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September 5th, 2000

Honorable Sandra Thurman
736 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Honorable Sandra Thurman,

Please accept this as a personal invitation to attend the Consortium's launch of Access to Care Through Services (ACTS).

ACTS is one of two newly awarded National Direct projects funded by the Corporation for National Service. ACTS will provide the practical ways and means for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) to provide direct services to other PLWA's. The core of this initiative is increased self sufficiency and self satisfaction.

ACTS serves as prototype for how National Service can be harnessed to empower PLWA's in accessing, expanding and maintaining their own care by helping others to do the same.

The press conference announcing ACTS is scheduled for 10:30 am on September 18th, 2000, at 12 South 23rd Street. Lunch will be provided immediately thereafter.

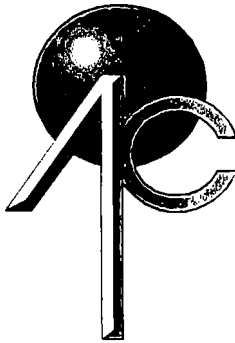
Please RSVP by Monday, September 11, 2000, by calling Deborah Alston at 215. 985.6200; ext. 315

Thank you, and I am looking forward to seeing you on September 18th.

Sincerely,

Larry Hochendoner
Executive Director
TPAC

PHILADELPHIA AIDS CONSORTIUM
260 South Broad Street • Suite 1320 • Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215•985•6200 Fax: 215•985•6212



ACTS

The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium (TPAC) is proud to introduce **ACTS (Access to Care Through Service)**-a brand new program funded by AmeriCorps, to provide access to care for people infected and affected with HIV/AIDS.

Since 1994, over 100,000 people have served in AmeriCorps- continuing American's long history and dedication of service to others.

There are four designated AmeriCorps sites: **AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey, Metropolitan AIDS Neighborhood Nutritional Alliance (MANNA), AIDS Care Group of Chester County and The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium.**

AmeriCorps has four main goals:

- Getting things done. AmeriCorps members help communities solve problems in the areas of education, public safety, the environment, and other human needs (like health and housing).
- Strengthening Communities. AmeriCorps members help unite individuals from all different backgrounds - in a common effort to improve communities.
- Encouraging Responsibility. AmeriCorps members explore and exercise their responsibility to their communities, their families, and themselves.
- Expanding Opportunity. AmeriCorps helps those who help America. AmeriCorps members receive awards to further their education, or to pay back student loans. They also gain valuable job experience, specialize training, and other skills.

ACTS, in keeping with AmeriCorps commitment, will:

- Provide access to care for people infected or affected with HIV/AIDS.
- Improve the quality of service delivery.
- Enhance consumer accessibility to services and empower consumers to navigate the HIV/AIDS system and manage their own treatment and care.
- Develop an atmosphere of service learning.

ACTS will accomplish these responsibilities and improve the quality of life for people infected or affected with HIV/AIDS.

The AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey was formed in 1988 and incorporated 1989. It currently serves Burlington, Gloucester, Salem, and Camden counties. It is the only agency in southern New Jersey providing such a comprehensive approach to assisting individuals and families.

AIDS Coalition of Southern New Jersey is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide quality HIV services while combating the fiscal and geographic inequities that face the region. The Aids Coalition does this, in part, by harnessing the resources of volunteers from throughout the community to work alongside of paid staff and to assist with the provision of services.

The AIDS Care Group provides HIV related medical, dental and nursing case management services in Chester. The AIDS Care Group offers comprehensive services from three clinical sites in Delaware County, two in Chester and one in Darby, in the eastern section of the County. The AIDS Care Group has established relationships with HIV/AIDS service providers throughout the suburban counties of southeastern Pennsylvania and Philadelphia and is an active member in community planning and coordinating activities. This includes work with the Suburban HIV/AIDS caucus, the AIDS Coalition of Delaware County, The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium. The Aids Care Group collaborates in its service delivery with several hospitals and local non-profit organizations as well as working with local faith based groups.

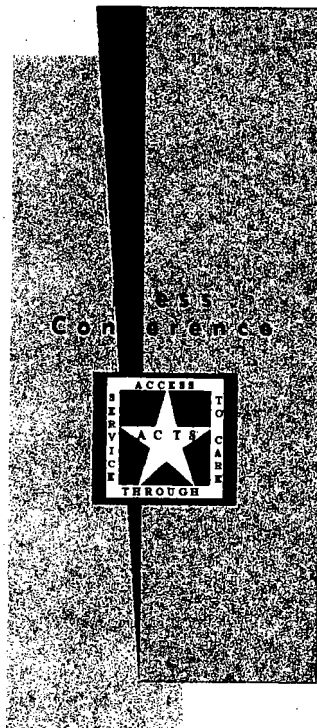
Seven members of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia formed the **Metropolitan AIDS Neighborhood Nutritional Alliance (MANNA)**. MANNA's mission is to provide support via the delivery of meals and groceries to homes and congregate meal sites for persons with HIV/AIDS. MANNA promotes an understanding of HIV wellness through nutritional education and counseling. MANNA serves children and adults in all the neighborhoods of Philadelphia, Eastern Delaware County (including Chester) and three counties in Southern New Jersey (including the city of Camden). Eighty percent of those receiving meals through MANNA are African American and Latino. More than ninety five percent of those receiving meals meet federal poverty guidelines. Health care providers refer individuals to MANNA or case managers at community-based agencies.

As an AmeriCorps member, you have the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of people in the community where you serve. One of the ways that AmeriCorps makes an impact in people's lives is to help them reach their goals with educational awards. When the service is successfully completed, the educational award can be used to attend qualified institutions of higher education or training, or to repay qualified student loans.

What are the categories of Education Awards

- If a part-time term of service is successfully completed (at least 900 hours over two years or less), the member will be eligible for an award of \$2,362.50.
- If a member is in a short-term program, such as a summer program, they will be eligible for a "reduced part-time" award- usually \$1,000 or less.

To obtain further information please contact Yoshiaki Yamasaki at 215 985-6200x311



Date: Monday September 18th, 2000

Time: 10:30am

**12th South 23th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103**

The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium, cordially invites you to attend the official launch of the Access To Care Through Services (ACTS) project, an Ameri-Corps funded program, with a self-empowered client based philosophy. First of its kind in the Nation.

RSVP by Monday September 11th, 2000

- Please contact Deborah Alston to confirm your attendance
- Lunch will be served after the press conference

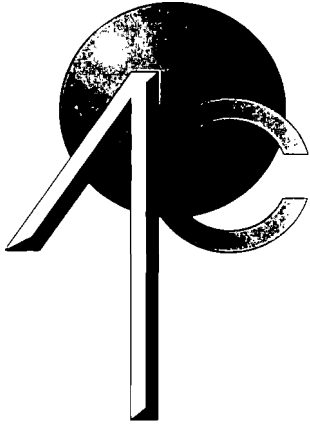
**The Philadelphia AIDS
Consortium**

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O. Philadelphia - Delivered via
AIDS
Consortium
Vol. 1 Encl
Aug. 31

August 3, 2000

Ms. Cheryl Bowerly, Scheduling Secretary
736 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Bowerly:

This is to request the participation of the Honorable Sandra Thurman as a principle participant in a news conference and lunch launching ACTS (Access to Care Through Service), a unique National AmeriCorps program in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Attached as page 2 of this fax is a draft brochure outlining the specific breakdown of this news and lunch event.

It is scheduled for Monday, September 18th; 11:30 am to 12:30pm at 18 South 20th Street in Philadelphia. We would be honored to have the Honorable Thurman participate in this event because of her commitment and leadership in national and local community service.

We are expecting several hundred guests in attendance, including our 57 AmeriCorps volunteers and dozens of leaders in the Health and HIV/AIDS community from New Jersey and Pennsylvania. An outdoor lunch will follow the news conference portion of the program.

ACTS is a pioneering initiative. It's challenge is asking those citizens infected and or affected by the HIV/AIDS virus to serve others in their community, empowering consumers to help themselves.

Michele Porreca of our office will be contacting you early next week to determine the Honorable Ms. Thurman's availability for this event. Press notifications and arrangements are being managed by our office; however, we look forward to coordinating this function with the appropriate staff from your office.

Sincerely,


Lawrence J. Hochendoner
Executive Director

PHILADELPHIA AIDS CONSORTIUM
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Phone: 215•985•6200 Fax: 215•985•6212

AGENDA



*"...everyone can be great
because everyone can
serve..."*

Martin Luther King

Welcome
Introduction of guest
Director Special Programs

11:40 am

**Remarks and introduction of guest
speakers**
Executive Director

11:50 am

Guest Speaker
AMERICORPS

12:00 pm

Lunch
12:30- 1:00 pm

Music and Party

1:00 pm

DRAFT



*"Now I know that
one person really can
make a difference."*

Amy
(AmeriCorps member)



The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium
cordially invites you to attend the official
launch of the Access To Care Through
Service (ACTS) project, an AmeriCorps
funded program, with a self-empowered
client based philosophy.

Date: September 18th, 2000

Time: 11:30AM To 1:00PM

Location: MANNA

12 South 23rd Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

RSVP: 215 985 6200



*... starting with the satisfaction of getting things done
for and with people who needs your help. Whether
you are Case Managing, Training or Educating about
HIV/AIDS, preparing /delivering meals, peer
counseling or doing any of the hundreds of other
goal oriented AmeriCorps projects, you will be able
to really see the results of your work ..and the smiles
on the faces of the people with whom you work*

Adapted from AmeriCorps Materials

MANNA (host)

12 South 23rd Street

Between Chestnut and Market

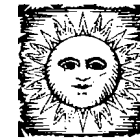
Enter on Ranstead Street.

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Special thank you to the PA Department of Public Health for their
support

The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium

ACTS
Access to Care
Through Service



**Come and
Celebrate with Us**

*Make a difference by
Providing Service in your
Community*

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Email: yoshiaki@crltpath.org