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**Subgroup/Office of Origin:** Political Affairs

**Series/Staff Member:** Joan Baggett

**Subseries:**

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**OA/ID Number:** 2786

**FolderID:**

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**Folder Title:**  
[Americorps National Service]

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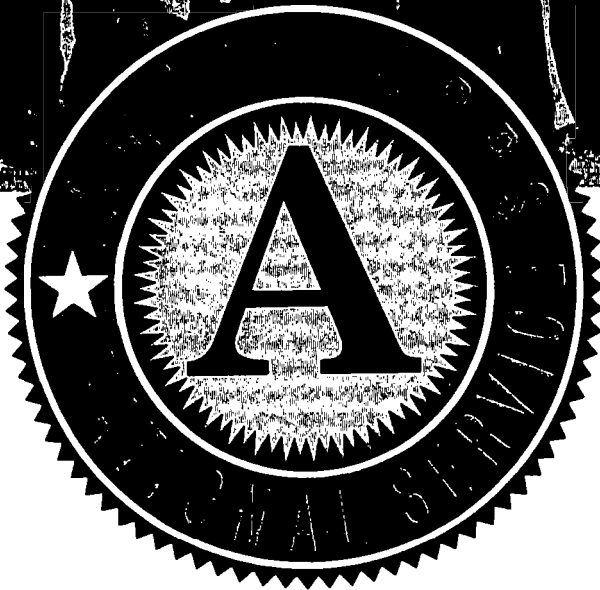
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# AMERICORPS

# COMING SOON TO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE



*Youth Corps members  
with the President at the  
White House for the signing  
of AmeriCorps National  
Service legislation.*

**AmeriCorps** is the new domestic Peace Corps where thousands of young people will soon be getting things done through service in exchange for help financing their higher education or repaying their student loans.

Starting this fall, thousands of AmeriCorps members will fan out across the nation to meet the needs of communities everywhere. And the kinds of things they will help get done can truly change America—things like immunizing our infants... tutoring our teenagers... keeping our schools safe... restoring our natural resources ...and securing more independent lives for our ill and our elderly.

**AmeriCorps...**

**the new National Service**

**movement that will**

**get things done.**

**Watch for**

**AmeriCorps, coming**

**soon to your community...**

**and find out more**

**by calling:**

**1-800-94-ACORPS.**

# The Washington Post

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993

## Youth Service Corps Officials Prepare For Recruiting Blitz

By Mary Jordan  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Former inner-city gangsters and Stanford University honor students are among those expected to sign up in the new year for one of President Clinton's new programs: youths performing community service to pay for college tuition.

In January, radio and television advertisements are to begin telling thousands of students how they can enroll in AmeriCorps and get paid for work ranging from comforting AIDS patients to tutoring preschoolers.

In interviews last week with AmeriCorps leaders, details of one of Clinton's most visible campaign promises emerged for the first time. All 20,000 of the students to be selected next year will earn an \$8,000 wage (roughly \$4.25 an hour), plus health and child care benefits. If they successfully complete the 12-month program, the youths also will get \$4,725 in college or vocational school tuition or loan forgiveness. The government will write a check to the school of their choice.

Program officials expect a blizzard of applications from students, even though the compensation will be considerably lower than proposals floated during Clinton's campaign.

The first step is next month's media campaign, which will include spots on MTV, an effort that program officials hope will help make AmeriCorps as well known as the Peace Corps. In April and May, nonprofit service groups such as Teach for America, which brings recent college graduates into needy elementary school classrooms, will be selected to participate.

The winning service groups will then pick the students who will work for them. Some students will go to work next summer, with the big kickoff in September.

"One of our objectives is to create a national ethic of service," said Eli Segal, president of the Corporation for National and Community Service that oversees AmeriCorps.

Congress approved \$300 million for national service in 1994. The White House hopes funding will escalate, and that likely will depend on whether the program's initial reviews are good.

According to Clinton, youths who "look like America" will be selected. Most are expected to be between the ages of 17 and 25. Some will get involved in environmental work, others in public safety, education or health programs.

In addition to AmeriCorps, two smaller service programs are part of the national service corporation. One is the Civilian Community Corps (CCC), modeled after the popular 1930s program that gave people jobs on public works projects, such as planting trees and fixing parks.

The CCC will involve 800 students, and all will be housed on military bases. Former military personnel will work as instructors. Youths participating in this program do not have to have a high school degree and will be selected as early as February.

"The focus will be on civilian needs," said CCC director Donald Scott. Students will work at "creating green space in parks, tree-planting projects and erosion control," among other projects, Scott said.

The other part of the service corporation is VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) formed in 1964 and located a few blocks from the White House at 1100 Vermont Ave. NW. VISTA's 3,400 volunteers will earn the same as AmeriCorps students, and will do much the same kind of community work.

By the end of this month, a toll-free hot line (1-800-94-ACORPS) will begin giving potential applicants basic information about the AmeriCorps program and help link students to specific programs in particular cities.

Each Cabinet-level agency also will be eligible to apply for AmeriCorps funds.

All states have or will set up a community service commission to help select and monitor the AmeriCorps programs. The commissions also will help distribute the federal funds. About \$11 million in federal money has been set aside for the state commissions, and they are expected to get some local funding too.

The national office will cost an additional \$14 million a year to operate. How it fares in its first year is considered crucial for the eventual success of AmeriCorps.

Some critics of the program say they worry it will not attract middle- and upper-class students because the pay is so low. Others are concerned about just the opposite, that only well-off students will be able to join. And many are waiting to see if worthwhile work will get done.

# USA TODAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993

## Launching national service policy

By Dennis Kelly  
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — They aren't officially taking applications yet for President Clinton's national service plan — but they're already getting thousands of letters of interest.

The people running the Corporation for National and Community Service — just a few blocks from the White House — say that's an indication of high interest the program has generated. But it also leaves them nervous about expectations the program has created.

"There are moments of real anxiety about all that is expected. We feel a real need to get this done quickly," says Eli Segal, president of the corporation, the newly christened umbrella group overseeing Clinton's national service plan and a host of existing community service agencies. "We've got to go back to Congress and ask for appropriations (again) next year. The fear is how much needs to be done and how much we need the local communities to buy into this."

But the vision for Clinton's national service program is certainly heady stuff.

Its administrators see young



SEGAL: Feels pressure to get service program working soon

workers fixing up dilapidated homes or escorting the elderly to grocery stores in crime-infested neighborhoods. They see college students working in Head Start and early childhood education programs, all the time earning money that will help pay their college bill.

Those daydreams have been there ever since Clinton touted national service as one way to help young people earn money for college.

But the daydreaming has stopped, and the program is

now gearing up the process of making it work.

Regulations for the program will be published in January. Local and national groups then will compete for grants beginning in the spring and learn who gets funded between May and August. By the end of 1994, the Clinton administration expects to have 20,000 working in community service jobs and earning awards of \$4,725 per year in the program toward a college education or vocational training.

The \$1.5 billion program intends to have 100,000 participants over three years.

The part of the national and community service corporation devoted to Clinton's plan is called AmeriCorps. Anyone 17 or over will be able to earn the \$4,725 award toward college or vocational training by working with the non-profit groups that are awarded grants in the application process, or by working with one of two existing service agencies, the Civilian Community Corps or Volunteers in Service to America, better known as VISTA.

Those hired get a \$7,400 per year stipend — about minimum wage — plus health care and child care if needed, along

with the education award.

Programs that qualify will have to meet the educational, human, environmental or public safety needs of their communities. What those are will be up to commissions forming in each state — a "bottom-up" approach that Segal says will let communities decide what kinds of service are in their best interest.

Still, Shirley Sagawa, nominated as managing director of the corporation, says the corporation will help provide the program a "national identity." That will include a common oath taken by participants, a logo, as well as training and monitoring of program quality. The corporation even plans to hire some investigative-journalist types as "circuit riders" to help ensure programs are delivering on promises.

She says the program will also work hard to ensure that program participants "look like America." That's meant to allay concerns that AmeriCorps would be dominated either by low-income groups forced into national service as the only way to pay for college or by students from high-income families getting subsidies from the federal government.

## How to get information

People who think they'd like to apply for one of the 20,000 national service slots available next year can get information now, but applications won't be officially taken for a while.

To get information on AmeriCorps, call the Corporation for National and Community Service at 202-606-5000 and then, if you have a touch-tone phone, dial 4 at the list of menu options. You can leave your name and address and you'll be sent a brochure.

This month, the corporation will announce a toll-free 800 number. Then in May and August when 300 to 400 non-profit groups are selected to offer the national service jobs, the toll-free number will get you to an operator who can tell you about programs in your area. Local and national agencies that win grants will do the hiring.

Those interested also can write the corporation at 1100 Vermont Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20525, Attn: AmeriCorps.

# The Dallas Morning News

Texas' Leading Newspaper

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Dallas, Texas, Monday, February 28, 1994

6 Sections HF ... 25 Cents

## National service's time has come



**RICHARD REEVES**

"This is one of the best-kept secrets in the country," said Bruce Corwin, the chairman of Metropolitan Theatres Corp., as he listened to Eli Segal, the man President Clinton chose to create and run national service programs. "I want to put this up on my screens."

A generous offer, considering that Metropolitan owns 800 screens in movie theaters across California. And it is true that the new National and Community Service Trust Act, signed into law by the president in September, has gotten lost in the clouds of media attention to Whitewater, Bosnia and Tonya Harding.

But President Clinton has his domestic Peace Corps. "A dream," he said. In case anyone might miss the connection, he used the same pen President John Kennedy used to sign the executive order that created the Peace Corps back in 1961.

Now Mr. Segal, a businessman who was Mr. Clinton's campaign chief of staff, is on the road campaigning for himself — for his agency, officially the Corporation for National and Community Service. The corporation's management mandate includes the 3,400 members of VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America), created by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964, and a new 800-member Civilian Community Corps, young people working in national forests and parks. What's new is AmeriCorps.

AmeriCorps will begin recruiting 20,000 young men and women in May. Before that, Mr. Segal and a very small staff will be out collecting applications from non-profit organizations putting together programs to employ AmeriCorps members. Government agencies from states as big as California to small towns in Idaho can also apply for AmeriCorps workers, but emphasizing private-sector involvement was the price of winning conservative support for national service. The idea that every unit of the society must be geared to the needs and whims of the "private sector," must "pay for itself" or, even better, be a "profit center" has become imbedded in the American mentality these days. Doing good or investing in the future is no longer enough; government has to make money, too.

So, in Los Angeles, Mr. Segal met with representatives of government agencies, schools, the United Way and others looking for bright-eyed help in teaching literacy or cleaning up streets, even in helping old ladies cross them without being mugged. In the spirit of the times, local sponsors will put up 15 percent of AmeriCorps costs.

AmeriCorps members will be paid twice for a year of their time and energy. First they will get something like the minimum wage for 40 hours a week. Then they will receive grants of \$4,725 toward college tuition or other skill training for each year of service. (There will also be summer corps programs for 3,500 students a year.)

The total budgeted (but not yet appropriated) for the service programs over the next three years is \$1.5 billion. That would cover total service corps membership by then of 100,000 — if Congress can be persuaded each year that every project is serving a larger (profitable) purpose than just reinforcing the idealism of the young and the good of the community.

But I suspect that Mr. Clinton and Mr. Segal are right. This is the best they can get now. If AmeriCorps works — that is, if local communities approve of the work done — it will expand, possibly, one day, into universal national service.

The first syndicated column I wrote, 15 years ago this month, argued that such national service was an idea whose time had come. I was wrong then — and often later too — but something like this is better than nothing. "National service can tell us what it is to be an American," said Mr. Segal, and I still hope he and the rest of us can make that happen — show one another that there is more to life in these United States than marketing and consuming.

*Richard Reeves' column is distributed by the Universal Press Syndicate.*

## SEASONS OF SERVICE

*"I challenge a new generation of young Americans to a season of service... There is so much to be done -- enough, indeed, for millions of others who are still young in spirit to give of themselves in service, too."*

President Bill Clinton, Inaugural Address

The President's national service legislation created the new Corporation for National and Community Service. Formed in conjunction with the White House Office of National Service, built upon the foundation of the former Commission on National and Community Service and ACTION, and incorporating the new Civilian Community Corps, the Corporation is positioned to revitalize service in every region and community across the country.

The Corporation supports a range of national and community service programs, providing opportunities for participants to serve full-time and part-time, as volunteers or as stipended participants, and as individuals or as a part of a team. From our youngest citizens engaged in service-learning activities in grades K-12, to our older Americans assisting those in need in their communities, the Corporation provides "seasons of service" for all Americans.

**AmeriCorps** is the President's national service vision of directly and demonstrably addressing the nation's education, human, public safety, and environmental needs at the community level. AmeriCorps offers opportunities for Americans age 17 or older to make a substantial commitment to serve their country and to earn education awards for college or vocational training in return. Up to 20,000 Americans of all backgrounds will serve full-time or part-time in the program's first year, beginning in the fall of 1994.

Included in AmeriCorps will be the more than 1,000 young people serving in the new **Civilian Community Corps**. The CCC is a national residential service option in which participants are housed and trained together on military bases and deployed as teams to community service sites. The CCC combines the best of our military tradition with the best practices of local community service corps, providing participants with opportunities to solve real community needs while developing their own leadership skills and receiving invaluable training for future careers.

**Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)** will also be an important component of AmeriCorps. VISTA is a full-time, year-long program for men and women age 18 and older who commit themselves to increasing the capability of low-income people to improve the conditions of their own lives. VISTA volunteers serve in rural or urban areas or on Indian reservations, sharing their skills and experience in fields such as employment training, literacy, shelter for the homeless, and neighborhood revitalization. Approximately 3,500 VISTA volunteers are currently serving, joining more than 100,000 alumni who have previously served their country through VISTA.

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CORPORATION  
FOR NATIONAL  
 SERVICE

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100 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20525  
Telephone 202-606-5000  
Fax 202-606-4928

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

**L**earn and Serve America programs are school-based, and integrate service into daily academic life. Service-learning is a method by which young people learn and develop through active participation in service experiences that meet community needs, and foster a lifetime commitment to service.

The **K-12 Program** supports school and community-based organizations that engage school-aged youth in service. Over 275,000 students in all fifty states participate in service activities which are integrated into their curriculum, providing structured time for service and time for the students to think, talk, or write about their service experiences.

**Higher Education Innovation Programs** engage college students in meeting pressing community needs. Higher education projects support high-quality community service and service-learning initiatives at colleges and universities across the nation. Some are student-run; some are faculty-led; many are integrated with academic study. As essential parts of the college experience, these efforts will create a new generation of leaders committed to service.

**N**ational Senior Service Corps utilizes the skills, talents, and experience of older Americans in addressing urgent issues facing the nation. Together these programs involve over 470,000 volunteers who serve in 1,223 local projects and devote an annual total of over 111 million hours of service to their local communities.

The **Foster Grandparent Program** offers low-income persons age 60 and over the opportunity to serve one-on-one with children and young people who have special needs, including teen parents, boarder babies and those who are abused and neglected. Over 23,000 Foster Grandparents serve twenty hours a week in volunteer stations such as hospitals, public schools, day care centers and correctional institutions.

The **Senior Companion Program** volunteers are low-income men and women age 60 and over. Senior Companions provide individualized support and assistance to other adults, primarily the homebound elderly. Their services help the homebound achieve and maintain their highest level of independent living. Approximately 13,000 Senior Companions provide disability assistance, home management assistance, and social and recreational companionship to approximately 32,000 individuals each year.

The **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** is a network of 430,000 Americans, age 55 and up, who perform a wide range of volunteer services that meet real community needs and effectively use their skills, interests, and experience. RSVP is the Corporation's largest service program, providing communities with volunteers diverse in experience, interest, income, and education, and ready to take on the challenges facing the country.



AmeriCorps National Service

CORPORATION  
FOR NATIONAL  
SERVICE

## AMERICORPS NATIONAL PRIORITIES

*AmeriCorps is the new national service movement which will engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds, especially young people, in full or part-time service that gets things done in communities across the nation. AmeriCorps Members will perform service that will have a direct and demonstrable impact in four critical issue areas: education, public safety, human needs, and the environment.*

*By the end of the year, up to 20,000 AmeriCorps participants will be getting things done by meeting the critical needs within these national priorities:*

### EDUCATION

#### **School Readiness: furthering early childhood development**

##### *Getting Things Done:*

- Improving the quality and availability of child development programs by working in day care and Head Start centers and preschool programs
- Teaching literacy and other basic skills to parents of young children so that they can help their children learn
- Helping teen parents stay in school by providing needed services such as child care

#### **School Success: aiding the educational achievement of school-aged youth and adults who lack basic education skills**

##### *Getting Things Done:*

- Working in schools with high concentrations of low-income students
- Mentoring, tutoring, and providing after-school and summer learning opportunities
- Coordinating service-learning activities for K-12 students

### PUBLIC SAFETY

#### **Crime Prevention: reducing the incidence of violence**

##### *Getting Things Done:*

- Reducing crimes against youth by making schools safe, creating safe havens, providing training in conflict resolution, and involving youth in prevention efforts
- Providing substance abuse counseling and education
- Developing specific crime prevention strategies targeted at key locations such as playgrounds, public transportation points, and other public gathering places

1100 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20525  
Telephone 202-606-5000  
Fax 202-606-4928

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

## **Crime Control: improving criminal justice services, law enforcement, and victim services**

### *Getting Things Done:*

- Enhancing community policing efforts by working with local law enforcement
- Reducing specific crime problems such as drug dealing, domestic violence, crimes motivated by bias, crimes against senior citizens, and child abuse
- Improving services available for victims of crime and strengthening innovative criminal justice programs such as neighborhood courts and community restitution

## **HUMAN NEEDS**

### **Health: providing independent living assistance, home-and community-based health care**

#### *Getting Things Done:*

- Providing independent living assistance and health care to the homebound elderly, people with disabilities, and people living with AIDS
- Improving the health of low-income communities by offering preventive health services through community health clinics
- Offering prenatal care, parenting education, and health care to families of young children through home visits

### **Home: rebuilding neighborhoods and helping people who are homeless**

#### *Getting Things Done:*

- Helping people who are homeless by providing shelter support, assisting in moving into permanent housing, and related services
- Renovating and rehabilitating low-income housing
- Helping individuals move from public assistance and into self-sufficiency by providing job training, literacy tutoring, and other services

## **ENVIRONMENT**

- **Neighborhood Environment: reducing community environmental hazards**

#### *Getting Things Done:*

- Revitalizing neighborhoods by creating and maintaining recreation areas, green spaces, and community gardens
- Eliminating environmental risks through education, testing, and cleanup
- Reducing waste through energy efficiency efforts, recycling, and other conservation measures

- **Natural Environment: conserving, restoring, and sustaining natural habitats**

#### *Getting Things Done:*

- Conserving and restoring public lands, forests, rivers, streams and wetlands
- Making parks more accessible through trail maintenance, infrastructure improvements
- Sampling, mapping, monitoring, and recording air and water quality and status of groundwater, land, plant, and animal resources

**AMERICORPS  
CAMPUS TOUR '94**

**WANT TO KNOW  
MORE ABOUT  
AMERICORPS????**

**HERE ARE SOME FACTS  
YOU NEED TO KNOW  
ABOUT HOW YOU CAN  
CHANGE AMERICA!!!!**



**WHAT IS AMERICORPS?**  
AmeriCorps is the new National Service Movement initiated by President Clinton and passed by the Congress last September ...AmeriCorps will involve predominately college-age young people...and it will create a massive domestic Peace Corps to **GET THINGS DONE** in our urban and rural communities across the country...AmeriCorps will be launched in **SEPTEMBER OF 1994...** and by the end of the year...as many as 20,000 young Americans will be meeting the critical needs of **COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE!!!!**

**HOW WOULD I SERVE?**  
If you are an AmeriCorps Member...your job will be all about community responsibility and educational opportunity... In exchange for college/ vocational tuition or student loan repayment...you will have **THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE...**doing direct and demonstrable service to meet the **EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, HUMAN, AND ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS OF YOUR COMMUNITY!!!!**

**AM I ELIGIBLE TO JOIN?**  
AmeriCorps Members will be selected from all backgrounds and ages...and **AMERICORPS WILL LOOK LIKE AMERICA...**You are eligible if you are a U.S. citizen or a legal resident.. if you are 17 years or older...if you are willing to change your country by caring for your community...and if you are ready to **GET THINGS DONE!!!!**

**WHEN WOULD I SERVE?**  
AmeriCorps Members will serve for one or two years in exchange for education benefits right after **HIGH SCHOOL... OR DURING COLLEGE... OR AFTER COLLEGE!!!!**

**WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY EDUCATION BENEFITS ?**  
In exchange for your service...you will receive a stipend/salary...health care...and an education benefit of \$4,725 per year **TO FINANCE YOUR TUITION OR PAY BACK YOUR STUDENT LOANS!!!!**

**WHERE WOULD I SERVE?**  
AmeriCorps Members might serve right in their own communities or in any other part of the country... Right now AmeriCorps is conducting a nationwide competition to select community-based programs which will run service projects and make up the AmeriCorps National Service Network... **AMERICORPS IS NOT JUST ANOTHER GOVERNMENT PROGRAM ...IT'S A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT!!!!**

**HOW DO I JOIN?**  
The AmeriCorps National Service Network of programs will be announced soon...AmeriCorps Members will be recruited locally and nationally beginning this summer...and AmeriCorps will be launched across the country this fall... **AMERICORPS... COMING SOON TO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE!!!!**

**WHAT DO I DO NOW?**  
Learn more about AmeriCorps and how you might get involved by calling the **AmeriCorps Hotline... 1-800-94-ACORPS TDD 1-800-833-3722**

# AMERICORPS

# COMING SOON TO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE



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with the President at the  
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of AmeriCorps National  
Service legislation.*



# NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS

## AN AMERICORPS PROGRAM

### Fact Sheet

#### THE PROGRAM:

A new residential service program, National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) expands opportunities for young Americans to work in teams to meet critical needs in urban and rural communities. Drawing on the best methods used by civilian service projects, NCCC adds the experience of the Armed Forces in motivating and training American youth.

#### THE CORPS:

Corps members live dormitory-style and train together at military bases. Training — using service learning methods — is focused on leadership, team building, citizenship and physical conditioning. Skills for specific projects are taught before corps members begin their community efforts. Corps members, working in teams of ten, are expected to provide leadership and day-to-day project planning.

#### ELIGIBILITY:

NCCC is open to young adults 18-24 willing to commit to an 11-month program of service. An 8-week summer program is planned for ages 14-17. Corps members must be citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. Selection is based primarily on an application and personal references. Part of NCCC's mission is demonstrating the strength that diversity gives to an organization.

#### SERVICES:

NCCC focuses on projects that protect and conserve natural resources, promote public safety and help meet the educational and human needs of children, older persons and others in a community. Many corps members are trained for disaster relief and recovery projects.

#### BENEFITS:

Corps members receive lodging, meals, uniforms, health care, child care, job skill training and earn an \$8,000 living allowance over 11 months of service. NCCC also provides an education award of \$4,725; or, a corps member can choose a cash award of \$2,362. The real compensation for corps members comes from having as much responsibility and as many challenges as they can handle. The NCCC experience is expected to help members become skilled leaders committed to their communities.

#### ABOUT AMERICORPS:

AmeriCorps is the name for the new national service programs created by the Congress and President Clinton as part of the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. The NCCC is part of AmeriCorps. Up to 20,000 Americans will serve in AmeriCorps by early 1995.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL:

NCCC, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20525  
1-800-94-ACORPS, (202) 606-5000