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Americorps

AMS

MEb, GT.

MEMORANDUM to MMc

FROM: JOEL

SUBJECT: AMERICORPS CONTACTS

DATE: February 14, 1996

Rick Allen left his position as Director of External Affairs recently, and this position will not be filled. Therefore, we no longer have a single point of contact with the Americorps program. Here is a list of several people you can contact, depending on the issue.

Harris Wofford - CEO

Susan Raines - Wofford's Assistant

606-5000, x240

Jay Toscano - Public Affairs Director (Press contact)

606-5000, x277

Debbie Jospin - Chief of Staff

606-5000, x287

Gene Sofer - Legislative Affairs

606-5000, x246



UNITED
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DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE

*Amc
who is the
new Rich
Allen?*

February 9, 1996

Mike:

Greetings from yet another former Babbittite turned Clintonite. Still, the dream continues --- even after Gore's second term, Bruce will still be younger than Dole is today.

Anyway, for your enlightenment and amusement, enclosed is the very first report of the USDA-run portion of AmeriCorps program, which I now manage.

You may want to refer to it when you need to detail specific accomplishments of AmeriCorps nationally and locally.

Some report highlights:

- * USDA AmeriCorps Members in environmental projects performed flood recovery work on 75,300 acres, constructed or maintained 715 miles of trail, improved 6,176 acres of wildlife habitat, provided 885 landowners with water quality assistance, built or repaired 76 campground sites, planted 110,400 trees, made 42 recreation sites accessible for the disabled, restored 760 acres of fisheries habitat, and protected 67,483 acres of coastal land.
- * USDA AmeriCorps Members in nutrition and anti-hunger projects 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 152 community gardens.
- * USDA AmeriCorps Members serving in rural development projects helped 390 low-income families secure new homes, 3,484 families obtain running water or modern bathrooms for the first time, 867 families repair health and safety hazards in their homes, and over 100 counties improve their emergency preparedness and response.
- * The 1,200 USDA AmeriCorps Members recruited 14,176 non-compensated volunteers to serve in community service projects. Thus, each AmeriCorps Member, on average, recruited more than 11 non-compensated volunteers. The AmeriCorps Members directly provided services to over 828,000 citizens and performed environmental work on over 234,000 acres of land.

*Hope you are (at least occasionally)
having Fun - Joel Berg*

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AmeriCorps/USDA...at work

First Annual Report



GUIDANCE ON AMERICORPS FUNDING
JULY 16, 1997

(Last night, on a voice vote, the House voted to cut in half FY98 funding for Americorps (down to \$201 million from \$402 million in FY97). Our request for FY98 is \$549 million in order to provide 11,000 Americorps volunteers for the America Reads program.)

- * As you know, we have made it clear to the Congress that the President's senior advisors would recommend that he veto any legislation that terminates the Corporation for National and Community Service or eliminates AmeriCorps.
- * There are many in Congress who know how strongly the President feels about making it possible for thousands of young Americans to help their fellow citizens by teaching them how to read, providing them with health care, cleaning up their parks and cities, and a host of other activities, as they earn for themselves an opportunity to attend college and make the best of their own lives.
- * For some reason, perhaps because it's so important to the President, this program that does so much for people has become a frequent target of the Republican Congress.
- * We would have thought they would have learned their lesson, but let me make it clear if they have not. The President will not accept this kind of cut in AmeriCorps.

WILL HE VETO THIS?

- * Well, again, I think I've made it pretty clear how the President feels about this. Congressman Jerry Lewis has indicated that he knows how strongly the President feels about it, and as the Chairman of the subcommittee, he's interested in putting together a bill that will be signed into law.
- * So we're hopeful that when push comes to shove, they will reject the views of those in the Congress who have never supported AmeriCorps, and provide an appropriate level of funding for this important program.

TOIV
Chow