

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

Re: NAPO

TO: Alan StoneLOCATION: Speechwriting - Yosemite Branch

FAX #: _____ PHONE #: _____

FROM: Rick AllenFAX #: (202) 606-4928TELEPHONE #: (202) 606-5000, Ext. 157

Hi 301 469-2080

COMMENTS:

Very dry, but look at examples (my 1st
sheet) - the point is that we're out there, on
the beat, & hand-in-hand w/ the cops, making
a difference.

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET) _____

IF THERE IS ANY PROBLEM WITH THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL (202) 606-5000, Ext. 175.

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

**SUMMER OF SAFETY
"GETTING THINGS DONE"
A Sample**

- In Bismarck, North Dakota, the Senior Service Corps canvassed 18,000 homes and organized hundreds of neighborhood watches -- putting the city eight years ahead of schedule. Police say crime has been cut in half in the program's neighborhoods.
- New York City SOS Cadets have patrolled the Washington Heights business corridor to prevent crime; worked to drive out drug dealers from East New York (Brooklyn) parks so children could return; and VIN-etched (marked with an indelible vehicle identification number) thousands of cars to prevent thefts. By patrolling public parks and swimming pools, the Cadets are credited with giving these public areas their first summer in memory without a single sexual assault.
- SOS Participants in the Blue Hills neighborhood of Kansas City have together with police identified and shut down 12 drug houses, trained over 300 children in conflict resolution; recruited 50 block captains; and reclaimed parks from drug dealers.
- At the Austin Housing Authority, SOS team members have cleaned up a neighborhood park -- in partnership with law enforcement, they drove drug dealers out, removed 100 abandoned vehicles, and increased eight-fold the number of children playing in the park.
- In Bridgeport, Baltimore, and other SOS cities, participants performed "target hardening" for hundreds of households in high-crime areas, improving security systems to prevent burglaries.
- In one troubled Portland, Oregon neighborhood, SOS participants helped design, build, and staff a youth center and a safe haven that offers more than 200 children a day educational and recreational opportunities.
- In New Hampshire, SOS participants, trained as counselors, helped 800 victims of rape and domestic violence to negotiate the judicial system and obtain needed services.
- In San Francisco, SOS trained hundreds of youth in conflict resolution and violence avoidance, organized Businesses for Peace, and prevented two gang fights and a drive-by shooting through direct intervention.

August 25, 1994

TO: Rick Allen
CC: Catherine Milton

FROM: Mike Russell *MR*

DATE: October 12, 1994 *10:55a* *5709*

RE: Public Safety Insert for NAPO Sp

Per your request for materials by 11:00am today, below are general bullets on the AmeriCorps public safety issue area and a list of policing programs. The rhetoric is left for you!

AMERICORPS*USA PUBLIC SAFETY PRIORITY AREA

- The mission of AmeriCorps is to "get things done" to meet the critical needs of communities within the four main issue areas of education, public safety, the environment and human needs. In exchange for one or two years of results-driven service, Americans of all ages will receive education awards.
- To help ensure that AmeriCorps fulfills its mission, the Corporation for National Service has identified priorities within each of the four main issue areas. In the area of public safety, the national priorities are:
 - * Crime Control: improving criminal justice services, law enforcement, and victim services
 - * Crime Prevention: reducing the incidence of violence
- Examples of the types of things AmeriCorps Members will be getting done include:
 - * Enhance community policing efforts by working with local law enforcement
 - * Reduce specific crime problems such as drug dealing, domestic violence, crimes motivated by bias, crimes against senior citizens and child abuse
 - * Improve services available for victims of crime and strengthen innovative criminal justice programs such as neighborhood courts and community restitution

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

POLICING PROGRAMS

- This Fall, AmeriCorps Members are joining forces with patrol officers to help make our communities safer.

1. Aspira of New York

AmeriCorps Members will serve in the South Bronx to promote non-violent conflict resolution and expand networks among public and private non-profit institutions to prevent and combat violence in the home and on the street. The program will work to improve the relationship between community youth and local law enforcement. AmeriCorps Members also will serve in the Domestic Violence Prevention Project operated by Victim Services Agency in conjunction with the New York City Police Department's 44th Precinct.

2. Austin Housing Authority

AmeriCorps Members will serve in the Austin Police Department's community policing neighborhood centers and the Victim Services Unit.

3. Bridgeport (CT) Youth in Service Ambassadors

AmeriCorps Members will serve with the Bridgeport Police Department to conduct home security assessments, install security devices, teach safety awareness, provide escort services for senior citizens, and develop neighborhood safety plans and activities.

4. City of Albany, Georgia

AmeriCorps Members will serve as Police Cadets with the Albany Police Department and assist in developing a community oriented policy for local law enforcement.

5. Department of Justice/JustServe

AmeriCorps Members will serve in seven Weed and Seed sites to support community policing efforts, expand safe haven activities, conduct peer mediation and conflict resolution, and work with senior citizens to help prevent crime. Weed and Seed is DOJ's crime control and community empowerment strategy that incorporates targeted law enforcement, community policing, prevention, intervention, treatment, and economic revitalization. The AmeriCorps sites are: Philadelphia, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Los Angeles, Seattle, Trenton, and Madison (WI).

6. Los Angeles Unified School District

AmeriCorps Members will be assigned to elementary, middle, or high schools to create safe corridors and enhance school safety. The program's partners include LAUSD, the LA Police Department, the US Attorney's Office, the Mayor's Office, DEA, the Red Cross, and the California Highway Patrol.

7. Montgomery County (MD) Police Department

AmeriCorps Members will serve as victim assistance advocates, conducting outreach to crime victims and complainants to identify problems and access resources; mobilize community residents and organizations to address public safety problems; and train senior citizens in crime prevention techniques.

8. New York City Police Department Cadet Program

The New York City Police Department has created an AmeriCorps Cadet Unit which supports community policing in high-crime areas. AmeriCorps Members directly assist patrol officers on the beat and will join the Department's Cadet Corps as potential future officers.

9. Portland (ME) Youth Service Conservation Corps

In partnership with the Portland, Maine, Police Department and the District Attorney's Office, this AmeriCorps program will conduct community mediation and conflict resolution in low income housing developments and supervise teams of youthful offenders in restitution efforts to assist crime victims, remove graffiti, and provide other services to the community.

10. St. Louis Safety Service Corps

The American Youth Foundation, in partnership with the St. Louis Police Department, will sponsor the AmeriCorps program to support community-oriented policing in four neighborhoods and enhance safety in senior citizen housing developments.

11. St. Petersburg Junior College

AmeriCorps Members will serve in the St. Petersburg Police Department and the Clearwater Police Department to support their community policing efforts. Other Members will provide vocational education to inmates at the Pinellas County Jail in partnership with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. (This represents the first AmeriCorps effort in the corrections field.) At the time they begin their service, AmeriCorps Members will enroll as part-time students at the St. Petersburg Junior College's Criminal Justice Institute where they will begin to earn their Criminal Justice Associate's Degree.

12. Urban Corps of San Diego

The new Balboa Park Ranger Corps will work in partnership with the San Diego Police Department on community policing efforts in Balboa Park, which hosts 13 million visitors annually.

SUMMER OF SAFETY 1994

- Summer of Safety was an unprecedented effort that involved 7,000 participants of all ages and backgrounds in 91 projects which operated in 35 states to help reduce crime, violence and fear in communities.
- The Summer of Safety program demonstrated that national service offers one of the best ways for ordinary citizens to take back their communities and do something about crime and violence.
- When President Clinton announced the SOS initiative last March, he stated: "We've got to change the basic attitudes of this country, not only about crime and violence, but about how we think about ourselves and one another." And when the President launched the program in June, he said that "we started with the Summer of Safety because there is nothing more important than order and peace in a free society."
- SOS participants performed service that their communities deemed most necessary to reduce crime and violence. Their activities included:
 - * providing victim services
 - * expanding community policing efforts
 - * establishing Safe Havens and Safe Corridors
 - * organizing neighborhood watch groups
 - * conducting conflict resolution and mediation programs

Confidential Draft

TO: Jose Cerda
FROM: Rana Sampson
RE: Suggestions Given to the Corporation for Public Safety Priorities and Examples
Date: December 15, 1993

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Crime Prevention:** reducing the threat and fear of violence

Getting Things Done:

1. Targeting crime prevention strategies to reduce crime in specific locations, i.e. convenience stores, parks, schools, homes, public transportation points.
2. Targeting crime prevention strategies to reduce crime against specific populations, i.e. the elderly, the homebound, newly arrived immigrants, victims of hate crimes, the young.
3. Reducing violence by and against our youth through tailored strategies like safe havens, conflict minimization classes, counseling and crime prevention seminars.

- **Crime Control:** reducing the harm from crime

Getting Things Done:

1. Improving the ability of the police and the community to address crime problems by strengthening local community policing efforts.
2. Working on projects focused on reducing specific community crime problems, i.e. drug dealing, robberies, social security check theft, domestic violence, child abuse, gang graffiti.
3. Bolstering innovative criminal justice programs such as boot camps for young offenders, neighborhood courts, and community restitution programs.

providing alt. to drugs
crime + violence

Making Schools
safe through
violence prevention
patrols + training
in conflict res.
+ management

offering
counseling
service cto.
to reduce
substance
abuse

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR ELI SEGAL, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RANA SAMPSON, DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: NATIONAL SERVICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Outlined below is a compilation of unmet needs in the public safety field, as identified by practitioners in criminal justice. Clearly these do not represent all of the unmet needs in the field, especially since local communities have not been surveyed. Generally, though, this list will provide you with examples that you and your staff can use in your briefings and also gives some insight into what practitioners in the field currently perceive as their unmet needs.

Suggestions for Service Assignments Made by Practitioners Representing the Field

Police

Handling Minor Investigations National Service Officers (NSO's) can be trained to conduct routine investigations of misdemeanor crimes like larcenies and even more serious crimes like burglaries. They can be trained to look for patterns in crimes as a way to increase solvability factors for these types of crimes.

Staffing Telephone Reporting Unit: NSO's can be trained to take reports by phone of past crimes. Some citizens prefer to provide information over the phone to police personnel (if there are no clues to the identity of the offender) rather than wait for an unpredictable amount of time for police to respond to the scene of the crime. In Ft. Pierce (FL), 12% of police calls for service are handled by phone without the need to dispatch an officer. In other jurisdictions, an ever higher percent of calls for service can be handled by phone. Staffing a telephone reporting unit frees up police officers for prevention efforts and allows officers to be more proactive.

Assisting in Residential Crime Prevention: NSO's can be trained to identify environmental weaknesses in residential properties that contribute to crime (i.e. faulty locks, hedges obstructing view from street, open accessible windows, poorly lit stairwells).

Mediating Complaints: NSO's can be trained by local jurisdictions engaged in community-based mediation of complaints to assist in dispute resolution.

Attending Community Meetings: NSO's can attend community and neighborhood watch meetings to develop an understanding of community concerns in the areas they work. They can then team up with the community to solve neighborhood crime and disorder problems. NSO's can be the police liaison to community groups, providing groups with crime data and helping to look for crime patterns that might assist in solving or preventing crimes.

Preparing Reports of Past Crimes: If the offender has left the scene of the crime (so the threat to safety is eliminated), a NSO can take a crime report in the field, not just by phone. In many jurisdictions citizens can wait hours before police officers are available to take reports of past crimes because police time is committed to citizen calls involving more immediate hazards. NSO's can improve a police department's response time to citizen calls by assisting with the preparation of field reports.

Analyzing Crime Data: Officers engaged in community policing try to gather information from sources inside and outside of their police agencies to help them better understand the crime or disorder problems they are trying to work with the community to resolve. Officers need help sifting through the information gathered. For instance, in the case of a robbery, an officer should find out some of the following information: Has there been a pattern of robberies at the bus stop? What does past crime data reveal? Do plans from the City Planning Commission show why the bus stop was located in front of a vacant unfenced city lot? Does the city bus company perform studies before they locate bus stops? This information, and a variety of other information, needs to be collected and analyzed before a solution to a crime problem can be crafted. NSO's can help officers gather and analyze information and data increasing the possibility that crime problems will be solved.

Reducing Crime Directed Against the Elderly: In those communities where seniors are routinely victimized, NSO's can tailor assignments to prevent senior victimization. If seniors are frequently robbed while doing their weekly grocery shopping, NSO's might set up a transport system escorting seniors to and from the market to prevent a crime from occurring. If seniors' monthly social security checks are being stolen, NSO's can work with seniors and local banks to set up direct deposit systems.

Latent Print Examination: NSO's can be trained, as in Tucson, to lift and analyze fingerprints from burglarized residential and commercial establishments.

Crime Scene Investigation: NSO's can safeguard and evaluate evidence at the scene of past crimes, as in Kansas City and Tucson.

Handling Minor Traffic Accidents: NSO's can respond to the scene of minor traffic

accidents when no enforcement action is needed, as in San Diego, to take reports and see to injured victims.

Providing Information to the Public Concerning Crime Prevention: NSO's can be trained in crime prevention techniques. Once trained, they can work with community groups, as in San Diego, and with school children, as in New York, on neighborhood crime prevention initiatives.

Providing Social Service Referrals: NSO's can be trained to provide social service referrals to citizens, as in San Diego.

Conducting community surveys: NSO's can help community policing officers gather information about crime or other problems by going door to door and completing community surveys, as in New York City. Surveys are a very useful way to learn greater detail about a particular continuing neighborhood problem like daily drug dealing on a specific corner, (time of day, type of drug, witness information, etc.) or multiple robberies from a specific convenience store (items stolen, time of day, crime prevention techniques used, etc.), or the extent of a confidence scheme (who is being conned and how does the con artist gain the trust of the victim). Once information is gathered, NSO's can work with community policing officers to tailor solutions to the problems the surveys outlined.

Training Police Officers in Foreign Languages: NSO's who are proficient in foreign languages such as Spanish, Korean, or Vietnamese (Mung) could spend time teaching officers basic language skills. In some communities, officers are unable to communicate with part of their citizenry because of a language barrier. Police must be able to communicate effectively often in times of crisis, and would benefit from any foreign language training that will facilitate communication. For instance, in Westminster (CA), 23% of the city's residents are Vietnamese, yet 75% of the city's reported robbery victims and 46% of the reported victims of car theft were Vietnamese. However, only a handful of police personnel are able to speak with the Vietnamese citizens at the time they are most need of help (when they have been victimized). Students proficient in foreign languages can be of invaluable assistance to police departments in many cities that struggle to communicate with portions of their population.

Staffing Anti-Gang Initiatives: NSO's can work with police to help staff anti-gang programs whether they include a focused one-on-one approach like mentoring with gang members or through group organizing via community work projects. In addition, NSO's can help set with the help of community members gang prevention initiatives steering at-risk youth away from gang involvement.

Latchkey Program Development: NSO's can work with community members to set up programs that address the needs of latchkey children. This focus on prevention can be tailored to impact upon particular crimes like vandalism, gang graffiti, and shoplifting.

Teaching Students Conflict Resolution Skills: NSO's, working with police, can be trained to teach conflict resolution skills to elementary and middle schools students. Working with children in this vulnerable age group could help prevent school crime, generally, and assaults

on school grounds, specifically.

Prosecutors' Offices

Providing Victim/Witness Assistance: NSO's can help victims and witnesses prepare for their duties testifying in court. NSO's can explain the court process, notify victim/witnesses of court appearances and guide them through what can often feel like a reliving of the victimizing experience.

Assisting with Investigations: Prosecutors and investigators in many jurisdictions could use the assistance of an NSO to gather facts and pursue leads in cases. The range of needs might include reviewing a robbery crime scene to analyzing financial data in fraud investigations.

Demonstrative Evidence Artist: Many prosecutors' offices need help in creating and preparing exhibits for trial to support the facts of a case. Exhibit preparation might include taking photographs, preparing illustrations, or mapping out locations for display.

Developing Drug Prevention Outreach Programs: NSO's could organize and schedule anti-drug educational programs in schools, assist in mentoring programs for families of convicted offenders of drug crimes, and maintain statistical data on drug crimes and trends.

Developing Environmental Crimes Awareness Programs: An NSO can work under the supervision of a prosecuting attorney to develop model education programs useful in informing local businesses of new laws and innovative compliance options raising compliance and awareness levels. NSO's can follow-up with newsletters informing the community and industry of prevention options and prosecutorial actions.

Linking up Domestic Violence Victims to Services: NSO's could work in state courts linking up domestic violence victims to needed social services. Often domestic violence victims have needs well beyond what is provided by mere court adjudication of their physical abuse claim including need for additional medical services, financial support, housing, and employment.

Courts

Staffing Neighborhood Courts: NSO's could help staff neighborhood courts which have captured criminal justice practitioners' interest. Community courts help make judicial proceedings more accessible by locating court rooms and their attendant services in less formal, more convenient, settings and to be community oriented they will require a high level of service to the surrounding area and business residents and NSO can help provide the

staffing of these services.

Mediating as part of Alternative Dispute Resolution: NSO's can be trained to participate in some of the new approaches to resolving differences for low level, non-violent, offenses. In New York City, a new community court will be opening soon and it is in this kind of environment where innovative alternatives might be attractive.

Providing Assistance to Court Users: NSO's could provide assistance to *pro se* litigants in completing forms for filing cases and in keeping them informed about case progress. NSO's could also staff information desks so court users could acquire information about case status and courthouse rules and procedures.

Court Appointed Advocacy: NSO's can be trained to act as court appointed special advocates (CASA's). In Spotsylvania County, Virginia where CASA's were used to represent abused and neglected children before the court, the foster care caseload and length of foster care stay was cut in half.

Providing Drug Treatment Referrals: NSO's could provide the link between courts and drug treatment providers. NSO's could help courts identify available substance abuse treatment and aftercare to offenders.

Probation

Providing Probation Support: NSO's can be trained to assist probationers find job training programs, housing, and employment. Currently, probation officers overloaded with cases cannot find time to provide these important services, which contributes to the pressure to incarcerate low-risk offenders.

Drug Abuse Prevention

Drug Abuse Prevention Programs: No one is better at conveying to young people the temptation and danger of drug abuse than other young people. In close partnership with local schools and anti-drug professionals (from counselors to cops), NSO's could form drug abuse prevention teams to engage in anti-drug curriculum development, videos on drug abuse, and anti-drug use billboard advertising.

Community and Institutional Corrections

Reducing Recidivism through Education: Practitioners in the field assert that 75% of people in prison can not write above a 4th grade level. NSO's can work with non-violent, low-risk offenders providing educational services including literacy training and G.E.D. preparation. In addition, they can be trained to provide life skills courses and vocational skill building including training in innovative jail industries programs. The focus of these efforts would be on reducing the high recidivism rate among offenders.

Facilitating Discharge Transition: In many facilities, discharged inmates receive busfare and little else. NSO's can be trained to provide discharge transition services preparing offenders for job hunting, interviewing, filling out applications, and checking account and money management. This will better prepare those who have served their time for their transition into a new environment.



National Institute of Justice

Research in Action

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AMERICORPS

A Call to Service

by Attorney General Janet Reno

On September 21st, President Clinton signed an historic piece of legislation into law—the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. National Service will offer thousands of Americans opportunities to address four priorities—public safety, education, human needs, and the environment—as part of a national service corps, AmeriCorps. In its first year, 20,000 service workers of all ages will engage in substantive, skill-building work in our Nation's communities through AmeriCorps. By 1996, service workers will number 100,000. Retired police officers and teachers will serve side by side with our Nation's youth, rebuilding America in the new AmeriCorps.

In exchange for their service, AmeriCorps participants will receive an educational award that will help defray the costs of post-secondary education, as well as a modest stipend. Why should criminal justice practitioners take notice of AmeriCorps? For a number of very important reasons.

Significance of AmeriCorps

First, at a time when local resources are limited, AmeriCorps can help fill the gaps in the continuum of public safety services. AmeriCorps, working alongside our public safety providers, can help provide more comprehensive and integrated services

with respect to crime prevention, police protection, crime victim assistance, and community-based public safety services in urban and rural communities all across the country.

Second, AmeriCorps will re-engage some of our Nation's youth. We all decry overcrowded juvenile detention facilities, jails, and prisons. We must begin to think about our young not only at the point when they have come in contact with the criminal justice system but before, well before. Through service, AmeriCorps will instill a sense of citizenship in our youth. They will learn skills, access a path to a better life through education—not drugs, crime, and violence.

Third, National Service is not just another top-down, bureaucratic government answer to the problems of our Nation's communities. Local entities such as police departments, victim service agencies, community-based prevention organizations, prosecutor and defender offices, treatment, and community and institutional corrections agencies can apply to participate.

Criminal justice and AmeriCorps

A diverse group of practitioners has already suggested the following ways in which AmeriCorps can work with the criminal justice system to amplify public safety services:

Police practitioners have suggested AmeriCorps workers can help move community policing efforts forward. They can be trained to conduct community surveys of neighborhood crime and disorder, work on projects to prevent victimization of seniors, develop residential and commercial crime prevention workshops, and staff community policing neighborhood substations which will begin to bridge the gap between scarce police resources and legitimate neighborhood demands. In addition, through AmeriCorps, local police departments can establish a pre-professional police corps consisting of a cadre of high-quality local recruits.

Court administrators, prosecutors, and judges have suggested that AmeriCorps workers can help make the criminal justice system more accessible to the community by staffing neighborhood courts, assisting domestic violence victims to navigate the court system, and representing abused and neglected children as court-appointed advocates.

Victim assistance providers have proposed that AmeriCorps workers take part in the movement towards restorative justice. They could monitor community restitution programs, staff victim's desks in neighbor-

hood courts, and coordinate victim counseling volunteers.

Community and institutional correctional personnel have suggested that AmeriCorps workers help prepare offenders scheduled for release to make the transition to a drug-free, crime-free life. They can teach offenders basic reading, math, and computer literacy skills, train offenders in marketable jail industries areas like data management, construction, and the automotive trades.

These examples are offered as a beginning, serving as a series of creativity generators as we launch the first generation of AmeriCorps workers.

Operational issues

Now, how will AmeriCorps work? Here are a few of the particulars. A Federal corporation, the Corporation for National and Community Service, will function as a clearinghouse of information and technical expertise for service initiatives nationwide and, as a service "venture capitalist," provide funding on a competitive basis for local, State, and national service programs.

States will be asked to set up bipartisan commissions to receive AmeriCorps funds. One-third of overall program funding—as much as \$50 million in the first year—will go by formula grant to States. The second third will be awarded to States on a competitive basis. The remaining third will be administered by the Corporation in its "venture capitalist" capacity; some additional funds will be available for training and technical assistance.

Organizations and government entities applying for participation in National Service through AmeriCorps will be encouraged to form private/public partnerships to help financially support their programs. The Corporation will pay up to 85 percent of a modest salary (roughly minimum wage) for AmeriCorps participants, 85 percent of health-care costs, 75 percent of other operating costs, 100 per-

cent of eligible child-care costs, and an educational award of nearly \$5,000 for each year of service, up to two years. Programs may elect to pay participants more than minimum wage (at their own expense) with some restrictions.

Regulations will be set forth for the new Corporation over the next few months. Sometime early next year, applications will be available to cities, counties, police and sheriff's departments, district attorneys, courts, judges, wardens, not-for-profits, and all others eligible to apply for planning, operating, or replication grants.

A call for your participation

Over the coming months, you will be hearing more about AmeriCorps and the opportunities it offers our communities to re-engage through service, citizenship, skill-building work, and education. Between now and the new year, as program regulations are outlined and State commissions are set up, I encourage you and your communities to look closely at AmeriCorps to help your neighborhoods meet critical, unmet public safety needs. You will lead the wave as the first AmeriCorps workers hit the streets in the summer of 1994.

For more information about National Service, write to:

**The Corporation for National and Community Service
1100 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525**

The National Institute of Justice is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

NCJ 145158

AmeriCorps

IS COMING

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 children

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

•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

USA TODAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993

Launching national service policy

By Dennis Kelly
USA TODAY

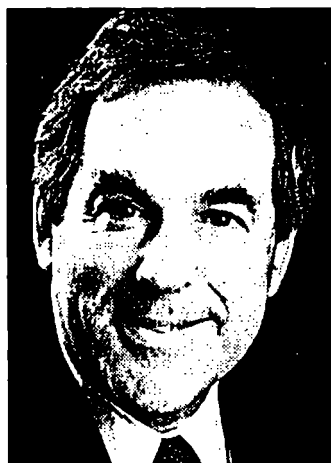
WASHINGTON — They aren't officially taking applications yet for President Clinton's national service plan — but they're already getting thousands of letters of interest.

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 Washington Post

Youth Service Corps Officials Prepare For Recruiting Blitz

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1993

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.

Los Angeles Times

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1993

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Service Program to Take Aim at Crime

By ELIZABETH SHOGREN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

WASHINGTON—Reflecting a rising federal emphasis on anti-crime initiatives, the White House said Monday that its new national service program will concentrate on helping make American communities safer next summer.

The estimated 3,500 participants in the summer part of the 1994 national service program could perform such duties as joining in community policing, conducting crime prevention training for the elderly and children, helping clean up dangerous areas to return them to neighborhood use and counseling crime victims, Administration officials said.

"It was an idea formed after listening to the passion in the President's Memphis speech last week," said Eli Segal, president and chief of the new Corporation for National and Community Service, which will administer the national service program. "It's a way of reinforcing the President's commitment to public safety and a way of reinforcing that national service gets things done."

The White House announcement followed earlier pleas by President Clinton for communities to become more engaged in dealing with crime and violence.

"There are some changes we can make from the outside in—that's the job of the President and the Congress and the governors and the mayors and the social service agencies," Clinton said in his appeal to black church leaders in Memphis earlier this month. "And then there are some changes we're going to have to make from the inside out or the others won't matter."

National service, which has been described as a domestic Peace Corps, could help communities combat the sources of crime and violence from the inside out by involving young people in their own

neighborhoods.

The concentration on community safety next summer will draw a spotlight to national service, Segal said, because crime is a top concern of the public, the President and the Congress.

But it also presents a significant risk for the new program, which has been ordered by Congress to show measurable results if it wants to receive future funding. Community service programs have proved their effectiveness in environmental, education and urban renewal projects but public safety is a relatively untested area.

In signing the National and Community Service and Trust Act in September, the President fulfilled a major campaign promise to help young people pay for education by serving their country. In 1994, 20,000 participants are to be engaged in full-time community service and will receive a low-wage salary and benefits in addition to awards of \$4,725 each year of service to apply toward their education or training. Summer-only participants will receive smaller awards of \$1,000.

Although the size of the summer program is small, some law enforcement experts said that the impact on communities will be significant.

"Getting these young adults involved will be a tremendous asset for crime prevention," said Joseph Wright, executive director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. "They can persuade other young adults not to follow criminal lifestyles."

"I'll take about 50 of them," said Darrel Stephens, the police chief in St. Petersburg, Fla. He said he envisions national service participants organizing neighborhoods to work with police, walking the streets with beat cops, working in police stations so officers are free to patrol and being positive role models for children.

AmeriCorps

IS COMING

1993

November Proposed State Regulations Published

Final version of interim regulations for State Commissions published. Any state wishing to participate in national service programs establishes a commission through which at least two-thirds of the federal funding flows.

December Proposed National Program Regulations Published

Publication for public comment of the Corporation's proposed program regulations and applications for state and national direct funding.

1994

January Final State and National Regulations and Applications Published

Publication of final regulations and applications for state and national direct funding.

Technical Assistance Outreach Underway

The Corporation will provide extensive technical assistance to potential grant applicants. Assistance will include regional public meetings, national and regional teleconferencing, and travelling "road shows."

National Public Information Campaign Underway

Communications campaign to reach potential programs and participants.

March National/Multi-State Applications Due

Applications for national or multi-state programs due to the Corporation.

April Ongoing Review of Direct Funding Programs

Corporation reviews programs applying for national service direct funding.

May Announcement of First Grants (National/Multi-State Programs)

First grant awards announced for national, multi-state, and other programs eligible to apply directly to the Corporation.

Recruitment Campaign Begins

Programs begin recruitment of AmeriCorps members.

First Grant Programs Begin/CCC Underway

First national service grant programs begin service. First CCC camps underway.

June State Applications Due

Applications for state programs due to the Corporation.

July Announcement of Grants (State Programs)

Grant awards announced for state programs.

September Official Launch of AmeriCorps

Major rollout of what will be up to 20,000 AmeriCorps members serving in communities across the country.

SUMMER OF SAFETY

The young people in Summer of Safety will be an inspiring example for Americans of all ages to work together to make our streets safer by acting on our finest values.

President Clinton 12/11/93

The Corporation for National and Community Service plans to place more than 5000 Americans, young and young in spirit, into community-based summertime projects to respond to the plague of crime, violence, and fear sweeping the country. Communities will determine what they need most, and efforts likely to be launched include:

- o working with community policing initiatives
- o providing information to community residents concerning Neighborhood Watch and other crime prevention strategies
- o involving youth as participants in community crime prevention efforts, such as escorting seniors or supervising recreation for children
- o establishing "Safe Houses" and training parents and children about safety and crime prevention
- o assisting victims of crime
- o rehabilitating crack houses, cleaning up dangerous areas, and restoring them to neighborhood use
- o providing crime prevention and anti-violence presentations and activities to youth groups

Program sponsors will include community organizations, law enforcement agencies, local coalitions, institutions of higher education, and other public agencies. To carry out these kinds of public safety strategies, projects will identify community public safety needs, build new partnerships and collaborations capitalizing on the community's resources, and demonstrate the role that young people can play in helping make their communities safer.

Though emphasizing youth service, opportunities to participate in Summer of Safety will be available for citizens of all ages, working through one of several programs sponsored by the Corporation. Some programs will provide full-time participants with stipends equivalent to minimum wage and a \$ 1000 educational benefit. Others will provide part-time and non-stipended service opportunities for older adults and for youth in the K-12 grades.

For further information, call or write the Corporation for National and Community Service....

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President Clinton and youth corps members gather on the South Lawn of the White House for the signing of national service legislation.

AmeriCorps

President Signs National Service Bill

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 -- Before an enthusiastic crowd of service, education, and congressional leaders, President Clinton signed into law the National and Community Service Trust Act to engage Americans in meeting critical needs through direct community-based service.

Promising that national service will "strengthen the cords that bind us together as a people," the President created AmeriCorps, a new program which will allow in its first year 20,000 young people to earn education benefits in exchange for grass-roots community service. With the enactment of this legislation, the nation will have the opportunity to marshal its best resources—Americans of all ages and backgrounds—to meet the challenge of rebuilding America through service.

The national service initiative was launched in the President's Inaugural Address, when he challenged "a new generation of young Americans to a season of service." In March, on the anniversary of the founding of the Peace Corps, the President unveiled his plan for national service and challenged the nation's youth to answer his call "to change America for ever and for the better." In May, the President proposed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, legislation to strengthen and expand service and educational opportunities for all Americans. The President also initiated a pilot program, the Summer of Service, which engaged 1,500 young people in meeting the critical needs of children through sixteen programs across the country. By the end of the summer, the legislation creating the new Corporation for National and Community Service and AmeriCorps had passed with broad bipartisan support.

The new law focuses national service efforts on the most critical issues facing communities across the nation, bringing energy and commitment to address education, human, public safety, and environmental needs. The Act also creates a new administrative entity to coordinate AmeriCorps, as well as existing community service programs involving children, college students, adults, and seniors. In the best sense of reinventing government, the new Corporation for National and Community Service will feature a bipartisan board of directors, and an entrepreneurial, non-civil service management team and workforce.

At the bill signing, the President expressed his hope that "national service will remain throughout the life of America not a series of promises, but a series of challenges, across all the generations and all walks of life to help push to rebuild our troubled but wonderful land."

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Summer of Safety

Dear Service Friend,

On September 21, 1993, President Clinton signed national service legislation into law, creating the Corporation for National and Community Service. Through the new Corporation, Americans of all ages and backgrounds will work to meet urgent challenges in their communities in the areas of education, public safety, human needs and the environment.

Of these, public safety may be the most critical challenge facing the nation today. President Clinton discussed it at length in his State of the Union address just a couple of weeks ago. It is at the top of the agenda of the administration, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Governors Association, and countless other regional, state and local organizations nationwide. I hope you will join us in moving it to the top of the national service agenda this summer.

The cost of crime, in economic terms, is staggering: \$14,000 to treat a child struck by gunfire, \$50 billion annual loss by urban economies due to lost businesses and fleeing residents, \$425 billion spent on crime every year. But in human terms, the cost is inestimable. Victims, and those who commit crimes, are getting younger and younger; crimes are becoming more and more violent. Few communities remain unscathed by drugs; few homes remain unassailed by fear.

The American people can take back their communities — and national service can help.

This summer, the Corporation will focus its efforts in public safety by sponsoring a national Summer of Safety. Like the year-round AmeriCorps program we'll launch this fall, the Summer of Safety will engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds in direct, locally-based service to strengthen the ability of communities to respond to problems of crime, violence and fear.

Our 6,000 Summer of Safety participants will come together across generations, ethnicities, and income levels. They'll help police monitor victim assistance hotlines, clean up dangerous parks and alleys, provide crime prevention workshops to families, and help organize neighborhood watch programs. They'll do the work that you determine is most necessary in your community to meet the number one priority of national service: Getting Things Done.

The Summer of Safety can't succeed without your help. In the coming weeks, you can design an innovative service program tailored to the specific needs of your community, and that will continue to get things done long after the summer is over. We can help with phone and video technical assistance conferences, and with funding. But, ultimately, the work of designing quality service programs is up to the people who know the most about serving your communities. It's up to you.

In his inaugural address, President Clinton challenged all Americans to engage in "seasons of service." I look forward to working with you to help meet this challenge, through the Summer of Safety, and through the ever-changing seasons ahead of us.

Sincerely,



Eli J. Segal

Chief Executive Officer

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AmeriCorps

IS COMING

Continuing Application Assistance for

AmeriCorps • Learn and Serve America • Summer of Safety

If you are interested in applying to the Corporation for National and Community Service for national and community service program funding and need more information, help is as near as your telephone or computer.

Application assistance is available through national video conferences, through a six-week schedule for telephone conference assistance, through Internet, and through the mail for the following national and community service programs:

AmeriCorps is the President's new national service program which engages the energy of the American people, especially its young people, in meeting the most critical education, public safety, human, and environmental needs of our communities. AmeriCorps offers opportunities for Americans age 17 or older to make a substantial commitment to serving their country and to earn money for college in return. Grants totalling over \$153 million will be awarded to not-for-profit organizations, to local, State, and Federal agencies, to Indian tribes, to institutions of higher education, to local school and police districts, and to partnerships among any of the above.

Learn and Serve America programs integrate service, and service-learning, into daily academic life for students in both K-12, higher education institutions, and community-based programs. 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 School-based and Community-Based Programs** support projects that engage school-age youth in service-learning activities and involve adult volunteers in the schools. In fiscal year 1994, \$30 million will be available for teacher training, for the placement of service-learning coordinators in schools, and for grants to local partnerships through State Education Agencies, State Commissions, and grant-making entities. The **Higher Education Programs** will award approximately \$9 million to individual colleges and universities, consortia, or partnerships between higher education institutions and public or private nonprofits in order to develop high-quality programs that make service an integral part of students' education experience.

Summer of Safety is the summer service program which will leverage the energy and talent of over 6,000 Americans in a range of projects designed to strengthen the ability of communities to respond to problems of crime, violence and fear. Though emphasizing youth service, opportunities to participate in the Summer of Safety will be available for citizens of all ages, working through one of several programs sponsored by the Corporation. Some programs will provide full-time participants with minimum wage stipends and a \$1000 educational benefit. Others will provide part-time and non-stipended service opportunities for older adults and for youth in grades K-12.

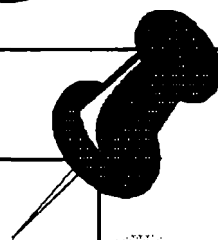
Application Deadlines

Summer of Safety		March 14, 1994
Learn and Serve America:	K-12 School-based	April 1, 1994
Learn and Serve America:	Higher Education	April 9, 1994
AmeriCorps, National Service:	Direct (national & multi-state)	April 15, 1994
Learn and Serve America:	K-12 Community-based	May 27, 1994
AmeriCorps, National Service:	State	June 15, 1994

Fax Cover Page

SUBJECT:**Jose:**

This is the draft of the piece on public safety that I crafted for National Service. I'd be interested in hearing your comments. Please do not share this. Thanks,

Rana

To: Jose Cerda	From : RANA SAMPSON
For Information Call: (619) 462-8412	At:
Pages: 11	My Fax Number : (619) 462-8411

AMERICORPS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

A December, 1993 poll of 1,000 voters (with a margin of error of 3 percentage points) overwhelmingly cited crime as the nation's number one problem. Pollers suggest that crime is the top issue in every single region of the country, and with practically every significant subgroup of voters. In fact, a November, 1993 poll found that almost 50% of those polled indicated that the fear of crime influenced the way they lived their life. Reflecting this growing concern about crime and the belief that outcome-oriented service work makes a difference, public safety has been included as one of the four National Service priority areas. It is the belief that AmeriCorps talent, if focused on our public safety problems, can have an impact on crime, fear and violence.

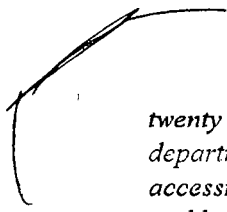
Public safety is best defined by its two key components: crime prevention and crime control. Many experts in the field think of these two components as intertwined and the work done by AmeriCorps participants may overlap between the two areas. Police and sheriff's departments, courts, prosecutor and defender officers, victim assistance and treatment providers, probation, parole, institutional and community corrections, as well as non-profits and community organizations interested in reducing crime and violence are eligible to run, sponsor or participate in AmeriCorps programs.

Three types of National Service grants will be available in the area of public safety: planning, operational, and replication grants. For state competitive and direct national grants from the Corporation priority will be given to programs focused on:

Crime Prevention: *reducing the threat and fear of violence*
and

Crime Control: *reducing the harm from crime and violence*

The range of programs eligible under AmeriCorps is limited only by the imagination -- a community policing cadet corps made up of full-time college students, an inter-generational crime prevention team working to reduce residential and commercial crime, a victim support critical response team formed to mitigate harm to victims, a youth corps tackling graffiti problems, and an anti-recidivism project directed at reducing crime by youth. Programs should be tailored to meet a community's unmet needs and should be developed, structured operated and monitored to impact crime, fear, violence or disorder in a community.



An AmeriCorps police cadet works alongside a community policing officer, one of twenty cadets assigned to officers around the city. The cadet has been trained by the police department in problem-solving, trained by staff from other city agencies in identifying and accessing city resources, and trained by community groups in neighborhood organizing and leveraging neighborhood resources. The cadet will work in collaboration with a community policing officer for the first 5 months learning about police work and the

community. During the remaining months she will split her time between staffing a community policing substation and holding crime prevention workshops for business and residents in the community. The cadet is a non-sworn employee, will not carry a gun, but wears a khaki uniform. Based on priorities established by the community, the community policing officer tasks the cadet to work on the drug problems in a four block area of a neighborhood where they are assigned. These blocks house several hundred residents in four and five story apartment buildings.

As a start, the community policing officer sets up block meetings for each of the four blocks. At the meeting, the officer introduces the cadet to many of the area's residents. It is agreed that the cadet's role is to work with each block to help reduce indoor drug trafficking and that the cadet would be their link to the police department, and information about drug houses, drug transactions, dealers, and buyers should be collected and provided to the cadet. The community policing officer cautions the cadet to avoid direct contact with drug dealers and tells the community that only sworn police can enforce the law.

To better understand the extent and nature of the drug problem in the four block area the cadet reviews police records counting the number of calls tenants made to police -- 148 complaining of drug dealing in the four block area over the last 6 months or almost twenty-four per month. The cadet works with a professor at the local college who agrees to have his students, as part of a class project, put together a survey instrument for the cadet. The cadet goes door to door surveying residents about the level of drug activity and the level of fear among the residents. The survey shows that residents believe there are as many as twenty apartments across the four block area where drugs are being dealt and tenants believe that a number of the drug dealers are suggesting to their partners in crime that these apartment buildings are good locations for dealing and living.

The cadet helps the block's residents set up tenant patrols in each of the apartment buildings because neither the police nor the cadet can be present all the time. Tenants patrol around-the-clock at first and monitor and record the presence of every person who enters each apartment building. Information is passed on to the cadet who checks the list of visitors against a list of tenants she obtains from the landlord. The cadet checks the list of visitors with the Departments of Probation and Parole and finds that 85% of those visiting after 9 p.m. have criminal records for drug sale or drug possession and many are on some form of probation or parole.

Members of the tenant patrols give the cadet license plate numbers of visitors entering and leaving the apartment houses. The cadet finds from the license plate information that 95% of the visitors over the course of a one month period are from out of state and many have criminal records for possession and sale of narcotics. The cadet provides this general information to the tenant patrols who in turn set up meetings with the landlords of the apartment buildings. The cadet meets with an assistant district attorney to see if leases can be amended to evict drug dealers. The assistant district attorney advises that since they are in a "quick eviction" jurisdiction landlords saddled with drug dealing tenants could insert lease provisions barring the behavior. After the meeting, the cadet suggests to the landlords that they place a clause in each new lease -- 2 arrests, on separate occasions, in one apartment for drug dealing constitutes grounds for eviction.

The cadet works with the landlords to set up a screening system for new tenants, encourages the landlords to make inspections of apartments as is their right, and suggests that all the landlords in the four block area join in a landlord association to share information about new strategies to address indoor drug dealing. In addition, the cadet contacts the National Apartment Association and asks to receive any and all information they collect on this kind of problem so she can share it with the landlords.

The level of drug dealing declines after five months. By the fourth month of the cadet's work, the number of drug dealing complaints decreases to three from twenty-four. The local college class administers a follow-up survey which indicates that residents are less fearful, willingly use the block for neighborhood activities, and perceive that the number of active dealers in the four block area has dwindled from thirty to less than five. The cadet meets with the other nineteen cadet corps members once every 2 weeks for 4 hours to discuss experiences, share crimefighting strategies, and learn from their service. And, the work of the cadet gives the community policing officer the time to focus on the hard core remaining dealers who may require added time, vigilance, and the added deterrent of law enforcement powers.

What are the range of roles for AmeriCorps participants in public safety?

AmeriCorps participants working in public safety can be placed in any law enforcement or criminal justice agency, youth corps, non-profit, or community-based organization interested in providing direct service to the community in the area of public safety. A participant can be a police cadet, a community policing aide (working out of a police agency or a community-based organization), a community court aide, a victim or youth services counselor, a community restitution supervisor, as long as the focus is on preventing or controlling crime. An AmeriCorps participant can even supervise senior volunteers in police and sheriff's departments, teach conflict resolution skills to school age youth, or develop literacy and marketable job skills in youthful offenders to prevent them from resorting to a life of crime.

An AmeriCorps participant, one of twenty-five assigned to the city, works on school crime. He and two colleagues are assigned to one particular high school where crime is high. They are expected to develop tailored programs in the school to reduce the high crime rate. Their goal is to reduce violence by 40%. As a first step, he asks to see data about the particular crimes in the school. He finds that data is kept by the principal, by school security and by the local police. Data kept by the principal indicates 10 robberies, 22 larcenies, 1 rape, and 3 disturbances. Data kept by the school security staff show 23 robberies, 46 larcenies, 1 rape, and 32 disturbances. Data kept by the police show 2 robberies, 0 larcenies, 1 rape, and 15 disturbances.

	<u>robberies</u>	<u>larcenies</u>	<u>rape</u>	<u>disturbances</u>
Principal	10	22	1	3

Security	23	46	1	32
Police	2	0	1	15

He interviews the principal, security staff, and the police separately about their method of reporting and collecting crime information. He finds the principal reticent to talk about how crime numbers are collected. The principal mentions that it would be helpful if the AmeriCorps participant set up a school escort program so that students aren't robbed on the way to school. From school security staff interviews, he finds that security staff feel overwhelmed. They feel like all they do is take a report after a crime has occurred. No proactive prevention work other than infrequent patrols is done. His interviews with the police uncover that officers respond to the school only if they are called. No beat officer is assigned there. Most of the calls police receive at the school are for disturbances which the police say are schoolyard brawls involving 10 to 15 kids.

The AmeriCorps participant finds out that there is a National School Safety Center (NSSC). He calls and asks about information collection. NSSC suggests that the more information collected and the greater the variety of the information and of sources for the information the fuller the picture about school crime will be and the better able AmeriCorps will be to address the problems.

The AmeriCorps participant decides to interview some of the students. He and the other two AmeriCorps participants assigned to the school develop a survey. It includes questions like:

Have you ever been a victim of a crime on school grounds in the last two years?

Do you feel comfortable walking to the bathroom in school?

Have you been in a fight on school grounds in the last two years? If yes, how recently?

Do fights occur mostly in classrooms or in the schoolyard?

Are you afraid to walk to school?

Has anything happened to you in the last 2 years on the way to school?

Have you had anything stolen from you while in school in the last two years? If yes, where was the item when it was stolen?

The AmeriCorps participants show the survey to the principal and share the advice from the National School Safety Center. The principal consents to the survey. The AmeriCorps participants mobilize student volunteers and together survey the student body. They discover, among other things, that one in 20 students they survey report being the victim of a crime; bathrooms are not unsafe; fights occur more frequently in classrooms than on school grounds; crime is much less of a problem on the way to school than it is a problem at school; and the majority of students who have had something stolen had it stolen from their lockers.

The AmeriCorps participants share the information with the principal and ask if they can set up a school safety committee which includes students, security staff, teachers, police, community business leaders, and AmeriCorps participants. The committee would suggest strategies to address the problems. The principal agrees. A volunteer committee is

established. They review information collected by AmeriCorps participants and suggest the following:

Data collection by the principal, security staff and the police should be consistent and a subcommittee will contact the National School Safety Center to see if they have any prototypes for collection instruments.

Students should be encouraged to report crime since it defines the specific parameters of the crime problems and helps to tailor solutions.

School security should receive training from the local police department so they can proactively address crime on school grounds.

Students in classrooms where there are a higher number of fights should receive conflict resolution training to see if it helps reduce the problem.

AmeriCorps participants would receive the training first and then train students.

The business leaders working with students would start a fundraising drive to help buy students stronger, tamper resistant locks for their lockers.

An escort program to assure the safety of students on the way to school was rejected because most of the crime problems were in the school itself.

The committee will ask the local newspaper to reprint these recommendations so other schools can learn from their process.

AmeriCorps participants receive conflict resolution skill training. They identify the high conflict classrooms and survey students and teachers in these classes to ascertain the level of fighting before introducing the training. They train the students. The students from one class go on to train other classes with the AmeriCorps participants supervising. The AmeriCorps participants now set the goal of reducing classroom fights in these high conflict classrooms by 50%. Each month they review and assess their progress and adjust their strategies as needed.

What makes a good AmeriCorps program in public safety?

There are certain key ingredients for a high quality national service program. These ingredients are not meant to be all inclusive, rather they set out only the most basic but perhaps the most important elements of a public safety program in national service. Programs will surely have other additives for success but here are the basics.

- **Local law enforcement is actively invested in the program.** The police or sheriff's department does not need to be the lead agency although they certainly can be. At the very least the active involvement of this major stakeholder in public safety must be sought otherwise there is the risk that the project lacks support and resources for sustainability. Police and sheriff's departments that understand the value of a community-based problem-oriented approach to neighborhood crime problems will value the assistance of others in creating safer communities.

- **Key stakeholders are actively involved in the planning and implementation.** The community -- residents, businesses, schools, associations and institutions -- is the key element in public safety. Engaging those most affected by the crime, fear, violence problem not only enlists important support and generates access to local resources, but helps identify the explicit needs and the best ways to meet them and the most effective ways to overcome problems.
- **High quality programs address issues that are important to the community.** If people in the community are upset about graffiti, a program on child abuse prevention is not going to capture the community energy that contributes to success. Programs should be responsive to community crime, fear and violence concerns. If the community is engaged in the effort, then the work is more likely to be sustained over time.
- **High quality programs analytically approach understanding the crime, violence, fear or disorder problem they seek to address.** The more information reviewed before developing a program the more likely it is that the program is tailored to meet the specific proportions of the problem to be addressed. Therefore, information gathering should be done for program planning purposes, but it should also be done once a program is set up for program adjustment purposes. Applicants should find out as much as possible about the specific problem they seek to address. If the problem is a high incidence of violence at public transportation hubs then information about the particular sites in question need to be studied, crime data analyzed, victims interviewed, anti-violence strategies from other communities with similar problems reviewed to see what results were achieved, and national organizations and national research repositories tapped and consulted if at all possible. Information should be gathered from those directly affected by the problem since they often have information and understanding that no one else can bring to the table -- knowledge that may radically alter the best choices of strategies for solving crime problems. Once a program is funded, information gathering should continue to supplement what has already been learned and to guide adjustments. Programs should not simply assert that they have a crime problem at their transportation hub and ask to establish an escort program through AmeriCorps. Solutions like escort programs are developed based on a careful analysis of the particular crime problem. In other words, programs should design programs based on solid analysis not hunches, and programs should avoid applying generic solutions since in all likelihood they will fail to address the distinctive quality of the specific crime problem sought to be remedied.
- **Specific skill training is important for programs that allow participants to tackle individual crime problems.** Participants can not be expected to solve crime problems without proper training. If a participant is asked to address drug dealing in a neighborhood park, dumping of environmental wastes, fights on school grounds, or fear in a shopping center's parking lot then solid, skill building training in problem-solving is essential. Collaborative partners and supervisors should receive the training as well so that contributions can be made at all levels.
- **A strategic plan for achieving outcomes is developed including both goals and the objectives necessary to achieve them, and resources and assistance to be tapped if known.** A good plan should have general goals (e.g., reduce domestic violence recidivism by

30% in twelve months) and shorter-term, focused objectives (e.g., collect baseline data, train corps members to identify high-risk domestic violence situations, develop survey instrument for abuser and victim interviews, conduct interviews, work with police, district attorney, judicial system, probation, parole to document their intervention strategy, gather information about strategies from other jurisdictions, develop strategy with input from key stakeholders, implement strategy and monitor results).

- **The program draws on other community institutions and agencies for resources and support, and individual participants look to a wide range of community and governmental resources in tackling individual crime, fear or violence problems.** The variety of the resources and the range of collaborators depends upon the particular problem to be solved but non traditional partners should be thought of as much as traditional partners. If working on a project directed at fear of crime, the chamber of commerce might be a stakeholder as much as the street lighting agency, and the Boys' and Girls' Club might be as dedicated a resource as the police.
- **Outcomes for both programs and participant's individual projects are clearly identified and measurable (e.g., reduce drug-related activities around school property by 50 percent in 6 months, cut thefts from autos by two-thirds within a year, reduce gang graffiti in a 2 block area by 40 percent in 8 months).** Though measurement of prevention and control efforts is sometimes difficult, it is not impossible and it need not be expensive. Changes in criminal activity can be identified by direct observation, by official records, or other means of documentation (e.g., video of 5 block area in neighborhood shows sharp reduction in amount of graffiti); changes in people's perceptions of their neighborhood can be discerned by surveying them and by observing changes in their behavior (e.g., 85% of the youth and 90% of the adults surveyed claimed they were no longer afraid to be in the park); reductions in incidents can be tallied through surveys and official records (e.g., calls for police service for drug dealing on the four targeted street corners declined by 50% over a 5 month period). Qualitative measures (such as interviews with key actors, on-site observation, etc.) linked with quantitative data (crime statistics, reporting data, survey findings, etc.) can provide important flesh to the statistical skeleton. For example, a survey that documents how many neighborhood residents use the park before and after the effort to eliminate gang loitering and gang vandalism can be complemented with crime data, vandalism reports, and interviews with parks employees, neighborhood police officers, business owners and residents adjacent to the park.
- **Program sponsors are receptive to hosting and integrating AmeriCorps participants.** As mentioned earlier, programs can be housed in a variety of organizations, government entities, and non-profits. It is essential, however, that sponsoring organizations be receptive to AmeriCorps participants. It will be difficult to achieve results against crime, fear and violence problems if AmeriCorps participants spend most of their time fighting resistance from within the organization to them being there and contributing. Agencies and organizations that have little experience with non-traditional employees may have to provide extra training to supervising staff, co-workers, and AmeriCorps participants to dispel misconceptions, establish rules, and provide a framework and plan for integration of AmeriCorps participants.

- **High quality programs provide participants an opportunity to learn from the service experience and promote active, productive citizenship.** Participants should understand the relationship between the activities undertaken and the larger social context in which the efforts are made (e.g. participants supervising offenders doing community restitution projects should develop some understanding of how the criminal justice system operates and a sense for new developments in sentencing.)

The standards described above are not meant to be all inclusive. They provide a starting point for designing a high quality public safety program. Finally, reprinted below are some commonly asked questions about the field of public safety and AmeriCorps as well as responses to these commonly asked questions.

- **Can police and sheriff's departments set up a corps that has as its aim to employ corps members as officers upon completion of their AmeriCorps participation?**

Yes. Police and sheriff's departments can set up pre-professional corps, professional corps, or corps that have no guaranteed career path into law enforcement. A pre-professional corps can employ full-time college students to engage part-time during the school year and full-time in summers in AmeriCorps police service. A pre-professional corps can also engage full-time AmeriCorps participants. Pre-professional corpsmembers receive a stipend and an educational award and are expected to be hired by the police or sheriff's department if they are fit and pass required examinations at the completion of their term of service. A professional corps engages sworn police (those right out of the academy) in police work. Professional corps members receive their full salary paid by the law enforcement agency (not from AmeriCorps) and an educational award from AmeriCorps upon completion of one year of police service. Police and sheriff's departments can also set up service programs that engage participants in one year of service but offer no promise of future employment.

- **Can police and sheriff's departments, or other criminal justice entities hold AmeriCorps participants to high standards by doing drug testing and background checks?**

Yes. Conditions of participation can be set including drug testing, background checks and agreements not to disclose confidential, non-public information.

- **Can youth corps participate in public safety projects?**

Yes. Youth corps can participate on either a full-time basis (devoting all their time to public safety projects) or on a part-time basis (splitting time with other areas or projects). Youth corps will still have to adhere to the high quality standards for public safety that are required of full-time programs in the field. For instance, a youth corps focusing on graffiti for 1/5 of the year would still have to collaborate with local public safety officials, engage key

stakeholders, analyze the problem they will be addressing, receive skill training if needed, develop a plan, and seek and measure outcomes.

- **What are the liability obligations of programs?**

The sponsor of the service program is responsible for providing liability coverage related to the activity of service participants. Specifically, sponsors will need to provide coverage for; (1) costs related to participant injury, including stipend payments, and (2) service participant actions. The use of grant funds to cover the cost of providing liability coverage is a legitimate program cost.

Judy/Kate/Lorne: I will come up with a 3rd example Monday or Tuesday along with a resource list.

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