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**Fax
Transmittal****CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE****Please deliver
Immediately!****To:** Ann O'Leary**Organization:** DPC**Fax Number:** 456-2878**From:** Sandy Scott, Press Secretary**Department:** Corporation for National Service**Phone Number:** 202-606-5000 ext. 255**Fax Number:****Date/time:** November 1, 2000**Total Pages (including cover):** 4

Ann,

I sent this memo by email, but here it is by fax in case email is down.

If you'd like, I can messenger a newsletter from NAPIL on their AmeriCorps program and profiles of members, but this memo covers the basics.

On recruiting – they said they have more applicants than positions for their summer programs for law students, but in their year-round program for lawyers recruiting can be difficult because students have such high debt loads and can make so much more elsewhere. They usually fill all AmeriCorps positions, but there isn't a huge backlog of people applying. Of course, with increased publicity and a larger program, more people would apply.

Please call at 606-5000 ext. 255 if you need anything else.

**NATIONAL SERVICE: GETTING THINGS DONE**

AmeriCorps • Learn and Serve America • National Senior Service Corps

1201 New York Avenue, N.W. • Washington, DC 20525
telephone: 202-606-5000 • website: www.nationalservice.org

- **NAPIL VISTA Summer Legal Corps: Total members: 240, total funding: \$865,867 .**
This summer legal corps, entering its fourth year, places 60 law students in service for the summer alongside full-time AmeriCorps*VISTA members and other public service advocates. Through this program the students strengthen and expand the impact of national and community service by lending their unique legal skills to VISTA and other service projects in poor and disenfranchised communities.
- **Summer Corps: Total Members: 150, Total funding: \$16,800.** The Summer Corps joins 150 law students at public interest organizations across the country in a common purpose - to expand service delivery to those who need it most. Summer Corps members serve during the summer at the public interest organization of their choice, providing direct services in a broad range of issue areas to low-income clients.

The Corporation also provides \$25,000 a year from our recruitment office for a cooperative agreement to recruit public interest lawyers to work as AmeriCorps*VISTA members in national and community service. NAPIL educates the legal community about opportunities for law graduates to put their public interest commitment and legal skills to work as VISTA members in local communities throughout the country.

More general information and accomplishments.

In 1994, NAPIL launched the National Service Legal Corps (NSLC) with an AmeriCorps grant from the Corporation for National Service. The NSLC, the largest national legal program of its kind in the AmeriCorps network, puts new attorneys into service alongside community educators, social workers and paralegals at legal services offices nationwide. Members focus their service on the issue areas of domestic violence and housing and homelessness. The members expand legal services for vulnerable populations, promote community economic development, as well as prepare for careers in public interest law. The NSLC program includes 13 legal services project sites.

The legal system is currently inaccessible to millions of Americans who live in poverty. Poor people face legal problems associated with their most basic needs -- food, housing, health care, personal safety, and education -- yet they cannot find attorneys to help them.

According to state and national studies, only 20 percent of the legal needs of the impoverished are addressed in any way. The elderly, children, individuals of color, homeless people, people with AIDS, institutionalized persons, people facing domestic violence and countless others face a system where justice is at best rationed and often denied.

Working in conjunction with the Corporation for National Service, NAPIL's National Service Programs department develops programs and publicizes opportunities for public interest-minded law students and attorneys to meet the needs of underserved communities.

Last year, AmeriCorps members on the seven NSLC teams addressing domestic violence provided direct legal services to nearly 2,890 victim of domestic violence, helping them obtain protective orders, resolve custody or paternity problems, learn about other resources and find

permanent freedom from their batterers. The teams also provided outreach and made over 116 educational presentations on preventing and confronting domestic violence to over 865 victims of domestic violence, as well as provided over 83 educational presentations reaching 995 shelter employees, shelter volunteers and social workers.

NSLC teams serving in the area of homelessness and housing issues helped over 2,264 low-income adults and children find or retain housing and/or improve their housing conditions. Members' community outreach and educational presentations taught approximately 6,800 additional low-income people about their housing rights and responsibilities and avoiding homelessness.