant sites in each cooperating parish, assisted parish committees complete necessary paperwork and permits, assisted with procurement of materials, located sites for delivery of materials, assisted with installations of dry fire hydrants, and developed and produced a training video for use by local police juries and fire departments on the installation of dry fire hydrants.

#### ***Farm\*A\*Syst Project***

Three other USDA AmeriCorps members implemented the Farm\*A\*Syst groundwater protection program in Louisiana. Farm\*A\*Syst is a voluntary self-evaluation program aimed at identifying risks to groundwater and recommending best management practices for eliminating risks. USDA AmeriCorps members conducted one-on-one Farm\*A\*Syst assessments with landowners to evaluate areas and materials around homesteads, barns, and water wells that could be a source of contamination of groundwater supplies.

These USDA AmeriCorps members also conducted an information education campaign aimed at changing attitudes and practices concerning protection of Louisiana's groundwater. Members distributed Farm\*A\*Syst assessment/worksheet packages to landowners, students, and interested persons during presentations made at meetings, schools, and fairs.



## **USDA/AmeriCorps Activities in Louisiana**

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Page 2

### ***Class of 1996***

*During fiscal year 1996, 18 AmeriCorps national service members will be working with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in Louisiana contributing over 30,600 hours of direct service to rural communities. These members are continuing the work of the "Class of '95" AmeriCorps members by serving as coordinators for a statewide dry fire hydrant program and as implementors of the Farm\*A\*Syst groundwater protection program. In addition, ten AmeriCorps members will be assigned to the Golden Meadow Plant Materials Center in Galliano, Louisiana, and work as the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Environmental Corps to help stop erosion and loss of Louisiana's coastal wetlands.*

#### ***Dry Fire Hydrant Project***

Five members are working during fiscal year 1996 to coordinate the installation of over 2,000 dry fire hydrants throughout rural Louisiana. With most of the sites identified, paperwork completed, and materials received by previous AmeriCorps members, this year's class is providing their national service by assisting with the actual installations of the dry fire hydrants.

#### ***Farm\*A\*Syst Project***

Three members are serving Louisiana during fiscal year 1996 by implementing the Farm\*A\*Syst groundwater protection program in the northeast delta region of the state and in the Florida parishes (parishes north of Lake Pontchartrain).

In northeastern Louisiana, members are working with landowners through a Water Quality Incentive Project (WQIP). As part of WQIP, landowners must complete the Farm\*A\*Syst assessment and worksheets. AmeriCorps members assist landowners with completion of the assessments and worksheets and help to identify risks to groundwater. AmeriCorps members also assist landowners locate technical assistance to correct any groundwater risks identified.

In the dairy country of the Florida parishes, one AmeriCorps member is working with individual landowners conducting Farm\*A\*Syst assessments and completing Farm\*A\*Syst worksheets. This member is also working with local and state agencies to identify a low-cost water quality test for landowner's use. Also, working with local school boards and Southern University, an 1890 institution, this member is implementing an information education campaign aimed at changing attitudes and practices concerning groundwater protection.

#### ***Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Environmental Corps***

Ten USDA AmeriCorps members are serving Louisiana by contributing national service at the Golden Meadow Plant Materials Center in Galliano, Louisiana. These members are heavily involved in the effort to stop the loss of Louisiana's coastal wetlands. Through massive plant propagation, vegetative plantings in critically eroding areas, building sand fencing on barrier islands, and coordination of local citizen involvement to solve the coastal erosion, these AmeriCorps members will make a tremendous impact on the quality of life for citizens of Louisiana for years to come. They will also foster the standard of community involvement.





## SAMPLE RECRUITMENT PRESS RELEASE

(Underlined sections should be individualized and release printed on USDA/AmeriCorps stationary.)

Contact: Joel Berg or Katherine Gibney (202) 720-6350  
USDA AmeriCorps National Office  
Jane Smith (913) 555-5555  
Kansas Public Affairs Specialist

### Agriculture Department's AmeriCorps Program Begins Recruitment in Kansas

Topeka -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) kickoffs recruitment today for the 1995-'96 AmeriCorps national service program in Kansas scheduled to begin in September.

AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program passed with bipartisan support by Congress, engages Americans of diverse backgrounds nationwide in performing service to meet critical community needs. In return, Members receive a \$4,725 award which may be used for college, job training, or to pay back student loans. The majority of AmeriCorps Members work in partnerships with states, local governments, and non-profit organizations.

During its 1994-'95 inaugural year, USDA ran three types of AmeriCorps teams in 38 states, composed of approximately 1,200 Members: an Anti-Hunger Team, a Public Lands and Environment Team, and a Rural Development Team. These USDA/AmeriCorps members have logged more than 1 million hours of service to communities around the country where they are currently completing their year's service.

During the 1995-'96 year, many of the AmeriCorps projects will continue to be sponsored by community-based organizations. Citizens age 17 or older are eligible to apply. There is no maximum or minimum family income required to apply. Applications will be accepted until September 5.

Exact sites are still being finalized but projects are anticipated in (CITIES AND/OR COUNTIES) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

The three team models have different requirements, particularly in regard to education level. To apply for the program or obtain information, call the following project directors for the specific USDA agency which will run AmeriCorps projects: **NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE, JANE SMITH, at (913) 555-5555; FOREST SERVICE, JOE SMITH, (913) 666-6666; RURAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, BOB SMITH, (913) 777-7777; FARM SERVICES AGENCY, JUDY SMITH, (913) 888-8888** or the toll-free national USDA/AmeriCorps hotline at 1-800-880-4183.

#





## **THE MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS** **ABOUT USDA AMERICORPS PROGRAMS**

### **1. How do I apply?**

Enclosed is an application for all three types of USDA AmeriCorps programs. Even if you are applying for more than one type of program, you need to fill-out only one copy of the application. Upon completing the application, you should retain a copy for yourself and send the original to: USDA AmeriCorps, AG Box 1310, 14th and Independence, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1310. Your application will later be forwarded to all sites that match up with your geographic preferences. You may obtain a list and description of sites by calling 1-800-880-4183; you may then also send copies of your application to any specific sites for which you are particularly interested in applying. You will be contacted by any sites that are interested in interviewing you for the program.

### **2. When is the deadline for applications?**

USDA will accept applications until September 30, 1995. However, many individual sites have their own application deadlines. Some of these deadlines have passed while other sites are still taking applications. Therefore you should submit your application as soon as possible.

### **3. When will the service project start?**

Most projects will start in October of 1995, although a few will start in January of 1996. Most programs will end about 10 months after start-up.

### **4. Where will USDA projects be located?**

You may obtain a list and description of all sites by calling 1-800-880-4183.

### **5. Can I apply to projects in other parts of the country?**

A person may apply to multiple USDA sites in any part of the country, however, there is NO reimbursement for relocation expenses. You will be responsible for locating and paying for re-location expenses on your own.

### **6. What qualifications is USDA seeking for its AmeriCorps Members?**

The prime requirement for acceptance in AmeriCorps is a serious desire to engage in challenging community service work. Many USDA projects seek a diverse mix of high school drop-outs, high school graduates, college students, college graduates, and professional school graduates. However, USDA Rural Development Team projects require that applicants have at least a Bachelor's Degree or significant equivalent work experience in a technical area. All applicants for AmeriCorps must be citizens of the United States or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States (a green card holder).

### **7. Can I attend school while serving in AmeriCorps?**

Members may attend school at night or on weekends during their AmeriCorps service as long as there is no schedule conflict with their duties. However, most AmeriCorps projects require full-time service, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

### **8. How long will I have to serve to earn an education award?**

The full-time term of service for the USDA/AmeriCorps program is a minimum of 1,812 hours performed over a period of no less than nine months and no more than twelve months. This allows for paid national holidays and five days of excused absences. In most cases, you will serve for about the length of one academic year.

### **9. What is the amount of the living stipend I will receive during my term of service?**

The USDA/AmeriCorps Members' living allowance is about \$7,900 for the Public Lands and Environment and Anti-Hunger Teams. During 1994-1995, the living allowance for the Rural Development Team was higher. Although the exact amount has not yet been determined, the living allowance will again be higher for this Team during 1995-1996. The living allowance is subject to local, state, and Federal income taxes.

### **10. How will serving in AmeriCorps affect my benefits if I am currently receiving Food Stamps or welfare?**

The living stipend counts as income when determining eligibility for other programs under the Social Security Act such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), but it does not count as income when determining eligibility for the Food Stamps or Women, Infants and Children (WIC) programs. In other words, you can still obtain food stamps or WIC benefits while in AmeriCorps, but you may lose your welfare benefits. You should work with your local recruiter to determine how you may individually be affected.

### **11. How much is the educational award I will receive at the end of my term of service?**

If you successfully complete a full-term of service, you will have up to seven years in which to utilize a \$4,725 award to pay for college, graduate school, an approved job training program, or qualified student loans. In most cases, the post-service education award does NOT count as aid received when computing your eligibility for other financial assistance for education. The education award is in addition to any other financial aid you would have been eligible for if you had not served in AmeriCorps.



**12. Do I have to pay taxes on the educational award?**

In most cases, the post-service education award of \$4,725 is taxable in the calendar year in which it is used. The Corporation for National Service will deduct no taxes but you will be sent a Form 1099 to be used in preparing your taxes.

**13. What kind of loans can be re-paid with the educational award?**

The post-service education award can be used to pay off existing "qualified" loans. Qualified loans are generally those made, insured or guaranteed, pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.). All Stafford, Perkins, or SLS Loans qualify. In general, most personal loans taken out by individuals to cover education expenses that are NOT covered by the above law can NOT be paid off using the post service education award. The institution which made the loan can tell you if the loan is "qualified".

**14. Can I receive cash instead of the educational award?**

No. The law prevents the USDA/AmeriCorps program from offering such an option.

**15. Can I transfer my educational award to a relative?**

The post-service education award CANNOT be transferred to anyone else. A child can't transfer it to a parent to pay off loans the parent took out to pay the child's educational expenses. A parent can't transfer it to a child or spouse or relative to pay for that person's educational expenses. In general, the education award can't be used to pay off PLUS loans.

**16. If I leave the program early, will I still receive the educational award?**

If you leave the program for other than "compelling personal reasons" you will not receive any of your education award no matter how many hours of service you have completed. Injury or illness of the Member or the death of a Member's immediate family are examples of "compelling personal reasons." Leaving to get a better job, moving to another part of the country, and leaving because the work is not what was anticipated are NOT "compelling personal reasons".

**17. What if my current student loan debt is less than \$4,725?**

If the debt amount on a student loan is less than \$4,725, the remaining funds may not be used for other than educational purposes. A Member has seven years to use the complete voucher.

**18. Will I qualify for health care coverage through the program?**

If you are not already covered by a health care policy, you will be eligible for basic health care package paid for in its entirety by AmeriCorps. In most instances, Members who are still covered under their parent's health care policies will not be eligible for the AmeriCorps health care benefit.

**19. If I have children, will AmeriCorps pay for child care if I join the program?**

All Members requesting child care are evaluated to determine their financial need. A Member who needs child care may not qualify for it because their total family income, including the spouse's is too high.

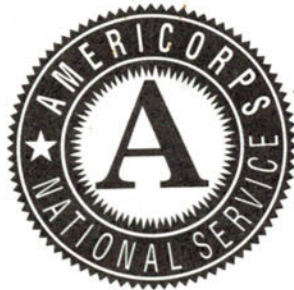
**20. Will service in an USDA AmeriCorps program qualify me for other Federal benefits?**

AmeriCorps Members are NOT federal employees. Service in AmeriCorps does not count toward retirement nor does it give any special status if, after leaving AmeriCorps, a person applies for a job as a federal employee.

**21. Can a person living in the United States on a "green card" join AmeriCorps?**

Although a person may have a "green card," they must be classified by the U.S. Immigration Service as a Permanent Resident Alien in order to join AmeriCorps.





UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Graduate of the 1996 USDA AmeriCorps Gleaning Program

I am writing to congratulate you on your success in having completed your summer USDA AmeriCorps Gleaning Program. Your efforts played a significant role in gleaning over a million pounds of food. Furthermore, your year of dedicated service serves as a role model for others. You truly personify the "ideal citizen"; one who sacrifices in order to give to the community, one who accepts personal responsibility for today's problems and is willing to do something about them. Your efforts, along with other AmeriCorps Members, have made a difference!

Enclosed is a certificate signed by Secretary Glickman to thank you for your service. As you know, both the Secretary and the President strongly support the AmeriCorps Program at USDA and are proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved this year.

In the future, there may be attempts by graduates of the program or others to organize a USDA AmeriCorps alumni group. If you wish for your name and address to be released to any potential future, nongovernmental alumni group focused solely on graduates of the USDA-sponsored portion of AmeriCorps, fill out the enclosed form and mail it to me:

Joel Berg, STOP 1320, 1400 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250  
or fax it to me at (202) 720-4614.

In closing, let me say that it has been my great honor to serve along side so many of you this past year. I hope you keep in touch. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my office (202) 720-5746, fax # (202) 720-4614, or at home (202) 387-8221. You can also e-mail me at "j.berg@USDA.gov".

More importantly, I hope you stay involved for the rest of your life in the movement to build a better nation through community service.

Sincerely,

JOEL BERG  
Director of National Service, USDA

Enclosures



UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

## USDA AMERICORPS ALUMNI GROUP

*I agree to release the following information to any potential future, non-governmental, alumni group:*

Name (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

E- mail Address (if any): \_\_\_\_\_





UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

3-1-96

TO: Bernie L. Wright, SC RECD State Director

THRU: Joel Berg, Director of National Service, USDA &  
John Pentecost, Chief, Special Authorities Branch,  
MFD, RHS

FROM: Jim Coyle, RECD/AmeriCorps National Coordinator *Jim Coyle*

SUBJECT: Replacement of Resigned RECD/AmeriCorps Members in SC

This is to respond to your memo dated 2-28-96 to Joel Berg requesting permission to fill vacant RECD/AmeriCorps positions in SC.

You are authorized to retain the Member already in place (Maria Legette) in Marion and to fill the vacancy in Orangeburg. Because of cost constraints on the program this fiscal year as we explained at the outset of this FY and more recently, we cannot permit you to fill the other two (2) vacancies in St. Helena Island and Walterboro.

Many thanks for submitting the 1st Quarterly Report of FY96 and other material requested on or before their due dates. We appreciate your cooperation in these matters.

The Director of National Service has expressed concern at AmeriCorps Members leaving in the middle of their term of service. He feels that this deprives both the departing Member and the incoming Member of the full benefits of the forfeited and reduced academic awards respectively, and the communities of the benefits of AmeriCorps. In the future when interviewing prospective Members, please make sure that the interviewee has an unprompted understanding that AmeriCorps is neither a job-training program nor a short-term opportunity until better employment can be found. Look for an expressed commitment to service to community and country that would make it likely that as a Member they would complete a full term, and in so doing "Get Things Done" for their community and for themselves.

Many thanks again for your continuing help and cooperation. If you have any questions on this or any other aspect of the RECD/AmeriCorps program, please call me at either (703) 305-2606 or - 2218.

cc: Gregg White



UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

# AmeriCorps \*USA

## USDA State Progress Report (CNS Grant No. 95ADFD047)

1. Check this reporting period: ☐ First ☐ Second ☐ Third ☒ Fourth  
(10/1 - 12/31) (1/1 - 3/31) (4/1 - 6/30) (7/1 - 9/30)

### SECTION I - STATE INFORMATION

2. State: AZ

3. Agency: ARS ☐ NRCS ☐ Forest Service ☐ RECD ☒ FSA ☐ FCS ☐

*USDA-Rural Development*

### SECTION II - STATE CONTACT INFORMATION: (Make Corrections if Necessary)

4. Contact Name:

Bonnie Fricks  
USDA, Rural Development  
2585 N. Grand, Suite 2  
Nogales, AZ 85621

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last

5. Title: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

street, number, and PO (if applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

7. Telephone number: 520-281-1068

8. Fax number: 520-281-1460

9. E-Mail Address (if any): rfricks@rurdev.usda.gov

AZ-1



### SECTION III - MEMBER DATA:

10. Attached are sheets concerning AmeriCorps Member data. The first type of Member Data sheet lists each Member, by operating site, for whom the USDA Office of National Service has received at least a Member enrollment form. The sheet will also list the number of slots allotted to that site and the number of enrollment forms received by the Department; you will need to fill in the number of Members actually enrolled. The sheets give the Member's name, social security number, and enrollment status. Please review the data and check for:

- a. Correct spelling of the name;
- b. Accuracy of the Social Security Number;
- c. Service type (F= Full-time member; P= Part-time member);
- d. Program Status (A = Active; C = Completed; E = Ended Service Early)\*
- e. Trust Status (A = Earning Award; B = Earned Award; C = Did Not Earn Award; D = On Hold by the Corporation for National Service; E = Under Review).

Alongside each name, give the total number of hours served (includes training time) by the Member this reporting period. Do this even if the Member has terminated during the reporting period. For Members who are on the list but have terminated or had their service type or status changed, just cross out the old status and print the new one alongside it. Make your corrections directly on this sheet and submit it along with the other portions of your progress report.

The second type of Member Data sheets give an Operating Site ID number and the name of the site supervisor but has no Member names listed. That is because the USDA Office of National Service has not received Enrollment forms for **any** members from these sites. Please print the necessary information for each member on the appropriate sheet and submit an Enrollment form to the Department. If a Member began service but terminated, we still need a form for that person --- indicates their status as terminated. Also note whether or not the site sent the enrollment form directly to the Corporation for National Service. It is hoped that by now everyone understands that all forms (except health and child care) should come directly to the USDA Director of National Service and NOT--- repeat NOT --- the Corporation for National Service.

#### REMEMBER:

- a. ALL members should be listed even though they only served a few days. If an enrollment form was submitted for a Member who then terminates either by officially notifying you or simply by walking away from the program, an End of Term of Service Form MUST be submitted for the Member.
- b. If Members are serving at an operating site and their name does not appear on the list for that site, first check to see if the Member is listed under a different operating site; if not, then an Enrollment Form must be submitted so the person can be enrolled in the program.
- c. List all the hours a Member served during the reporting period regardless if they terminated or if they started in the middle of the period.

TERM TWO --- RECORD OF HOURS

"Hours of Service"  
Corrected by Quarters

| 1700 HOURS:                  | 1ST QT | 2ND QT | 3RD QT | 4TH QT | Total   |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| R04C - JASON COSTELLO        | 380    | 467    | 494    | 445.5  | 1786.5  |
| R04A - LETICIA LUJAN         | 394    | 484    | 438    | 385    | 1701    |
| R04D - IRMA PAYAN            | 352    | 480    | 526    | 494    | 1852    |
| P04B - DON SEGAL             | 116    | 482    | 549    | 571    | 1718    |
| R04E - ANGEL SUAREZ          | 429    | 495    | 521.5  | 435    | 1880.5  |
| 900 HOURS:                   |        |        |        |        |         |
| P04C - JUDITH MONROE         | —      | —      | 496.5  | 498.5  | 995     |
| R04B - HECTOR SALINAS        | —      | 303    | 326    | 341    | 970     |
| RESIGNED:                    |        |        |        |        |         |
| R04B x ART MACIAS 12-06-95   | 296    | —      | —      | —      | 296     |
| P04A x USHA LITTLE 02-02-96  | 320    | 195    | —      | —      | 515     |
| P04B x WILMA BITSIE 01-19-96 | 322.5  | 94     | —      | —      | 416.5   |
| Totals                       | 2609.5 | 3000   | 3351   | 3170   | 12130.5 |

Bonnie Fricks

Bonnie Fricks/Program Manager  
USDA-Rural Development-Arizona



# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                      | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. list                | re; SSNs [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (8 pages) | 08/15/1996 | b(6)        |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
AmeriCrops  
General Files  
OA/Box Number: 24229

### FOLDER TITLE:

USDA [Department of Agriculture]/AmeriCorps Progress Reports, 1995-1996 [2]

2013-0661-F  
rc3053

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]  
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]  
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]  
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]  
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]  
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]  
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]  
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]  
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]  
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]  
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

8/15/96

10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: P04A

Site Supervisor: Clark Dierks

PHONE: 520-522-4390

Agency/Org Name: RECD/RHCDS

FAX: 5205274392

STATE: AZ

City: Flagstaff, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected Service Hours*

| Member Name  | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS                 |                       |            |            | Total                 |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
|              |           |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt            | 2nd<br>Rpt            | 3rd<br>Rpt | 4th<br>Rpt |                       |
| LITTLE, USHA | K. (b)(6) | F           | E           | re          | <del>305</del><br>320 | <del>331</del><br>195 | 0          | —          | <del>635</del><br>515 |
|              |           |             |             |             |                       |                       |            |            | <del>635</del><br>515 |
| Total Hours: |           |             |             |             |                       |                       |            |            | <del>635</del><br>515 |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-4



8/15/96

## 10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: P04B

Site Supervisor: Clark Dierks

PHONE: 520-522-4390

STATE: AZ

Agency/Org Name: RECD/RHCDS

FAX: 5205274392

City: Flagstaff, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

Corrected Service Hours

| Member Name   | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS        |            |            |            | Totals                         |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------|
|               |           |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt   | 2nd<br>Rpt | 3rd<br>Rpt | 4th<br>Rpt |                                |
| BITSIE, WILMA | J. (b)(6) | F           | E           | XC          | 322.5<br>359 | 94<br>138  | 0          |            | 416.5<br>497                   |
| SEGAL, DONALD | F. (b)(6) | F           | A           | XB          | 140<br>116   | 514<br>482 | 565<br>549 | 571        | 1718<br>1219<br>2134.5<br>1716 |
| Total Hours:  |           |             |             |             |              |            |            |            |                                |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 2

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: -1

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-5

8/15/96

10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: P04C

Site Supervisor: TBD

PHONE:

STATE: AZ

Agency/Org Name: RECD/RHCDS

FAX:

City: Tuscon

, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected service hours*

| Member Name    | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | 1st<br>Rpt | 2nd<br>Rpt | HOURS        |            | Total      |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|
|                |           |             |             |             |            |            | 3rd<br>Rpt   | 4th<br>Rpt |            |
| MONROE, JUDITH | J. (b)(6) | P           | A           | IB          |            |            | 496.5<br>525 | 498.5      | 995<br>525 |
| Total Hours:   |           |             |             |             |            |            |              |            | 995<br>525 |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

42-6



8/15/96

10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: R04A

Site Supervisor: Jean

Pace

PHONE: 520-466-9201

STATE: AZ

Agency/Org Name: Eloy Chamber of Commerce

FAX: 5204663161

City: Eloy

, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected Service Hours*

| Member Name    | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS                 |                       |                       |            | Total                   |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|
|                |           |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt            | 2nd<br>Rpt            | 3rd<br>Rpt            | 4th<br>Rpt |                         |
| LUJAN, LETICIA | K. (b)(6) | F           | A           | 18          | 394<br><del>434</del> | 484<br><del>532</del> | 438<br><del>454</del> | 385        | 1701<br><del>1420</del> |
| Total Hours:   |           |             |             |             |                       |                       |                       |            | 1701<br><del>1420</del> |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

10. MEMBER DATA:

Lucero

FAX: 5203647507

City: Douglas, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

Corrected Service Hours

| Member Name          | SSN    | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS                 |                       |                       |                | Totals                               |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
|                      |        |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt            | 2nd<br>Rpt            | 3rd<br>Rpt            | 4th<br>Rpt     |                                      |
| MACIAS, JR. , J. ART | (b)(6) | F           | A           | I           | <del>296</del><br>322 | 0                     | 0                     | —              | <del>296</del><br>322                |
| SALINAS , HECTOR     | M.     | P           | A           | I           |                       | <del>303</del><br>319 | <del>326</del><br>334 | <del>341</del> | <del>970</del><br>653<br>1266<br>975 |
|                      |        |             |             |             | Total Hours:          |                       |                       |                |                                      |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 2

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: -1

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-8



8/15/96

10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: R04C      Site Supervisor: Jerry Chavez      PHONE: 602-779-7658  
STATE: AZ      Agency/Org Name: Greater Flagstaff Economic Council, I      FAX: 5205560940  
City: Flagstaff, AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected Service Hours*

| Member Name     | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS                 |                       |                       |            | Total                     |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|
|                 |           |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt            | 2nd<br>Rpt            | 3rd<br>Rpt            | 4th<br>Rpt |                           |
| COSTELLO, JASON | R. (b)(6) | F           | A           | I           | 380<br><del>404</del> | 467<br><del>501</del> | 494<br><del>502</del> | 445.5      | 1786.5<br><del>1407</del> |
| Total Hours:    |           |             |             |             |                       |                       |                       |            | 1786.5<br><del>1407</del> |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-9

8/15/96

## 10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: R04D

Site Supervisor: Gail Gallagher  
 Agency/Org Name: City of San Luis  
 City: San Luis, AZ

PHONE: 520-627-2027

FAX: 5206273879

STATE: AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected Service Hours*

| Member Name  | SSN    | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS                 |                       |                       |            | Total                   |
|--------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|
|              |        |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt            | 2nd<br>Rpt            | 3rd<br>Rpt            | 4th<br>Rpt |                         |
| PAYAN, IRMA  | (b)(6) | F           | A           | I           | 352<br><del>416</del> | 480<br><del>504</del> | 526<br><del>512</del> | 494        | 1852<br><del>1432</del> |
| Total Hours: |        |             |             |             |                       |                       |                       |            | 1852<br><del>1432</del> |

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.). You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-18



8/15/96

10. MEMBER DATA:

OP SITE ID: R04E      Site Supervisor: Steven      Colantuoni      PHONE: 520-761-7800  
STATE: AZ      Agency/Org Name: Nogales/Santa Cruz Dev. Fond. EC 168b      FAX: 5207617843  
City: Nogales      , AZ

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

*Corrected Service Hours*

| Member Name   | SSN       | SER<br>STAT | PGM<br>STAT | TRT<br>STAT | HOURS      |            |            |            | Total         |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
|               |           |             |             |             | 1st<br>Rpt | 2nd<br>Rpt | 3rd<br>Rpt | 4th<br>Rpt |               |
| SUAREZ, ANGEL | M. (b)(6) | F           | A           | I           | 429<br>453 | 495<br>527 | 521.5<br>0 | 435        | 1880.5<br>980 |
| Total Hours:  |           |             |             |             |            |            |            |            | 1880.5<br>980 |

-----

No. of Members Allocated by USDA: 1

No. of Active Members Whose Enrollment Forms were recieved at USDA (not including terminations): 1

No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Recieved\*: 0

REMEMBER THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS FOR EACH MEMBER SHOULD BE THE HOURS SERVED AND NOT INCLUDE THE HOURS FOR PERSONAL LEAVE (40) AND HOLIDAYS (72). IF YOU HAVE BEEN COUNTING THESE IN THE FIRST 3 QUARTERS, PLEASE ADJUST THE 4TH QUARTERS HOURS SO THAT THE TOTAL IS AT LEAST 1700 OF SERVICE (assuming the person was full-time and successfully completed the program.) You can have more than 1700 hrs for a total just be sure all the hours were service hours. Thank You

\* If the number of Members allocated is greater than the number of forms received, there are four options: 1. There are Members enrolled in programs whose forms have not been submitted to the USDA Director of National Service. If that is the case, list the names, SSN, Status and hours of the missing members on the back of this sheet and send the enrollment forms to the USDA Director of National Service. 2. The enrollment forms were sent directly to the Corporation. If that is the case, send copies to the USDA Director of National Service immediately. 3. There are vacancies in your program you intend to fill in the next reporting period. If that is the case, enter the number of vacancies on the appropriate line. 4. There are vacancies that you can not fill and you are relinquishing them.

REMEMBER, MEMBERS WHOSE FORMS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT USDA ARE NOT CONSIDERED ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM AND THEIR BENEFITS (EDUCATION AWARD, ETC.) ARE JEOPARDIZED!!!

If the number of members for whom forms have been received is greater than the number of members allocated resulting in a negative number appearing in the "No. of Members for Whom Forms Have NOT Been Received" line, you have enrolled more members in your program than authorized. Please explain this over enrollment. It may be that some members have terminated, in which case, change their status on this form and submit the proper end of term of service form to the USDA Director of National Service.

AZ-11

11. Please list the total number of **volunteers** who took part in activities which were sponsored or organized by all the Members in the state during this period.

| 1st Qtr. | 2nd Qtr. | 3rd Qtr. | 4th Qtr.   | Total |
|----------|----------|----------|------------|-------|
| _____    | _____    | _____    | <u>130</u> | _____ |

12. Please list the total number of **hours of community service** completed by the volunteers cited above during this period.

| 1st Qtr. | 2nd Qtr. | 3rd Qtr. | 4th Qtr.    | Total |
|----------|----------|----------|-------------|-------|
| _____    | _____    | _____    | <u>2085</u> | _____ |

#### SECTION IV - PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

**13. Original Community Service Objectives:** Attached are sheets summarizing the community service objectives that were originally approved for each operating site. In cases where a single objective may take an entire year to complete, that objective may have a sub-objectives listed. **You need to fill in the column marked "4th QTR Quantity" and the column marked "4th QTR Success" --- as well as any column that is blank, has a zero, or has a question mark --- for EVERY operating site.** Each chart should have the following columns:

"State" - The standard two-letter code for your state

"Obj No" - Each community service objective for each site is assigned an individual number

"Op Site" - Each site's unique operating site identification

"PGM Code" - Each type of service has been assigned a unique code to describe that type of service. See the appendix to this report entitled "Community Service PGM Code List"

"Obj/Impact Statement" - A few words verbally summarizing the community service objective

"Year's QTY Target" - The year's numerical goal for the people or things to be aided

"Target Unit of Measurement" - The unit of measure used in the previous column

**"4th QTR Quantity" - Provide a hard number indicating progress towards the "Year's QTY Target"**

"Year's Success Target" - Number for a way of measuring *quality* of service provided --- if this column is blank, has a question mark, or has a zero, please replace it with the accurate information

"Success Unit of Measure" - Explanation of the number in the previous column --- if this column is blank, has a question mark, or has a zero, please replace it with the accurate information

**"4th QTR Success" - Provide a hard number indicating progress towards the "Year's Success Target"**

USDA-RD  
Arizona



8/15/96

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj/Impact Statement                                                      | Year's     |                               | Year's           |                                      | 4th QTR                 |                 |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
|       |         |         |          |                                                                           | QTY Target | Unit of Measure               | 4th QTR Quantity | Success Target                       | Success Unit of Measure | 4th QTR Success |
| AZ    | P04A    | 1       | EN-R026A | Assistance provided in obtaining repairs for home health & safety hazards | 5          | homes - repairs               | 100              | % of repairs meeting building codes  |                         |                 |
| AZ    | P04A    | 2       | EN-R027A | Outreach for new home ownership programs<br>POSITION VACATED              | 15         | families - new home ownership | 100              | Number of people obtaining new homes |                         |                 |

*Position  
Vacant  
3rd & 4th  
quarters*

*P04A*

*AZ-13*

8/15/96

P04B

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj/Impact Statement                                                                              | Year's     |                               | 4th QTR Quantity | Year's     |                                      | 4th QTR Success |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
|       |         |         |          |                                                                                                   | QTY Target | Unit of Measure               |                  | QTY Target | Unit of Measure                      |                 |
| AZ    | P04B    | 1       | EN-R026A | Assistance provided in obtaining repairs for home health & safety hazards                         | 50         | homes - repairs               | 36 ✓             | 100        | % of repairs meeting building codes  | 100%            |
| AZ    | P04B    | 1       | EN-R026A | Outreach 306c Grants for Clean Wataer/Waste Water Disposal/Health & safety plumbing               | 300        | homes - repairs               |                  | 100        | % of repairs meeting building codes  |                 |
| AZ    | P04B    | 2       | EN-R027A | Outreach meetings to inform groups of 504 Grants for Loan Home Improvement Health & safety repair | 100        | people receiving outreach     | 150 ✓            | 10         | number of people obtaining new homes | 2%              |
| AZ    | P04B    | 3       | EN-R027A | Outreach for new home ownership programs<br>502/self Help                                         | 100        | families - new home ownership | 63 ✓             | 100        | Number of people obtaining new homes | 10%             |
| AZ    | P04B    | 3       | EN-E120A | Graffetti clean-up assistance provided neighborhood                                               | 20         | volunteers - recruited        |                  | 4          | sites cleaned                        |                 |
| AZ    | P04B    | 4       | EN-E121C | Assisted neighborhood organize neighborhood pride day                                             | 20         | volunteers - recruited        |                  |            | number of things/people aided        |                 |
| AZ    | P04B    | 5       | EN-R033A | Neighborhood Watch established                                                                    |            | volunteers - recruited        |                  |            | number of things/people aided        |                 |

\* your computer error not P04B objectives  
they are P04C objectives

AZ-14  
P04B



# QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

PO4C

8/15/96

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success. if a zero was entered for the first three quarters (See your last quarterly report). If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj/Impact Statement                                                                                                                                                      | Year's QTY Target | QTY Unit of Measure                                                               | 4th QTR Quantity | Year's Success Target | Success Unit of Measure                                             | 4th QTR Success |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| AZ    | PO4C    | 1       | R017     | OUTREACH 306c WWD Grants for Clean Water/Waste Water Disposal/Health and Saftey Plumbing for Arizona Colonias Poverty level homeowners.                                   | 300               | Homes Colonias wide with the cooperation Team USDA Arizona and local governments. | 100              | 200                   | Homeowners assisted with applications                               | 50%             |
| AZ    | PO4C    | 2       | R026     | OUTREACH meetings to inform groups of *504 Grant/Loan Home Improvement/ Health and Safety repair info for grants to the people who can help me reach the needful elderly. | 10                | various non-profits and civic organizations                                       | 4                | 100                   | Homeowners assisted with applications                               | 90%             |
|       |         |         |          | Native American Outreach *504 Grants/Loans for elderly homeowners                                                                                                         | 2                 | Groups receiving Outreach                                                         | 2                | 60                    | Assisted with Applications for the elderly health and safety grants | 100%            |
| AZ    | PO4C    | 3       | E120A    | Graffiti clean-up assistance provided neighborhood.                                                                                                                       | 4                 | Neighborhood sites                                                                | 1                | 7                     | volunteers wiped-out Neighborhood graffiti                          | 100%            |
| AZ    | PO4C    | 4       | E121C    | Assisted neighborhood Organize Neighborhood Pride Day.                                                                                                                    | 20                | Volunteers                                                                        | 80               | 35                    | volunteers cleaned up, hauled trash, planted tree                   | 66%             |
| AZ    | PO4C    | 5       | R033     | Neighborhood Watch established by residents                                                                                                                               | 1                 | Neighborhood                                                                      | 1                | 1                     | Neighborhood                                                        | 100%            |

AZ-18  
PO4C

8/15/96

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj/Impact Statement                                                  | Year's             |                        | 4th QTR Quantity | Year's     |                                                                              | 4th QTR Success |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|       |         |         |          |                                                                       | QTY Target         | QTY Unit of Measure    |                  | QTY Target | Success Unit of Measure                                                      |                 |
| AZ    | R04A    | 1       | EN-R035A | Recruit volunteers for training on agriculture issues                 | <del>1985</del> 25 | volunteers             | 5                | 1940       | number of people/things aided by service                                     | 10%             |
| AZ    | R04A    | 2       | EN-R035A | Organize volunteers to clean 1 mile of Toltec Rd                      | 30                 | volunteers - recruited | 0                | 1          | number of <del>people/things</del> miles <del>aided by service</del> cleaned | 200%            |
| AZ    | R04A    | 4       | EN-R035A | Train volunteers to research and apply for grants for a cotton museum | 10                 | volunteers - recruited | 0                | 10         | number of people/things aided by service                                     | 0               |
| AZ    | R04A    | 5       | EN-R035A | Organize volunteers to renovate storefronts                           | 27                 | volunteers - recruited | 6                | 5          | number of people/things aided by service jobs created                        | 120%            |

R04A

AZ-16



8/15/96

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | Site | Obj<br>No. | PGM<br>Code | Obj/Impact Statement                                                                          | Year's        |                               | 4th QTR  |                   | Year's                               |         | 4th QTR |
|-------|------|------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|       |      |            |             |                                                                                               | QTY<br>Target | Unit of Measure               | Quantity | Success<br>Target | Success<br>Unit of Measure           | Success |         |
| AZ    | R04B |            | EN-R035A    | Volunteer community group to perform monthly educational forum                                | 20            | volunteers - recruited        | 0        | 150               | people aided                         |         | 100%    |
| AZ    | R04B |            | EN-R073B    | Develop a historic district map and inventory of properties to establish a (HD) for the city. | 50            | inventory                     | 0        | 10                | number of new businesses created     |         | 40%     |
| AZ    | R04B | 1          | EN-R026A    | Assistance provided in obtaining repairs for home & safety home repairs                       | 35            | homes - repairs               | 5        | 35                | % of repairs meeting building codes  |         | 100%    |
| AZ    | R04B | 1          | EN-R027A    | Outreach for new home ownership programs                                                      | 100           | families - new home ownership | 5        | 25                | number of people obtaining new homes |         | 100%    |

R04B  
AZ-17

8/15/96

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj/Impact Statement                     | Year's     |                      | 4th QTR | Year's         |                                          | 4th QTR |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|------------------------------------------|---------|
|       |         |         |          |                                          | QTY Target | QTY Unit of Measure  |         | Success Target | Success Unit of Measure                  |         |
| AZ    | R04C    | 3       | EN-R061  | Increase awareness of resources          | 200        | adults - educated    | 20 ✓    | 100            | % users with increased knowledge         | 100%    |
| AZ    | R04C    | 4       | EN-E037B | Asset mapping                            | 2000       | acres - mapped       | 0 ✓     | 100            | % of maps used                           | 100%    |
| AZ    | R04C    | 1       | EN-R035A | Enhance voc. ed. training                | 20         | volunteers           | 10 ✓    | 200            | number of people/things aided by service | 24%     |
| AZ    | R04C    | 2A      | EN-R035A | Recruit volunteers                       | 7          | recruit - volunteers | 0 ✓     | 30             | number of people/things aided            | 0%      |
| AZ    | R04C    | 2B      | EN-R013  | Establish a fire emergency service       | 1          | county - aided       | 0 ✓     | 1              | fire district or 501(c)(4) created       | 0%      |
| AZ    | R04C    | 2C      | EN-R011  | Technical assistance to fire departments | 7          | volunteer committees | 0 ✓     | 100            | % of RFD rating service as valuable      | 100%    |

R04C

AZ-18



8/15/96

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success".)

Remember, since this is the last or final report, there should be no objectives with a zero entered in quantity or success, if a zero was entered for the first Three quarters. (See your last quarterly report) If you have objectives that you could not do anything on please explain why.

| State | Site | OP<br>No. | Obj<br>Code | PGM<br>Obj/Impact Statement                | Year's        |                               | 4th QTR  |                   | Year's                                  |         | 4th QTR |  |
|-------|------|-----------|-------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
|       |      |           |             |                                            | QTY<br>Target | Unit of Measure               | Quantity | Success<br>Target | Success<br>Unit of Measure              | Success |         |  |
| AZ    | R04D | 2         | EN-R052A    | Create a recreational program for children | 300           | people - recreational program | 148      | 100               | % of parents rating service as valuable | 50%     |         |  |

R04D

AZ-19

## QUESTION 13. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ORIGINAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

RO4E

(Under "4th QTR Quantity" enter the amount of work done in the Fourth quarter. Do the same for "4th QTR Success")

| State | OP Site | Obj No. | PGM Code | Obj / Impact Statement             | Year's QTY Target | QTY Unit of Measure            | 4th QTR Quantity | Year's Success Target | Success Unit of Measure                     | 4th QTR Success |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| AZ    | R04E    | 1       | EN-R046  | School-to-work internships created | 75                | students placed in internships | 36               | 25                    | percent of interns obtaining permanent jobs | 30% *           |
| AZ    | R04E    | 2       | EN-E120  | Graffiti cleaned from properties   | 50                | properties cleaned             | 0                | 100                   | number of volunteers                        | 0%              |

\* High School Students Placed at Businesses and Government Agencies in Nogales, Arizona, in local JTPA Summer Employment Program. Due to the success of the JTPA Summer Employment Program, JTPA extended the program for an additional 60 days, placing 36 more individuals at Businesses and Government Agencies.

R04E

AZ-20



## i

125

transferred info

P04B

AZ-2

# 14. PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCOMPLISHING ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Use this section to report progress towards completing additional new objectives --- those objectives in addition to the main objectives of each project listed on the proceeding page. Please fill in all columns for all objectives. It is important to make sure that each objective is listed with its own "OP site" (Operating site) code; this ensures that we know precisely what service is performed at each site. Please fill in all columns for each objective. Under "Obj No.," please give each new objective a number different from the number used for any of the objectives on the proceeding page. Under "PGM Code", please use a one-letter and three-digit code to describe the service from the code list provided at the end of this report. Under "Obj/Impact statement," provide a several-word summary of the nature of the service project -- this verbal summary should roughly match the "PGM Code" listed in the previous column. Under "Year's QTY Target," provide a hard number for the people or things aided. Under "Target Unit of Measurement," specify what unit of measure was used in the previous column -- such as miles, number of people served, acres, etc. Under "1st QTR Quantity," provide a hard number indicating progress towards the "Year's QTY Target" that was accomplished during this reporting period. Under "Year's Success Target," provide a hard number for a way of measuring how well the service was provided. Under "Successes Unit of Measure," specify exactly what the number in the previous column meant. Under "1st QTR Success," provide a hard number indicating progress towards the "Year's Success Target" that was accomplished during this reporting period.

| 1st QTR       |         | Obj PGM |      | Year's               | QTY    | Year's | Success         | 1st QTR  | Success | Unit of |
|---------------|---------|---------|------|----------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|----------|---------|---------|
| State Op Site | Measure | No.     | Code | Obj/Impact statement | Target | QTY    | Unit of Measure | Quantity | Target  |         |

{SAMPLE:}

|                    |      |    |      |                                  |   |       |  |   |    |   |
|--------------------|------|----|------|----------------------------------|---|-------|--|---|----|---|
| CA                 | Y05A | 18 | EN96 | Constructing whale nesting boxes | 3 | Boxes |  | 1 | 90 | % |
| meeting stand. 95% |      |    |      |                                  |   |       |  |   |    |   |

|    |      |  |  |                                                                                               |   |      |     |                  |    |  |
|----|------|--|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------|-----|------------------|----|--|
| AZ | PO4C |  |  | Acquire for underserved neighborhood a Mobile Health Clinic that visits weekly or bi-monthly. | 1 | unit | 200 | Families served. | 0% |  |
|----|------|--|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------|-----|------------------|----|--|

PO4C

AZ-22



#### 14. Additional Community Service Objectives Narrative: (Detailed accomplishments)

**Women and Minority Owned Business Enterprise Program:** The member organized, advertised and introduced a workshop whereby minority and women owned business could learn about various certification processes that will make them more competitive. The workshop included a finance seminar by a local bank, a Department of Commerce presentation, a Department of Transportation presentation, and numerous public and private procurement agents were there to answer questions, give advice and get to know the various suppliers. There were approximately forty plus participants.

| Site | Objective                                    | Yrs Qty<br>Target | Qty unit<br>measure | 4th Qty | Yrs Success<br>target | Success unit of measure    | 4th Qtr<br>Success |
|------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| RO4C | Minority and Women Owned<br>Business Seminar | 1                 | meeting             | 1       | 100                   | % with increased knowledge | 100 %              |

15. **Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional):** If you feel it is necessary and/or helpful, you may use this space to describe in more detail accomplishments towards the original community service objectives reported in question 13 and/or your additional community service objectives reported in question 14. Please make sure you include the Operating Site ID Number in each narrative description so we can be clear which accomplishment is matched to which site.

(Site P04B) - ~~my~~ <sup>AmeriCorps Member</sup> outreach for Self Help Housing (see

Question 14) closed the gap on the number of applicants required to make the

program successful locally. Outreach has just begun in Shiprock, NM, under <sup>AmeriCorps</sup> ~~my~~

<sup>member's</sup> efforts, and should continue - especially in light of the number of inquiries <sup>which</sup> have been receiving here prior to ~~my~~ departure.

<sup>AmeriCorps Member's</sup>

16. **Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how projects have brought together diverse groups of people, empowered communities to solve their own problems, built long term structures that will last beyond each AmeriCorps Member's term of service, and generally improved the abilities of local citizens to help improve their own lives.

(Site P04B) - Community awareness toward the Self Help Housing program has been significantly elevated through informative presentations at Chapter planning meetings, and by providing extensive media announcements and outreach fliers. This has resulted not only in creating numerous inquiries about the program, but has helped to bring in successful local applicants and future prospects, laying the groundwork for self improvement through the realization of critical housing needs here on the Reservation.

17. **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how the AmeriCorps Members themselves have benefited from serving in the program, particularly in regard to expanding their own educational opportunity and increasing their own ethic of personal responsibility. Describe specific skills learned by Members through either their service or training. Describe any Members that earned a GED or otherwise advanced their education. Describe any Members that left public assistance to join AmeriCorps. Relate how AmeriCorps allowed Members to continue college or graduate school. Describe how Members may have changed their ethic of work, citizenship, or community volunteerism.

(Site P04B) - AmeriCorps has given me the opportunity to "give <sup>it</sup> something back."

I have been lucky in life - far luckier than the people I have served here. My experiences here have taught me valuable lessons about responsibility towards one's fellow man, and about community service in general. The old adage: "The more you give, the more you receive," has never been proven so true for me, and the experiences and joys of "giving" have been invaluable. If every single American - young or old; rich or poor - were to serve just one year in AmeriCorps, I am certain that the ramifications of such brief, but invaluable, service would be staggering.

P04B

AZ-24



15. **Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional):** If you feel it is necessary and/or helpful, you may use this space to describe in more detail accomplishments towards the original community service objectives reported in question 13 and/or your additional community service objectives reported in question 14. Please make sure you include the Operating Site ID Number in each narrative description so we can be clear which accomplishment is matched to which site.

PO4C

While awaiting info for my Outreach Project I began an open dialogue with Rural Health on the possibility of a Mobile Health Clinic for my favorite underserved Rural Community. The mobil clinic persons are/were very enthusiastic, everything depends on funding and on neighborhood participation.

16. **Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how projects have brought together diverse groups of people, empowered communities to solve their own problems, built-long term structures that will last beyond each AmeriCorps Member's term of service, and generally improved the abilities of local citizens to help improve their own lives.

PO4C

Diablo Estates are as a group working on getting their roads fixed, getting themselves a park, and a community center, their young people have formed a softball team and have even as a group stopped an act of vandalism.

17. **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how the AmeriCorps Members themselves have benefited from serving in the program, particularly in regard to expanding their own educational opportunity and increasing their own ethic of personal responsibility. Describe specific skills learned by Members through either their service or training. Describe any Members that earned a GED or otherwise advanced their education. Describe any Members that left public assistance to join AmeriCorps. Relate how AmeriCorps allowed Members to continue college or graduate school. Describe how Members may have changed their ethic of work, citizenship, or community volunteerism.

PO4C

As an adult that has raised a family, many children abandoned by their families in dire circumstances, worked for 25 years, going on with my education, been awarded three outstanding volunteer certificates, and am now caring for my frail and aging father I think I have a pretty strong ethic of responsibility.

AmeriCorps did give me back a very strong sense of I CAN, upped my confidence in public speaking, and the togetherness of a Corps doing something truly good can never be replaced in my memories.

PO4C

**15. Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional): (Site R04A)**

Recruitment of parents + students for youth training in Agriculture issues has been very fulfilling for the youth involved. Community awareness in this area for youth has been a rewarding experience for both parent + youth.

**16. Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional): (Site R04A)**

Objective number 1 included beginning Eloy's 4-H Youth Development Program. Five volunteer team leaders are being trained to teach classes. A curriculum is in draft form and student recruitment is beginning. The 4-H Program will be headed by the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Program of Pinal County. Classes will begin in early November. This program will continue until the end of the school year and will begin again next school year, so long as there is support from the community. Since Eloy has limited recreational activities, this program will greatly benefit everyone involved, especially the youth. The City of Eloy, local schools, and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Center have become community partners in this effort to provide additional recreational opportunities for Eloy's youth.

**17. AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional): (Site R04A)**

The AmeriCorps Member has decided to continue her education and began fall classes at the University of Arizona in August. She has decided on a major of Public Management as a result of her experience with the City of Eloy. Her goal is to complete her Bachelor's Degree and bring her education and experience back to the community as City Manager.

R04A



15. **Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional):** If you feel it is necessary and/or helpful, you may use this space to describe in more detail accomplishments towards the original community service objectives reported in question 13 and/or your additional community service objectives reported in question 14. Please make sure you include the Operating Site ID Number in each narrative description so we can be clear which accomplishment is matched to which site. (R04B)

**Organized a volunteer community leadership forum to help develop the necessary skills and knowledge for active participants when they become involved and take part in active leadership roles in the community.**

**Assisted in providing technical advice in the rehabilitation of homes to meet health and safety requirements.**

**Assisted in outreach programs for new home ownership.**

**Developed a historic district map and inventory of historical buildings in order to establish a Historic District in the central downtown Douglas commercial district.**

16. **Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how projects have brought together diverse groups of people, empowered communities to solve their own problems, built long term structures that will last beyond each AmeriCorps Member's term of service, and generally improved the abilities of local citizens to help improve their own lives. (R04B)

**Volunteer community leadership group has accomplished the goal of educating and informing community citizens through monthly forums to take an active role in becoming future leaders and becoming involved in community affairs. The community now draws and will continue to draw from a wider more inclusive base.**

**Have assisted the Douglas Housing Authority in accomplishing the goal of providing decent housing for disadvantaged families by the rehabilitation of four homes in the older section of town and the construction of two brand new homes which were otherwise unable to be rehabilitated.**

**Developed a historic district inventory of buildings ensuring the restoration/preservation of the downtown buildings which will increase tourism and economic benefits to the downtown historical district. This will help attract new business to the downtown area and help store owners improve sales and stay in business in the central business of town which has been hit hard by the devaluation of the Mexican peso.**

17. **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional):** (R04B)

**The AmeriCorps Member (Hector Salinas) has benefited by gaining experience in the process of serving the public, the opportunity to experience new work ethics when dealing with the public. Some skills and knowledge gained by being a member were the opportunities available to communities offered by government agencies for their development, knowledge of RD/USDA functions and goals, meeting people in government who can be of help when trying to develop and help communities who need assistance, gaining knowledge of community development programs. The member will use the educational award to pay educational classes helping the member continue to pursue a degree in business management. The member has learned the importance of government in assisting communities to help better themselves through the many programs available to them. The only way to help disadvantaged communities survive is through the participation of people in the communities and the partnership of government.**

## 15. Community Service Objectives Narrative: (Detailed accomplishments)

**Fire District:** Reached further consensus among parties. City handed over donated fire vehicles to the proposed fire district. Received a mini grant from USDA AmeriCorps to help refurbish the vehicles. The grant is most likely to be used to purchase tires for the vehicles. There has been a structural change in the fire district itself. The community of Parks representing 60% of the proposed fire district has filed for 501c(4) status this will allow them to function as a fire department but not as a special district capable of taxing, the 501c(4) non-profit status is not uncommon for fire departments, even municipal ones. This non profit status will serve to direct and operate the fire department while they redraw their fire district lines and apply for fire district status from scratch. The community volunteers decided to leave out some areas while expanding in other places, then contract out to the areas previously in the district. This will allow a section of the district with mixed feelings about the project, to contract out individually. The original intention of the AmeriCorps member was the successful implementation of a fire district a 501c(4) is approximately the same thing, these papers are prepared to file and will be filed this October. This will, in all likelihood, lead to a fire district the following year.

**Vocational Education:** The member helped earlier in the term with a specific needs assessment of Flagstaff employers. The needs assessment was used by the member and a local community college recently to outline and propose a millwright program that could be used to increase work force manufacturing skills. This program will largely train employees of various local employers. It will also serve to attract and retain more employers to the area. This quarter the member asked for employer response to the proposed training modules, compiled the results and made suggestions to the deliverer of services (Coconino Community College, Continuing Education Department). These suggestions have resulted in a better program proposal and the project continues to be refined. The community college has requested a lead agency status, the AmeriCorps member continues to maintain linkages between the private and public groups. The program will begin October 1 with two modules of the millwright program starting, the present enrollment is twenty four people. These classes represent two of thirteen agreed upon modules the total number of classes in the millwright program will likely increase. Each class or module will enroll at least twelve people.

## 16. Community Building Objectives:

**Fire District:** The local community has shown enthusiasm for the project raising several thousand dollars on their own and many citizens have stepped forward to offer their expertise. The fire district, when complete will far outlast this members presence in the community.

**Vocational Education:** The millwright program in conjunction with the business retention program is designed to continually evaluate training needs and implement new training modules yearly. The program has caught the attention of other community and economic developers around the state, business attraction prospects have also expressed interest.

## 17. AmeriCorps Member Development:

The member was able to leverage funds from his host organization and the USDA Rural Development Arizona state office to attend the Governors Conference on Rural Development. Member has also completed two-thirds of an associates degree on personal time in the last year. The member has received training in numerous Rural Development programs as well as EC/EZ training. The member has ties to the community that will outlast his AmeriCorps post. Member is far more employable and civic minded than before AmeriCorps.

RO4C



15. **Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional):** If you feel it is necessary and/or helpful, you may use this space to describe in more detail accomplishments towards the original community service objectives reported in question 13 and/or your additional community service objectives reported in question 14. Please make sure you include the Operating Site ID Number in each narrative description so we can be clear which accomplishment is matched to which site. (R04D)

Parents came and work with me as volunteer, about five parents volunteers everyday. Also I have a Senior Citizen volunteered to help in the summer.

16. **Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how projects have brought together diverse groups of people, empowered communities to solve their own problems, built long term structures that will last beyond each AmeriCorps Member's term of service, and generally improved the abilities of local citizens to help improve their own lives. (R04D)

The 4-H Program have brought together a group of volunteer people to work in the community when is needed. This group will continue with it to enforce the 4-H program.

17. **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how the AmeriCorps Members themselves have benefited from serving in the program, particularly in regard to expanding their own educational opportunity and increasing their own ethic of personal responsibility. Describe specific skills learned by Members through either their service or training. Describe any Members that earned a GED or otherwise advanced their education. Describe any Members that left public assistance to join AmeriCorps. Relate how AmeriCorps allowed Members to continue college or graduate school. Describe how Members may have changed their ethic of work, citizenship, or community volunteerism. (R04D)

AmeriCorps has benefited from serving in the program by attending to several trainings that increased their life skills and motivated them to return to school and to succeed in life through education.

R04D

15. **Community Service Objectives Narrative (optional):** If you feel it is necessary and/or helpful, you may use this space to describe in more detail accomplishments towards the original community service objectives reported in question 13 and/or your additional community service objectives reported in question 14. Please make sure you include the Operating Site ID Number in each narrative description so we can be clear which accomplishment is matched to which site. (R04E)

As a result of the success of the JTPA summer program, that initiative was extended to continue as an after school program until the first week of October. The number of students served and placed was more than 100% than our stated objective. Participants in the initiative gained experience in the business world. The knowledge will help them to be aware of the relevance that their studies carry as they prepare themselves for the world of work.

Given the success of the third quarter involvement with local Graffiti Abatement efforts, and with resident home renovation activities, the AmeriCorps Member work during the forth quarter for the purpose of living a structure in tact which will be capable of continuing these activities.

16. **Community Building Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how projects have brought together diverse groups of people, empowered communities to solve their own problems, built long term structures that will last beyond each AmeriCorps Member's term of service, and generally improved the abilities of local citizens to help improve their own lives. (R04E)

The AmeriCorps Member was able to bring together a coalition of students, business owners, managers and teachers through School to Work activities mentioned above. This effort will empower Nogales and Santa Cruz County for the purpose of upgrading the local workforce, which is an essential element in building a strong local economy. Making students conscious for the connection between their schooling and their economic future, as well as raising business owner's awareness of how school programs ultimately affect their interests, will enable both groups to improve the quality of their lives.

Graffiti Abatement and home renovation programs succeeding in bringing together groups of both young and old, men and women, Hispanic and anglo in the City of Nogales. The meaning of these programs for this diverse and multi-ethnic group was found in the pride and sense of community that is found in Graffiti free and clean neighborhoods. (R04E)

17. **AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives Narrative (optional):** Briefly describe how the AmeriCorps Members themselves have benefited from serving in the program, particularly in regard to expanding their own educational opportunity and increasing their own ethic of personal responsibility. Describe specific skills learned by Members through either their service or training. Describe any Members that earned a GED or otherwise advanced their education. Describe any Members that left public assistance to join AmeriCorps. Relate how AmeriCorps allowed Members to continue college or graduate school. Describe how Members may have changed their ethic of work, citizenship, or community volunteerism.

As a result of participation in the program, the AmeriCorps Member acquired a wide range of invaluable job skills. For instance, the Member learned the art of patience required to successfully bring together diverse groups with diverse interests. Additionally, experience in dealing with both the public and many community and state officials helped the Member increased in both levels of poise and confidence. Finally, the AmeriCorps Member's experience has raised his awareness of the need of community organization for the purpose of attending to the many important and valid needs that exist in the City of Nogales and in Santa Cruz County.

In terms of education, the program has allowed the Member to eradicate his debt, and to continue studying towards his B. A. I AmeriCorps had not existed in this respect, it is highly unlikely that the Member would have not had the economic wherewithal to finish his education.

The AmeriCorps experience has increased this Member's awareness of the fact that work can have a greater meaning than just a paycheck. Work done for the benefit of others provides a satisfaction not associated with other types of endeavors which deal with more narrow interests.



SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

18. **Unique Successes or Great Stories :** Briefly describe one or two unique and/or exceptional success stories, a program highlight, or a 'great story' from your state. Please explain any instance in which AmeriCorps Members recruited non-AmeriCorps community volunteers for projects. Please include all media coverage, including original newspaper clips, videotapes of TV coverage, and cassette tapes of radio coverage; any letters of support or thank you letters; "before and after" photographs, brochures, posters, and newsletters created by the project; and other types of creative documentation.

(Site P04B). - My original objectives called for achieving an increase of an additional 50 applications for the St. Michaels, AZ, office during my six month term of service here (25 502 applications and 25 504 applications). To this date, my outreach efforts have brought in 361 applications (145 502's and 216 504's), and I anticipate that this number will continue to rise for some time after I'm gone.

SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

19. **Difficulties Faced by the Program:** Use this section to report on any problems your Members have encountered in the program this period. These should be significant issues which were related to achieving objectives, significant delays in implementation, administrative problems, or any other expectations, events or incidents that have caused the Members concern. State the problem concisely and how the issue has, or has not been resolved. Be sure to outline the steps taken and identify any resources needed to assist in resolving the problem.

(Site P04B) - The Reservation has very special servicing needs, and, as USDA's ability to service it properly is diminished by funding cuts, it will become crucial to remember that many of these Low and Very Low income people speak little or no English, whatsoever, and have the equivalent of a 3rd grade education or less; it will become crucial to remember that we have come here, supposedly, to help alleviate substandard, 3rd-world living conditions within our borders. It is elitist, and absurd, for anyone to believe that these people - with no great educational or employment opportunities to speak of - will now simply have to come forward and do business the way the rest of the world does it. I fear, however, that this new wave of thought will propagate, that the pockets of poverty I have encountered will deepen, and that funding will "dry up," due mostly to a lack of "demonstrated" need. I leave the Reservation with the grim satisfaction that my experience, at least, demonstrated otherwise.

P04B

AZ-36

## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

18. **Unique Successes or Great Stories :** Briefly describe one or two unique and/or exceptional success stories, a program highlight, or a 'great story' from your state. Please explain any instance in which AmeriCorps Members recruited non-AmeriCorps community volunteers for projects. Please include all media coverage, including original newspaper clips, videotapes of TV coverage, and cassette tapes of radio coverage; any letters of support or thank you letters; "before and after" photographs, brochures, posters, and newsletters created by the project; and other types of creative documentation.

PO4C

I'd say my Great Success Story is the kids in Diablo Estates who formed a Softball Team. This group formed as a result of a few of them working at graffiti clean-up when their folks and neighbors.

## SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

19. **Difficulties Faced by the Program:** Use this section to report on any problems your Members have encountered in the program this period. These should be significant issues which were related to achieving objectives, significant delays in implementation, administrative problems, or any other expectations, events or incidents that have caused the Members concern. State the problem concisely and how the issue has, or has not been resolved. Be sure to outline the steps taken and identify any resources needed to assist in resolving the problem.

PO4C

**Projected new sewer and water facilities have not been constructed in time as expected. State regulations have slowed down the process in getting funded.**

Many of my community service objectives were met but many I've had to leave unfinished. There are/were many questions of procedures that had to be addressed at higher levels. Waiting for the answers slowed my progress or brought things to a halt. I feel the Outreach with Native Americans to have been very successful in that a real dialogue was begun and I had finally found the people that put me in touch with the persons I needed to meet, or know where the need for the healthy and safe home repairs is.

PO4C



## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

### 18. Unique Successes or Great Stories: (R04A)

The AmeriCorps Member was given the opportunity to teach a youth enterprise class. This will be her second time teaching this program. Eight students enrolled and four business plans were produced on businesses the students thought were needed in Eloy. Not only were students educated about business enterprises and the market, but the efforts resulted in strengthening the community partnership between the City of Eloy and the Pinal Hispanic Council.

## SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

### 19. Difficulties Faced by the Program: (R04A)

None at this time - other than  
question of continuing program

R04A

## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES

18. **Unique Successes or Great Stories:** Briefly describe one or two unique and/or exceptional success stories, a program highlight, or a 'great story' from your state. Please explain any instance in which AmeriCorps Members recruited non-AmeriCorps community volunteers for projects. Please include all media coverage, including original newspaper clips, videotapes of TV coverage, and cassette tapes of radio coverage; any letters of support or thank you letters; "before and after" photographs, brochures, posters, and newsletters created by the project; and other types of creative documentation. (R04B)

A success story is the formation of community volunteer group to recruit and educate potential leaders in our community. By organizing interesting educational and informational forums we have succeeded in attracting people with different areas of expertise and backgrounds. This will help develop more community leaders and help our community prosper and succeed in the coming years through their active participation.

An exceptional success story is the building of two new homes for an elderly couple and an elderly woman. Their homes were to be rehabilitated, but the homes were in such a bad state, the Douglas Housing Authority decided to tear them down and proceed with the building of the new homes. The two families involved were greatly appreciative and the area of the homes in the city were improved.

## SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

19. **Difficulties Faced by the Program:** Use this section to report on any problems your Members have encountered in the program this period. These should be significant issues which were related to achieving objectives, significant delays in implementation, administrative problems, or any other expectations, events or incidents that have caused the Members concern. State the problem concisely and how the issue has, or has not been resolved. Be sure to outline the steps taken and identify any resources needed to assist in resolving the problem. (R04B)

There have not been any major problems in achieving objectives.

R04B



## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

### 18. Unique Successes or Great Stories

See enclosed documentation. (R04C)

A variety of ongoing events were pulled together creating a good story. A mini grant awarded by USDA AmeriCorps was presented on Aug. 22. This date coincided with a joint training activity between a variety of AmeriCorps groups. The training seminar was entitled conflict resolution. These subject matter was pertinent to the fire district project. There also happened to be a Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce mixer that same day. The member arranged for a local towing service to tow the fire truck to the Chamber Mixer. This mixer was where AmeriCorps members polished waxed, washed and otherwise detailed one of the fire trucks to be used by the district. A symbolic gesture of the work put into the project and the work to come. A member of the governors commission on AmeriCorps also participated.

The USDA Rural development office lent generous support by assisting in distributing the press release, writing a version of the press release and making up a large check for presentation purposes. Members of the volunteer committee to create the fire district framed this check and displayed it prominently at a fund-raiser held the following week. The fund-raiser brought in over \$1000 for the fire district. The fund-raiser was a garage sale of donated items from local citizens with members of the medical and police community on hand.

## Section VI - Challenges

### 19. Difficulties Faced by the Program: (R04C)

**Fire District:** There is one holdout preventing the formation of a special tax district to fund a volunteer fire department. The holdout was a company that worked extensively with the project the plant manager and company president after multiple negotiations agreed to forward their recommendation that the petition be signed. The owner of the company, has not agreed to do so. Leaving residents and her employees hung out to dry. The formation committee is forming their own non profit organization to create the fire department. The difference being there will be a longer time frame before the department is eligible for a state matching budget grant. The owner has been given a September deadline by the Parks community, if this deadline is met a fire district is sealed otherwise the above mentioned plans will be realized. The community will have non-profit 501c(4) status. This will make outside funding efforts more difficult. This non profit is a stop gap measure. The citizens of Parks will have a fire district the community of Bellemont will either contract with Parks on an individual basis or form their own association developing a combination of fire brigades, medical services and outside contracts with Parks fire department.

All in all this stumbling block will probably result in a better mix of services and value.

**Vocational Education:** The member's role was more limited than originally envisioned. The pieces were largely there several companies had training moneys and training grants the Community College had a mission to serve the need. The member just needed to get the ball rolling and make sure it stayed on track. The challenge is that the time frame is such that the students will not be served within the time frame of my service. The member does not know how to claim a success the way the success measure and quantity were originally written. The program the member helped put together will educate over 200 people, the bulk of which will be in late 1996 and 1997.

**Asset Mapping:** No substantial problems here. Member wanted to post the maps on the internet but the host organization is changing leadership and is unwilling to take on additional projects until a new director is in place.

Site RO4C

R04C

AZ-35

## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

18. **Unique Successes or Great Stories :** Briefly describe one or two unique and/or exceptional success stories, a program highlight, or a 'great story' from your state. Please explain any instance in which AmeriCorps Members recruited non-AmeriCorps community volunteers for projects. Please include all media coverage, including original newspaper clips, videotapes of TV coverage, and cassette tapes of radio coverage; any letters of support or thank you letters; "before and after" photographs, brochures, posters, and newsletters created by the project; and other types of creative documentation. (R04D)

Parents have learned the importance of listening to their children, to have more communication and to encourage them to stay in school. To support the school by attending parent meetings and have more communication with teachers and staff. Parents and children have learned to contribute with the community as needed. The 4-H members participated in planning a trip to Sea World in San Diego. It took five (5) months of hard work in the community.

## SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

19. **Difficulties Faced by the Program:** Use this section to report on any problems your Members have encountered in the program this period. These should be significant issues which were related to achieving objectives, significant delays in implementation, administrative problems, or any other expectations, events or incidents that have caused the Members concern. State the problem concisely and how the issue has, or has not been resolved. Be sure to outline the steps taken and identify any resources needed to assist in resolving the problem. (R04D)

One of the problems I encountered was the site where the program was held, because for a recreational program there was not enough space, as there were other activities going on at the program's site.

R04D



## SECTION V - SUCCESS STORIES:

18. **Unique Successes or Great Stories :** Briefly describe one or two unique and/or exceptional success stories, a program highlight, or a 'great story' from your state. Please explain any instance in which AmeriCorps Members recruited non-AmeriCorps community volunteers for projects. Please include all media coverage, including original newspaper clips, videotapes of TV coverage, and cassette tapes of radio coverage; any letters of support or thank you letters; "before and after" photographs, brochures, posters, and newsletters created by the project; and other types of creative documentation.

RO4E

This AmeriCorps Member was instrumental in helping the Nogales-Santa Cruz County Economic Development Foundation attain Rural Economic development Initiative (REDI) status from the Arizona Department of Commerce. REDI accreditation is awarded to rural Arizona economic development organizations by the State's governor, and allows such organizations to apply for grant funds for development projects. As a result of the AmeriCorps Member's contribution to the achievement of this status, the NSCCEDF received a total of \$9,600.00 dollars from the State of Arizona during the course of 1996. These funds enabled the organization to produce and distribute a multi-media marketing piece, a buyer's guide for use by industry purchasing personnel and to begin work on an informational CD-ROM. Monies obtained from the REDI program also enabled the Nogales-Santa Cruz County Economic Development Foundation to upgrade its computer system. Without the presence of the AmeriCorps Member, it is unlikely that all of these items would have not been accomplished.

## SECTION VI - CHALLENGES

19. **Difficulties Faced by the Program:** Use this section to report on any problems your Members have encountered in the program this period. These should be significant issues which were related to achieving objectives, significant delays in implementation, administrative problems, or any other expectations, events or incidents that have caused the Members concern. State the problem concisely and how the issue has, or has not been resolved. Be sure to outline the steps taken and identify any resources needed to assist in resolving the problem.

(RO4E)

No significant problems were encountered during the Forth Quarter.

RO4E

AZ-37

## SECTION V - GENERAL INFORMATION

20. **National Identity Activities (OPTIONAL):** Please describe any activities undertaken by Members that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. These could include joint service activities, meetings with other AmeriCorps projects, national telephone conference calls, use of Internet to communicate with other sites, etc.

(Site P04B) - Recently, I participated in an AmeriCorps activity in Flagstaff, AZ, which received national media exposure. It involved group participation in the rehabbing of an old fire engine which was needed.

21. **Organizational Changes:** Please outline and describe any changes in your program's organization and/or structure during the quarter.

(Site P04B) - I was required to focus on Self Help Housing outreach locally a short time after the start of this quarter, resulting in a general slowing in the rate of applications being taken (see 3rd Quarterly Report).

22. **Organizational Improvements (OPTIONAL):** Please write any suggestions by you, your Members, site managers, or anyone else regarding ways in which the USDA or CNS AmeriCorps program could be improved.

(Site P04B) - Once its true value were proven (and, assuming that it were properly budgeted), it would be nice if AmeriCorps could somehow operate more independantly of USDA in respect to providing vehicles for its Members, etc.

23. **Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs (OPTIONAL):** Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National Service, or other sources to improve your projects. (Site P04B) - Perhaps the recruitment of a volunteer interpreter should be considered in the future for this position; i.e., assuming that a future Member here is not bilingual.

{END OF REPORT}

P04B

AZ-38



## SECTION VII - GENERAL INFORMATION

20. **National Identity Activities (optional):** Please describe any activities undertaken by Members that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. These could include joint service activities, meetings with other AmeriCorps projects, national telephone conference calls, use of Internet to communicate with other sites, etc. (R04B)

Participated in the National AmeriCorps Conference in Jackson, Mississippi. Attended training workshops concerning economic development , interaction activities with other members, participated in a national tele/satellite-conference with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Participated and assisted with other AmeriCorps members at the Tucson Food Bank in distributing and packaging food for the needy and helped unload food products at their warehouse distribution center.

Assisted the Boys & Girls Club in Nogales with fellow AmeriCorps members in the cleaning and arranging of books in the club's library section.

Participated in assisting the AmeriCorps member in Flagstaff, Arizona in the presentation of a donated fire engine to a fire district. Our group was responsible for the cleaning and waxing of the fire engine so that it was tip-top for its presentation.

21. **Organizational Changes:** Please outline and describe any changes in your program's organization and/or structure during the quarter. (R04B)

The only organizational change was the resignation of Mr. Greg Lucero who became the Manager for the town of Parker, Arizona and the appointment of Mr. J. Art Macias, a former AmeriCorps Member as the new Community and Economic Development Director (site supervisor) for the City of Douglas.

22. **Organizational Improvements (optional):** Please write any suggestions by you, your Members, site managers, or anyone else regarding ways in which the USDA or CNS AmeriCorps program could be improved. (R04B)

USDA or CNS AmeriCorps have done a good job in directing and implementing this worthwhile program. This is a good example of people helping people in America. If more funding were available, it would be worthwhile to expand the program recruiting more people and making sure areas in the U.S. would get needed attention.

23. **Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs (optional):** Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National Service, or other sources to improve your projects. (R04B)

For any project undertaken by an AmeriCorps Member, the Member should have the proper information to do a better job. Receiving information on specific subjects would be helpful. Knowing where to call for technical advice would be very helpful. Attending seminars and workshops pertaining to projects or tasks assigned would be a benefit to any member. Providing access to sources of information for technical advice or communicating with other AmeriCorps members to see what is working for them or just getting different ideas would help and facilitate the performance in reaching member's objectives effectively and efficiently.

{END OF REPORT}

R04B

## SECTION V - GENERAL INFORMATION

### 20. National Identity Activities (R04C)

Member recruited local AmeriCorps members from CNS to detail a fire truck at the mini-grant presentation. The fire truck was a donation orchestrated by an USDA AmeriCorps member. The mini grant presentation took place at a chamber of commerce mixer, with over 150 local business owners and community leaders. AmeriCorps volunteers performed a service and got to take part in the food and fun at the mixer. It was good local publicity.

### 21. Organizational Changes (R04C)

The director of the host organization, the Greater Flagstaff Economic Council, will take a new position at a different organization effective October 10th, 1996. This has had the effect of the host organization not wanting to take on an internet project that would have put the members asset maps on the internet. The web site overhaul would wait until a new director is found.

### 22. Organizational Improvements (R04C)

An educational award program were members can trade educational award points for useful items like (lap top) computers, software, work boots, apparel, certificates for textbooks, workshops and so on. Educational awards would be more like work awards were members can use funds to improve their ability and quality of work as well as their educational opportunities. AmeriCorps members need more recognition, too many are toiling in obscurity.

### 23. Primary Training & Assistance Needs: (R04C)

A flexible educational award, allowing members to fulfill their own training needs. Instant access to educational award funds to attend seminars, workshops and other improvement orientated events.

{END OF REPORT}

R04C

Site R04C

AZ-40



# USDA gives \$1,000 grant to fire District for Parks

By Phyllis Angliss-Rosso

The Parks-Bellemont Fire District was given a \$1,000 check by the Rural Development branch of the USDA on Aug. 22.

Bonnie Fricks, Rural Development Agent presented AmeriCorps Member Jason Costello and the Greater Flagstaff Economic Council organization the \$1,000 grant to help refurbish two fire vehicles.

Those vehicles were donated by the City of Flagstaff for the upcoming Parks-Bellemont Fire Department.

These vehicles, an ambulance and a 20-foot fire engine will be used to provide basic medical and fire protection to Parks and Bellemont residents as well as employees of businesses in the area.

Both Parks and Bellemont have not had fire or emergency medical protection since May, 1995 when Camp Navajo Army Depot suspended all outside services.

A grassroots effort to establish a fire district was started in Parks in April 1995.

While the residential area of

Bellemont is small, the business community is not.

The Industrial Park, has developed rapidly within the last few years.

Westmont Industries and Wisconsin Tissue are already listed as major employers in the area from Flagstaff to Parks.

The need for fire protection/medical service prompted Jerry Chavez of GFEC, to have a one district, two station Parks-Bellemont Fire District established.

Subsequently, Jason Costello of AmeriCorps has been working with the on-going project.

In his press release about the \$1,000 grant presentation, Costello calls it "On The Road Again — Two fire trucks scheduled for a new life."

He also stated, "It is anticipated that this will be an officially recognized fire district within the next 60 days, and hopes to be up and fully functional, including the construction of two firehouses and an emergency medical response system by the closing of the 1997 year."



The extended handshake between John Wren and Jason Costello is over the donation of the \$1,000 grant to AmeriCorps to the Parks-Bellemont Fire District. It will be used to refurbish two donated vehicles. The fire engine, donated by the City of Flagstaff is about to be "cleaned up a bit" by AmeriCorps volunteers, as a token of what is to come. Jason Costello of GFAC and Bonnie Fricks, Rural Development Agent who made the presentation are pleased with the accomplishment.



Pictured left to right above are: Tom Watkins, Flagstaff Cabinet Co. of Bellemont; Dom Rosso and John Wren of Parks; Jason Costello, AmeriCorps; and Bonnie Fricks, Rural Development Agent USDA.

ROHC

AZ-41

Wed Aug 28, 1996

LAURENCE GORDON CAMPBELL



SECTION V - GENERAL INFORMATION

20. **National Identity Activities (OPTIONAL):** Please describe any activities undertaken by Members that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. These could include joint service activities, meetings with other AmeriCorps projects, national telephone conference calls, use of Internet to communicate with other sites, etc. (R04D)

Cluster meetings—to talk about issues we encounter and tried to get information from other AmeriCorp member.

Phone calls—to confirm meetings

21. **Organizational Changes:** Please outline and describe any changes in your program's organization and/or structure during the quarter. (R04D)

A change in the program was that there were more children and there were professional people giving speeches to them about education.

22. **Organizational Improvements (OPTIONAL):** Please write any suggestions by you, your Members, site managers, or anyone else regarding ways in which the USDA or CNS AmeriCorps program could be improved. (R04D)

It will be better to have a 4-H program director be the site supervisor.

23. **Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs (OPTIONAL):** Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National Service, or other sources to improve your projects. (R04D)

More Technical Assistance from the  
City of San Luis for training.

{END OF REPORT}

R04D



SECTION V - GENERAL INFORMATION

20. **National Identity Activities (OPTIONAL):** Please describe any activities undertaken by Members that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. These could include joint service activities, meetings with other AmeriCorps projects, national telephone conference calls, use of Internet to communicate with other sites, etc. (R04E)

Activities participated in during the quarter which fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps included the following:

The AmeriCorps Member exercised full participation in the Nogales *Focused Future Program*. This is an initiative executed in Nogales by the Arizona Public Service company. APS is the largest supplier of electric energy in the State. The Member also fully participated in the *Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community* activities in the City of Nogales, as well as attended a *Conflict Resolution Training* which was conducted in Flagstaff, Arizona for the benefit of State AmeriCorps Members and Vista Members.

21. **Organizational Changes:** Please outline and describe any changes in your program's organization and/or structure during the quarter. (R04E)

There was no change in the program's structure during the Forth Quarter.

22. **Organizational Improvements (OPTIONAL):** Please write any suggestions by you, your Members, site managers, or anyone else regarding ways in which the USDA or CNS AmeriCorps program could be improved. (R04E)

AmeriCorps Member would be of even greater value to economic development organizations if their rules of operation enable them to collect and analyze data. Also, it is always for help to streamline, consolidate, and minimize paperwork.

23. **Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs (OPTIONAL):** Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National Service, or other sources to improve your projects. (R04E)

It would help this work site if the USDA could provide Member with training as it regards to the establishment of a local Intermediary Relending Program (IRP). The establishment of such a fund for local businesses is one of the goals of the Nogales-Santa Cruz County Economic Development Foundation for 1997.

{END OF REPORT}

R04E

AZ-43



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

           May 30 1996

Honorable Ralph Regula  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6023

Dear Ralph:

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposes to reprogram Forest Service (FS) funds in fiscal year (FY) 1996 for the AmeriCorps program. Section 312 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134) prohibits the use of such funds for AmeriCorps programs unless the relevant agencies of the Department of the Interior and USDA follow "appropriate reprogramming guidelines." Further, section 312 prohibits the use of such funds for AmeriCorps program "if no funds are provided for the AmeriCorps program by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies FY 1996 appropriations bill (VA-HUD). P.L. 104-134 does provide funding for AmeriCorps under VA-HUD.

In accordance with section 312, we are proposing to reprogram \$5.24 million from various National Forest System (NFS), State and Private Forestry (S&PF), and other funds to carry out authorized FS work projects through the AmeriCorps national service program in FY 1996.

The FS operated a Public Lands Corps in FY 1995 through which 297 AmeriCorps members on national forest land in 8 States performed rehabilitation and watershed protection work, reforested fire-damaged lands, constructed and maintained trails for hiking and horseback riding, planted cuttings for riparian and wildlife restorations, maintained and rehabilitated campgrounds, made campgrounds accessible for people with disabilities, completed timber stand improvements, restored historic sites, removed and installed fences, improved wildlife habitats, and hung erosion control netting on roads.

The FS also operated a Rural Development Team in FY 1995 through which 86 AmeriCorps members in 16 States worked on projects related to areas such as running water and indoor plumbing, emergency response and prevention, alternative uses of natural resources, environmental education facilities, tourism promotion, water quality protection, recycling promotion, cultural resource preservation, and relocation of residents of flood plains.



FS AmeriCorps members are getting things done and providing vital services, while strengthening communities, expanding educational opportunities, and encouraging personal responsibility.

The FS is proposing to carry out a program very similar to the 1995 program, but at a reduced level. The program level is based upon field units' assessments of their ability to utilize AmeriCorps members during the remaining field season. The FS is using AmeriCorps as a delivery mechanism to perform work not performed by FS employees. The FS redirects work to the AmeriCorps program that would have to be accomplished by other, less cost efficient means, such as through private contractors.

The FS is planning a \$5.2 million AmeriCorps program for FY 1996 that provides for enrolling 410 members. This includes 385 members in the Public Lands Corps through the NFS program and 25 members in the Rural Development Team through the S&PF program. Most members will be enrolled in part-time slots (see enclosure).

I am also enclosing responses to your questions regarding our previous letter to assist in the review of the reprogramming request.

This letter is being submitted in accordance with the arrangements and understanding that the Department has with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with respect to reprogramming procedures.

Similar letters are being sent to Senators Byrd and Gorton, and to Congressman Yates.

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Glickman", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DAN GLICKMAN  
Secretary

Enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

May 30 1996

Honorable Slade Gorton  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
127 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6033

Dear Slade:

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposes to reprogram Forest Service (FS) funds in fiscal year (FY) 1996 for the AmeriCorps program. Section 312 of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134) prohibits the use of such funds for AmeriCorps programs unless the relevant agencies of the Department of the Interior and USDA follow "appropriate reprogramming guidelines." Further, section 312 prohibits the use of such funds for AmeriCorps program "if no funds are provided for the AmeriCorps program by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies FY 1996 appropriations bill (VA-HUD). P.L. 104-134 does provide funding for AmeriCorps under VA-HUD.

In accordance with section 312, we are proposing to reprogram \$5.24 million from various National Forest System (NFS), State and Private Forestry (S&PF), and other funds to carry out authorized FS work projects through the AmeriCorps national service program in FY 1996.

The FS operated a Public Lands Corps in FY 1995 through which 297 AmeriCorps members on national forest land in 8 States performed rehabilitation and watershed protection work, reforested fire-damaged lands, constructed and maintained trails for hiking and horseback riding, planted cuttings for riparian and wildlife restorations, maintained and rehabilitated campgrounds, made campgrounds accessible for people with disabilities, completed timber stand improvements, restored historic sites, removed and installed fences, improved wildlife habitats, and hung erosion control netting on roads.

The FS also operated a Rural Development Team in FY 1995 through which 86 AmeriCorps members in 16 States worked on projects related to areas such as running water and indoor plumbing, emergency response and prevention, alternative uses of natural resources, environmental education facilities, tourism promotion, water quality protection, recycling promotion, cultural resource preservation, and relocation of residents of flood plains.



Honorable Slade Gorton

2

FS AmeriCorps members are getting things done and providing vital services, while strengthening communities, expanding educational opportunities, and encouraging personal responsibility.

The FS is proposing to carry out a program very similar to the 1995 program, but at a reduced level. The program level is based upon field units' assessments of their ability to utilize AmeriCorps members during the remaining field season. The FS is using AmeriCorps as a delivery mechanism to perform work not performed by FS employees. The FS redirects work to the AmeriCorps program that would have to be accomplished by other, less cost efficient means, such as through private contractors.

The FS is planning a \$5.2 million AmeriCorps program for FY 1996 that provides for enrolling 410 members. This includes 385 members in the Public Lands Corps through the NFS program and 25 members in the Rural Development Team through the S&PF program. Most members will be enrolled in part-time slots (see enclosure).

I am also enclosing responses to your questions regarding our previous letter to assist in the review of the reprogramming request.

This letter is being submitted in accordance with the arrangements and understanding that the Department has with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations with respect to reprogramming procedures.

Similar letters are being sent to Senator Byrd and to Congressmen Regula and Yates.

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



DAN GLICKMAN  
Secretary

Enclosures

## FY 1996 FOREST SERVICE AMERICORPS PROGRAM

The following reprogramming of FY 1996 Forest Service funds to the AmeriCorps program is requested:

|                                                                   | <u>Thousands \$</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| National Forest System and Related Funds:                         |                     |
| Recreation Management                                             | 2,486               |
| Wilderness Management                                             | 97                  |
| Wildlife Habitat Management                                       | 435                 |
| Inland Fish Habitat Management                                    | 179                 |
| Anadromous Fish Habitat Management                                | 127                 |
| Threatened and Endangered Sensitive Species<br>Habitat Management | 251                 |
| Grazing Management                                                | 46                  |
| Rangeland Vegetation Management                                   | 70                  |
| Timber Sales Administration                                       | 16                  |
| Forestland Vegetation Management                                  | 420                 |
| Watershed Improvement                                             | 81                  |
| Real Estate Management                                            | 16                  |
| Land Line Location                                                | 8                   |
| Road Maintenance                                                  | 63                  |
| Facility Maintenance                                              | 66                  |
| Forest Trail Construction                                         | 174                 |
| Brush Disposal                                                    | 15                  |
| Cooperative Work-KV                                               | <u>338</u>          |
| Subtotal                                                          | 4,888               |
| State and Private Forestry Funds:                                 |                     |
| Economic Action                                                   | <u>355</u>          |
| Total, AmeriCorps Program                                         | 5,243               |



1996 AmeriCorp Program

Question: What work will be done by AmeriCorps?

Answer: The service provided by Americorps in FY 1996 is likely to be similar to that provide in FY 1995.

Members funded through the National Forest System performed the following service and accomplishments:

- o Constructed, maintained, and improved 682 miles of trail.
- o Achieved 2,569 acres of wildlife habitat improvement; built 133 structures to shelter or protect wildlife; built 296 nesting boxes; and constructed a threatened and endangered plant greenhouse.
- o Improved 668 acres of timber stand.
- o Built or completely rehabilitated 446 campground sites.
- o Reforested 638 acres of land.
- o Prepared 42 campsites for accessibility to people with disabilities.
- o Improved 760 acres of fisheries habitat.
- o Constructed 86 miles of new fence.
- o Maintained 18 miles of vehicle trails to keep them free of obstructive growth and slides.
- o Improved watershed damaged by fire by cutting and planting 92,500 willows in riparian areas.
- o Built 11 flood fences to prevent future flooding.
- o Improved Forest Service road and safety conditions--by "day lighting" 50 curves.
- o Released 775,000 salmon fry in a fish stocking operation.
- o Constructed a major visitor information center.
- o Provided conservation education to 88,373 students, grades K-12.

Members funded through State and Private Forestry performed the following service and accomplishments:

Arkansas - Members worked to promote alternative energy sources which are environmentally safe, to select appropriate sites for installation of dry fire hydrants, to facilitate implementation and coordination of demonstration projects for five poultry litter spreaders. They also helped to promote alternative wood products and value-added manufacturing technologies, resulting in local people obtaining job training and higher paying employment while maintaining the quality of the rural environment. Tons of industrial wood waste is now being processed into energy in the form of wood pellets. The Members also helped the Community of Holly Grove facilitate the FEMA buy out of homes in the 100-year flood plain.

Georgia - A member created Recreation Opportunity Guides for the Forest and assisted in developing a series of videos entitled "America's Great Outdoors," working with the Environmental Education Coordinator to present environmental education programs and fire prevention programs; other members worked with the Wilderness Ranger on the Brasstown Ranger District doing trail maintenance and doing presentations to local groups on wilderness management. The Recreation Opportunity Guides that was produced will also be of value to thousands of Forest visitors expected to visit the Forest during the 1996 Olympics.

Kentucky - A Member worked with the McCreary County Fiscal Court, primarily with the County Road Supervisory, to take help create a (911) emergency response system and to start a road inventory and management system for the county.

Louisiana - One Member assisted grant development for a successful application to use timber bridge technology and materials for recreation tourism project in Lake Providence, LA. He continues to assist Humphreys County, MS in their timber bridge construction efforts. Two members assisted in the first stage of the Shiitake Mushroom forestry-related project.

Mississippi - One Member helped develop a recycling program in Leflore County. One Member organized construction of an outdoor classroom and implemented a plan to improve science test scores by 25 percent. A Member worked to start a community recreation and education program.

North Carolina - One Member developed a 5-year Master Plan for the development of a Parks and Recreation Department on the Cherokee Reservation. In addition, he established a Mountain Bike Trail on the Qualla Boundary for public use and special biking events. Another Member assisted in the identification and renovation of parks and other recreation facilities which did not comply with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements.

South Carolina - Two Members worked on a project to improve rural fire protection, lower fire insurance rates, reduce losses from fire, and stimulate rural development. A member worked to create a nature trail at an elementary school. One Member provided technical assistance in solid waste management and recycling to communities in Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins, and Union Counties.

Tennessee - One Member assisted the Shady Valley Ruritan Club (non-profit) in organizing a native cranberry restoration Action plan. The purpose of the cranberry restoration project is to stimulate economic development through tourism and educate the public about the uniqueness of the native cranberry and the Shady Valley community. One Member sponsored household hazardous waste collections held in 6 counties in July with participation increasing by 23%.



Virginia - A Member researched and wrote a Tree Identification Teachers manual and completed tree identification plaques for the Marion Riverwalk. Another Member completed timber bridge design for 2 species of lumber, 3 lumber grades for each species, and 6 different bridge spans for each species and lumber grade. He also developed and received funding for designing and constructing 2 nail-laminated pedestrian timber bridges in the towns of Teasel and Marion. He also contacted over 100 volunteers and municipal fire departments pertaining to interest in installing dry fire hydrants.

Minnesota - Members completed major analysis of the current situation in the development of hybrid poplar as an alternative crop. Members also completed analysis and documentation of a survey of primary and secondary forest products manufacturers to determine barriers they face in engaging in more value-added production.

West Virginia - AmeriCorps Members have helped implement the Hayfield-McCoy Trail System by identifying trail heads, as well as conducting inventories of service providers such as gas stations, motels, and restaurants. AmeriCorps Members also completed field work and analysis of current amounts of residues left in the forests after logging has been completed. This survey, covering the central counties of West Virginia has been used as a template for other areas of West Virginia and surrounding states. In West Virginia, another project was the Braxton County project; development of a trail system for environmental education. The project included clearing and constructing interpretive nature trails, building a large wooden foot bridge over a river, hanging bird and bat boxes, and identifying and labeling plants and trees along the way.

Colorado - Members completed draft of the San Juan Skyway Corridor Management Plan, completed conceptual master plan for a Petting Zoo, completed conceptual plan for Mangos Watchable Wildlife Wetland Park, developed GIS base map of political boundaries and wildlife corridors on the San Juan Skyway, initiated the Ponderosa Pine Partnership, which allowed a timber contract to be bought and delivered to Montezuma County (first time in history this has occurred), and completed the Mangos Riverwalk, which received Governor Roamer's Smart Growth and Development Award for 1995.

Utah - Members completed a site inventory of 23 sites for inclusion in the Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway, completed a signing project for Scenic Byways Project in San Juan County, completed Urban Forestry project in Moab and in Huntington, and completed work with the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum on sorting and cataloging artifacts collected in 1987.

New Mexico - A Member worked with the non-profit Castile Arts and Crafts Guild to find work for people who were under-employed because of the closure of a lumber mill. AmeriCorps provided technical assistance to develop a plan for the second year of operation of the Sangre de Cristo Wood Workers. Working the Carson National Forest engineer, AmeriCorps helped the people of the village of Velocities figure out how to improve their contaminated and insufficient water supply. AmeriCorps worked with the non-profit organization Gannets Del Vale and La Madeira Cooperative to develop a long range plan for economic development in the village of Velocities, using forest products and locally produced arts and crafts. In addition, because of the efforts of AmeriCorps, the 2,000 residents of the village of El Rico is one year closer to having safe drinking water. In Coyote, AmeriCorps is assisting the Volunteer Fire Department in locating a building the house the fire engine and to serve as a fire house. AmeriCorps also assisted in the development of a group which will provide a long range plan for tree planting in Taos County.

Arizona - Members assisted distressed Arizona communities to retain or expand businesses. AmeriCorps members implemented the Econ DB, an economic data base profile in 8 communities. Area Developers as well as the Arizona Department of Commerce's National Marketing Team will use the Econ DB. Public and private enterprises alike consider the Econ DB beneficial in attracting, developing and retaining businesses. Members also assisted multi-community action teams to have the Four Corners Heritage Council adopt the "Trail of Many Tracks" into the Four Corners Heritage Trail System. The Trail of Many Tracks is a heritage auto-touring route covering approximately 260 miles located in north central Arizona. The touring route passes through all communities adjacent to the Apache Sitgraves National Forest.

Oregon - The University of Oregon's Learn and Serve AmeriCorps Members are working and living in fourteen rural communities, five of whose members are USDA Forest Service supported. These participants are providing assistance in the areas of 1) Economic Development; 2) Environmental Preservation, Restoration, and Education; 3) Community Empowerment and Development.

Question: Does the AmeriCorps staff have the required professional experience to do the work?

Answer: All AmeriCorps members receive extensive technical training before they start their service and ongoing professional supervision during their service.

Question: Who has done this type of work in the past? If contracts were used, why not continue to use competitive bids and get professional quality work with appropriate oversight?

By law AmeriCorps Members can not displace existing employees or duplicate existing work. AmeriCorps provides a way to accomplish needed work and also meet a social objective of helping young people obtain a higher education and meaningful work experience.

The benefits of using AmeriCorps members to perform work are not limited to just the work (hours or volume) performed by the members themselves. Because of the nature of the AmeriCorps program and its legislation, projects utilizing AmeriCorps members can form partnerships with other government and non-government entities, wherein these entities can provide money, tools, supplies, volunteers and other support that could not and is not provided when other means such as private contractors are used to perform the work.

Question: Are the AmeriCorps centers appropriately located so the priority projects are tackled for each of the main program areas listed?

Answer: All Forest Service projects, developed at the ground level, are selected after an intense internal competition and then a highly competitive external competition run by the Corporation for National Service. The projects are designed to contribute to the planned program accomplishments of each unit.





UNITED  
STATES  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: AMERICORPS/USDA ANTI-HUNGER PROJECT STAFF**  
**FROM: KATHERINE GIBNEY**  
**COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**DATE: AUGUST 16, 1995**  
**RE: MEDIA**

A warm welcome to new and "old" Anti-Hunger staff members.

I would like to take this opportunity to pass along a few reminders about media issues.

First, I would encourage everyone to review the media policy in the Operations Manual. No need to rehash what is in the policy but I would like to emphasize its importance.

Second, please send us copies of print articles, television broadcast videos, or radio cassettes of stories on your projects as soon as possible after publication or airing. If it is a print article, please fax us the story then mail an original. We use these clips to let those who support our efforts know that you are out there getting things done. With each quarterly report, we submit a packet of media clips from your projects to the Corporation for National Service. I am asking that you send an original of print articles as there has been a lot of problems with copying faxes so they are readable.

With regard to videotapes, please call if a station wants to be paid for a copy of a story. If your project can't fund it, I will see if we can provide assistance.

Also, please mention to reporters that this is a USDA AmeriCorps projects. During the 1994-'95 year, our Anti-Hunger projects generated some great articles that did not mention the USDA affiliation. Consequently, I could not use them.

After an interview, if you feel that the article may be negative, please let us know in advance.

And last but not least, feel free to call me at (202) 720-4369 at any time about media issues -- and have a wonderful year!!!



## **THE MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS** **ABOUT USDA AMERICORPS PROGRAMS**

### **1. How do I apply?**

Enclosed is an application for all three types of USDA AmeriCorps programs. Even if you are applying for more than one type of program, you need to fill-out only one copy of the application. Upon completing the application, you should retain a copy for yourself and send the original to: USDA AmeriCorps, AG Box 1310, 14th and Independence, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1310. A database of all applicants will later be forwarded to all sites that match up with your geographic preferences. You may obtain a list and description of sites by calling 1-800-880-4183; you may then also send copies of your application to any specific sites for which you are particularly interested in applying. You will be contacted by any sites that are interested in interviewing you for the program.

### **2. When is the deadline for applications?**

USDA will accept applications until September 30, 1996. However, many individual sites have their own application deadlines. Some of these deadlines have passed while other sites are still taking applications. Therefore you should submit your application as soon as possible.

### **3. When will the service project start?**

Most projects will start in October of 1996, although a few will start in January of 1996. Most programs will end about 10 months after start-up.

### **4. Where will USDA projects be located?**

You may obtain a site list by calling 1-800-880-4183.

### **5. Can I apply to projects in other parts of the country?**

A person may apply to multiple USDA sites in any part of the country, however, there is NO reimbursement for relocation expenses. You will be responsible for locating and paying for re-location expenses on your own.

### **6. What qualifications is USDA seeking for its AmeriCorps Members?**

The prime requirement for acceptance in AmeriCorps is a serious desire to engage in challenging community service work. Many USDA projects seek a diverse mix of high school drop-outs, high school graduates, college students, college graduates, and professional school graduates. However, USDA Rural Development Team projects require that applicants have at least a Bachelor's Degree or significant equivalent work



experience in a technical area. All applicants for AmeriCorps must be citizens of the United States or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States (a green card holder).

### **7. Can I attend school while serving in AmeriCorps?**

Members may attend school at night or on weekends during their AmeriCorps service as long as there is no schedule conflict with their duties. However, most AmeriCorps projects require full-time service, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

### **8. How long will I have to serve to earn an education award?**

The full-time term of service for the USDA/AmeriCorps program is a minimum of 1,812 hours performed over a period of no less than nine months and no more than twelve months. This allows for paid national holidays and five days of excused absences. In most cases, you will serve for about the length of one academic year.

### **9. What is the amount of the living stipend I will receive during my term of service?**

The USDA/AmeriCorps Members' living allowance is about \$7,900 for the Public Lands and Environment and Anti-Hunger Teams. During 1995-1996, the living allowance for the Rural Development Team was higher. Although the exact amount has not yet been determined, the living allowance will again be higher for this Team during 1996-1997. The living allowance is subject to local, state, and Federal income taxes.

### **10. How will serving in AmeriCorps affect my benefits if I am currently receiving Food Stamps or welfare?**

The living stipend counts as income when determining eligibility for other programs under the Social Security Act such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), but it does not count as income when determining eligibility for the Food Stamps or Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs. In other words, you can still obtain food stamps or WIC benefits while in AmeriCorps, but you may lose your welfare benefits. You should work with your local recruiter to determine how you may individually be affected.

### **11. How much is the educational award I will receive at the end of my term of service?**

If you successfully complete a full-term of service, you will have up to seven years in which to utilize a \$4,725 award to pay for college, graduate school, an approved job training program, or qualified student loans. In most cases, the post-service education award does NOT count as aid received when computing your eligibility for other financial assistance for education. The education award is in addition to any other financial aid you would have been eligible for if you had not served in AmeriCorps.

**12. Do I have to pay taxes on the educational award?**

In most cases, the post-service education award of \$4,725 is taxable in the calendar year in which it is used. The Corporation for National Service will deduct no taxes but you will be sent a Form 1099 to be used in preparing your taxes.

**13. What kind of loans can be re-paid with the educational award?**

The post-service education award can be used to pay off existing "qualified" loans. Qualified loans are generally those made, insured or guaranteed, pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.). All Stafford, Perkins, or SLS Loans qualify. In general, most personal loans taken out by individuals to cover education expenses that are NOT covered by the above law can NOT be paid off using the post service education award. The institution which made the loan can tell you if the loan is "qualified".

**14. Can I receive cash instead of the educational award?**

No. The law prevents the USDA/AmeriCorps program from offering such an option.

**15. Can I transfer my educational award to a relative?**

The post-service education award CANNOT be transferred to anyone else. A child can't transfer it to a parent to pay off loans the parent took out to pay the child's educational expenses. A parent can't transfer it to a child or spouse or relative to pay for that person's educational expenses. In general, the education award can't be used to pay off PLUS loans.

**16. If I leave the program early, will I still receive the educational award?**

If you leave the program for other than "compelling personal reasons" you will not receive any of your education award no matter how many hours of service you have completed. Injury or illness of the Member or the death of a Member's immediate family are examples of "compelling personal reasons." Leaving to get a better job, moving to another part of the country, and leaving because the work is not what was anticipated are NOT "compelling personal reasons".

**17. What if my current student loan debt is less than \$4,725?**

If the debt amount on a student loan is less than \$4,725, the remaining funds may not be used for other than educational purposes. A Member has seven years to use the complete voucher.



**18. Will I qualify for health care coverage through the program?**

If you are not already covered by a health care policy, you will be eligible for basic health care package paid for in its entirety by AmeriCorps. In most instances, Members who are still covered under their parent's health care policies will not be eligible for the AmeriCorps health care benefit.

**19. If I have children, will AmeriCorps pay for child care if I join the program?**

All Members requesting child care are evaluated to determine their financial need. A Member who needs child care may not qualify for it because their total family income, including the spouse's is too high.

**20. Will service in an USDA AmeriCorps program qualify me for other Federal benefits?**

AmeriCorps Members are NOT federal employees. Service in AmeriCorps does not count toward retirement nor does it give any special status if, after leaving AmeriCorps, a person applies for a job as a federal employee.

**21. Can a person living in the United States on a "green card" join AmeriCorps?**

Although a person may have a "green card," they must be classified by the U.S. Immigration Service as a Permanent Resident Alien in order to join AmeriCorps.

CORPORATION FOR  
NATIONAL  
AND  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

---

May 9, 1994

Joel Berg  
Deputy Director, Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Agriculture  
14th & Independence Ave., SW  
Room 112 A  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Joel:

Enclosed please find several items which were discussed at the May 4 Interagency Council meeting. In addition, I have included other informational material.

1) The Department of Agriculture's response to the 1993 study on federal agency community service initiatives, compiled by the White House Office of National Service. Please review and update this information for 1994 and return to us by Monday, June 20 (see attachment #1). A copy of the 1993 questionnaire and other related material is attached.

2) At the last Interagency meeting, May 4, several questions were raised regarding the Corporation's plans for public affairs, recruitment, evaluation, and training. We offered to organize another meeting for the Council to meet with the directors of these departments for a briefing of the Corporation's efforts. This meeting is set for Friday, May 13 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Indian Treaty Room (room 474) at the Old Executive Office Building. Representatives will be:

- Diana Aldridge, Public Affairs
- Bruce Cohen, Recruitment
- Trish Thompson, Evaluation
- Jim Ekstrom, Training

Included in this packet are the evaluation and the recruitment strategic plans and objectives; the recruitment referral form which will be sent with a brochure to anyone that has requested information from our 1-800-94ACORPS information line; and the NCCC recruitment brochure and NCCC fact sheet. The recruitment brochure will be available within the next two weeks and sent to you.

3) The Summer of Safety grants projects by city and state.

4) An updated list of our State Commission contacts.

If you have any questions or would like to request additional information before Friday's meeting, please contact Karin Franceschelli at (202) 606-5000, ext. 169.

Sincerely,



Susan Stroud  
Senior Advisor, Federal Liaison



**AMERICORPS MEMBERS LOOK LIKE AMERICA**  
**SUMMARY OF DEMOGRAPHIC DATA**  
**MARCH 23, 1995**

- The 20,000 Members of AmeriCorps are serving in every type of community, in all fifty states.
- AmeriCorps Members come predominantly from middle class families. More than half come from families with annual household incomes between \$15,000 and \$50,000. Overall, median family income was \$28,156 and average family income was \$33,461. AmeriCorps' \$4725 post-service education benefit is a significant help for working families struggling to afford college.
- The majority of AmeriCorps Members are in the traditional "college age years" -- their twenties. Roughly a quarter are more recently out of high school, and about a fifth are part of the rapidly-growing "non-traditional college student" age category, over 30 years old.
- AmeriCorps Members fall into three nearly equal groups, when analyzed by educational background. 38% were headed toward college or the job market, having either dropped out of high school or having graduated. 28% held either college or graduate degrees. The final third indicated attaining an Associate's Degree or otherwise having some college education -- many in this category are currently in college or planning to return. This diversity underscores the advantage of having the AmeriCorps post-service educational award available to pay for college, graduate or trade school -- or pay back student loans.
- AmeriCorps Members reflect America's ethnic diversity. Roughly half are Caucasian, about a third African American, 14% are Hispanic; 3% Asian /Pacific Islander and 2% Native American.