



VOICES FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

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America FORWARD

March 17, 2009

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer and Minority Leader Boehner,

Americans are stepping forward in record numbers to serve, many inspired by the bold vision articulated by President Obama, and all motivated to roll up their sleeves to address the mounting challenges we face in communities across the country. Communities are struggling to meet the growing demand for services, due in large part to the economic downturn, and nonprofit organizations need human capital to meet the increasing needs of families struggling to make ends meet.

We are deeply grateful that the House Education and Labor Committee has recognized the pivotal moment we are in as a country and responded by passing H.R. 1388, The GIVE Act. Service can play a critical role in getting our economy moving again, engaging Americans in productive work in difficult times and meeting the growing needs in communities. We need to reinvest in service, starting with the reauthorization of national and community service programs operated by The Corporation for National and Community Service, which have not been reauthorized in 16 years.

We believe that the provisions in H.R. 1388 will make it possible for more Americans to serve, stimulate more volunteering and increase the diversity of those serving. We also believe that the reforms contained in the bill will ensure accountability, transparency, and results, while providing administrative simplification to help faith and community-based organizations—particularly those smaller nonprofits operating in rural areas and in economically disadvantaged communities—to more effectively meet community needs.

There are new approaches for expanding the capacity of the nonprofit sector to tap the ingenuity and innovation of citizens working together in local communities to address the problems we face. Many of these ideas, including the Volunteer Generation Fund, are included in S.277, The Serve America Act, which was introduced by a bipartisan group of Senators led by Senators Kennedy and Hatch on January 16. We look forward to working with the House to see that these new ideas, which we believe are essential elements of a new platform for highly effective service, are incorporated into the legislation that will ultimately be sent to President Obama for signature.

We look forward to working with you in the coming days to ensure swift and successful passage of H.R. 1388 on the House floor so that it can be quickly delivered to the President for signature. We also look forward to working with you to ensure that the legislation is fully funded through the appropriations process.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to service.

Sincerely,

1. "I Have a Dream" Foundation
2. 2-1-1 California
3. 40Plus of Greater Washington
4. 4Generations Institute
5. ACCESS of West Michigan
6. Action Without Borders/Idealist.org
7. Admission Possible
8. After School All Stars
9. Alliance for Children and Families
10. Alliance for Community Trees
11. Alliance1
12. America Forward
13. America's All Stars
14. America's Born 2 Lead Network, Inc.
15. America's Promise Alliance
16. America's Service Commissions
17. American Association of Museums

18. The American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
19. American Healing Arts Alliance, Inc.
20. American Humanics, Inc.
21. American Jewish Committee
22. American Red Cross
23. AmeriCorps Alums
24. AmeriCorps Family Outreach Program
25. Anaheim Family YMCA
26. Appalachian Coal Country Watershed Team
27. AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation
28. Arkansas Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters
29. Arkansas Service Commission
30. Association of Performing Arts Presenters
31. Atlas Service Corps, Inc.
32. Bay Area Community Resources
33. Be the Change, Inc.
34. BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life)
35. Belle Isle Botanical Society
36. Big Brothers Big Sisters
37. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bartholomew County
38. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butler County
39. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central New Mexico
40. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Helena
41. Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Seacoast
42. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Will and Grundy Counties
43. Black Churches and Black Colleges/Universities Network
44. Boston Cares
45. Bountiful Harvest Community Development Center, Inc.
46. Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County
47. Boys & Girls Club of Garfield
48. Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Lee County
49. Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salem
50. Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salt Lake
51. Boys & Girls Club of Indian River County, FL
52. Boys & Girls Club of Langlade County, WI
53. Boys & Girls Club of Poplar Bluff Teen Center
54. Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
55. Break Away
56. Brunswick County Volunteer Center
57. BUILD, Inc.
58. Burne Urban Scholars
59. California AmeriCorps Alliance
60. California Volunteers
61. Camp Fire USA
62. Camp Fire USA, Central Coast Council
63. Camp Fire USA, Green Country Council
64. Camp Fire USA, Gulf Wind Council, Inc.
65. Camp Fire USA, Midlands Council
66. Camp Fire USA, National Board
67. Camp Fire USA, Portland Metro Council
68. Camp Fire USA, Upper Appalachian Council
69. Campus Compact
70. Campus Kitchens Project
71. Capital Area Center for Independent Living
72. CASA of Barry and Eaton Counties
73. CASA of Branch County
74. Catholic Network of Volunteer Services
75. Celebration Christian Retreat and Worship Center, Inc.
76. Center for Community Change
77. Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest
78. Cesar E. Chavez Foundation
79. Cherry Street Health Services
80. Child Abuse Prevention Center, North Highlands, CA
81. Childhelp Michigan
82. Children for Children
83. Choices Education Group
84. Chronic Illness Coalition
85. Cincinnati Youth Collaborative
86. Citizen Schools
87. City Year, Inc.
88. Civic Enterprises
89. Civicorps Schools
90. CLEARCorps USA
91. College Summit
92. Commongood Careers
93. Communities In Schools, Inc.
94. Communities In Schools of Federal Way
95. Community Action Council of South Texas
96. Community Action Partnership
97. Community Action Programs, Belknap/Merrimack Counties, Inc.
98. Community Preservation and Development Corporation
99. Community Residence Corporation and Community Living Network
100. Compeer Rochester, Inc.
101. Computers for Youth
102. Connecticut Commission on Community Service
103. CPLC Parenting Arizona
104. Cradles to Crayons
105. Cross-Cultural Solutions
106. Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
107. D.C. Central Kitchen
108. Dance/USA
109. Dearborn Pastoral Counseling Center
110. Democrats Work

111. Diamond Acres Urban Network Fund
112. DiverseAbility
113. Do Something
114. Earth Force
115. East Boston Neighborhood Health Center
116. East LA Community Corporation
117. Eastern Coal Regional Roundtable
118. Elbert County Mentoring Program
119. Edison Neighborhood Association
120. EducationWorks
121. El Cajon Community Development Corporation
122. Elim Focus Mentoring Program
123. Empowerment Association
124. Ensign Entertainment Group
125. Equal Justice Works
126. Erie Regional Housing Development Corp
127. Es Amor Servicios Cristianos
128. Everybody Wins! USA
129. Experience Corps
130. Feeding America Bridges Mentoring Program
131. First Focus
132. Fitness Forward
133. Forum For Democracy
134. Foster Grandparent Program- Kids Hope United
135. Foster Grandparent Program, Saint Clair County, MI
136. Friends in Action of the Eastern Panhandle
137. Genesys Works
138. Georgia Center for Nonprofits
139. Girl Scouts of Manitou Council
140. Girl Scouts of the USA
141. Global Aware
142. Global Citizen
143. Global Citizen Year
144. Golden Key Group, LLC
145. Good Shepherd Services
146. Great Oak Youth Development Centers, Inc.
147. Greater Miami Service Corps
148. Greater Philadelphia Cares
149. GreenLight Fund
150. Groundwork, Inc.
151. Habitat for Humanity International
152. Hampton Community Coalition, Hampton, NH
153. Hands On Asheville-Buncombe
154. Hands On Battle Creek
155. Hands On Central California
156. Hands On Greater Portland
157. Hands On Greater Richmond
158. Hands On Hartford
159. Hands On Ogeechee/Southeast Georgia
160. Hands On Greater Phoenix
161. Hands On Northeast Ohio
162. Hands On Southwest Louisiana
163. Hands On Twin Cities
164. HandsOn Network
165. HealthCorps
166. Heart of America Quilt
167. Heart of Christ Ministry
168. Heart of West Michigan United Way
169. HELP USA
170. Higher Achievement
171. Hillsdale County Senior Service Center
172. Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program
173. Holistic Development Community Center
174. Hope and Healing Foundation
175. HOPE Worldwide
176. Horizons for Homeless Children
177. Humboldt County AmeriCorps Alumni Chapter
178. IdeaEncore Network
179. Independent Sector
180. Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center
181. Innovations in Civic Participation
182. InSTEDD
183. Institute for Family Health
184. International Association for Public Participation
185. Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
186. Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service
187. Japanese American Citizens League
188. Jericho Road Project
189. Juma Ventures
190. Jumpstart
191. Junior Achievement USA
192. Junior Achievement of Central Michigan, Inc.
193. Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes, Inc.
194. Junior Achievement of Michiana
195. Junior Achievement of Northeast Michigan
196. KaBOOM!
197. Kalamazoo College
198. Kalamazoo County Poverty Reduction Initiative
199. Kankakee-Livingston Counties Foster Grandparent Program
200. Kansas Center for the Medically Underserved
201. KIDS Consortium
202. Kids County in Alachua County, Inc.
203. KIPP Schools
204. Kinetic Kids
205. League of American Orchestras

206. Lewis-Clark Service Corps
207. Lions Club International
208. Local Initiatives Support Corporation
209. Long Island Volunteer Center
210. Looking for My Sister
211. Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations
212. Louisiana Delta Service Corps
213. Louisiana Serve Commission
214. Love INC. of Manistee
215. Lutheran Settlement House
216. Lutheran Social Services of Southern California
217. Manchester Community Resource Center
218. Manchester, NH Weed and Seed
219. Manna Project International
220. Mariners Inn
221. Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism
222. Mass Mentoring Partnership
223. Massachusetts Promise Fellowship
224. Massachusetts Service Alliance
225. MATCH Schools
226. McCormick Foundation
227. Mental Health Advocate US
228. Mentoring Brother 2 Brother, Inc.
229. Mentoring USA
230. MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership
231. Meshkin Ventures
232. Michigan Ballet Theatre
233. Michigan Community Action Agency Association
234. Michigan Community Service Commission
235. Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency
236. Michigan County Social Services Association
237. Michigan Nonprofit Association
238. Michigan Primary Care Association
239. Michigan's Children
240. Mid Michigan Big Brothers Big Sisters
241. Milwaukee County RSVP
242. Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service
243. Mobilize.org
244. Monroe Center for Healthy Aging
245. Music National Service Initiative
246. MY TURN, Inc.
247. National Alliance of Faith and Justice
248. National Association of Community Health Centers
249. National Collaboration for Youth
250. National Council of La Raza
251. National Council of Nonprofits
252. National Council on Aging
253. National Human Services Assembly
254. National Peace Corps Association
255. National Senior Corps Association
256. National Student Partnerships
257. National Urban Fellows
258. National Wildlife Federation
259. National Youth Leadership Council
260. Neighbors Helping Neighbors
261. Neighborworks Blackstone River Valley
262. Network for Good
263. Nevada Volunteers
264. New Beginnings New Hampshire
265. New Jersey After 3
266. New Mexico College Success Network
267. New Mexico Commission for Community Volunteerism
268. New Mexico Forum for Youth and Community
269. New Mexico Out of School Time Network
270. New Mexico V*Cadre Network
271. New Mexico Youth Alliance – Network
272. New Profit Inc.
273. New Sector Alliance
274. New York City Coalition Against Hunger
275. New York Restoration Project
276. Nine Star Education and Employment Services
277. Nonprofit Workforce Coalition
278. NorthSky Nonprofit Network, Michigan
279. Northwest High School Student Government, Give Hope Disaster Relief Trips, Jackson, MI
280. Notre Dame Mission Volunteers/AmeriCorps, Hartford, CT
281. OCA - Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans
282. Ohio Community Service Council
283. Oklahoma Community Service Commission
284. One Brick
285. Opera America
286. Opportunity Knocks
287. Oregon Mentors
288. Outward Bound USA
289. Parents Alliance
290. Partners Worldwide
291. Partnership for Public Service
292. Pass It Along
293. Peace Games
294. Peace Jam
295. Performing Arts Alliance
296. Philanthropy Solutions, LLC
297. Points of Light Institute
298. Pressley Ridge Mentoring Program
299. Project HEALTH
300. Project Pericles
301. Public Allies
302. Public Allies Arizona

303. Public Allies Chicago
304. Public Allies Cincinnati
305. Public Allies Connecticut
306. Public Allies Delaware
307. Public Allies Eagle Rock
308. Public Allies Los Angeles
309. Public Allies Miami
310. Public Allies Milwaukee
311. Public Allies New Mexico
312. Public Allies New York
313. Public Allies North Carolina
314. Public Allies Pittsburgh
315. Public Allies San Antonio
316. Public Allies Silicon Valley
317. Public Agenda
318. Public Architecture
319. Raymond Mentoring Partnership
320. Rebekah Children's Services
321. Rebuilding Together
322. Redwood Community Action Agency
323. RMC Research Corporation
324. Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
325. Root Cause/Public Innovators
326. RSVP of Sangamon, Menard and Logan Counties, IL
327. Rubicon Programs Inc.
328. RYASAP Catalyst for Community Change
329. SAGE Global
330. Salud Family Health Centers, CO
331. Sanilac Consortium for the Arts
332. Sanilac County Museum and Village
333. School Loan Project
334. SeaChange Capital Partners
335. Self-Advocacy Association of New York
336. Serve Wisconsin
337. ServeNebraska
338. ServeNext.org
339. ServeWyoming
340. Service For Peace
341. Service-Learning United
342. ServiceNation
343. Sheffield City Schools, Aim High Mentoring Program
344. Sierra NonProfit Services
345. Smiles Change Lives
346. Special Olympics
347. Spence School
348. Sports4Kids
349. Social Enterprise Alliance
350. Social Venture Partners
351. South Haven Area Senior Services
352. Southern New Hampshire University Civic Engagement and Global Citizen Circle
353. Southwest Conservation Corps
354. St. Frances Cabrini Clinic of Most Holy Trinity Church
355. Streetwise Partners, Inc.
356. Student Conservation Association
357. Student Volunteer Foundation
358. Summer Search
359. Survivor Corps
360. Taproot Foundation
361. Teach For America
362. Texas Campus Compact
363. The Academy for Career Development
364. The Century Council
365. The CORPS Network
366. The LEAGUE
367. The Mind Trust
368. The Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center
369. The Santee Sioux Nation AmeriCorps Program
370. The Volunteer Center of Greensboro, Inc.
371. The Volunteer Center of Trier Township
372. The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars
373. The Wellness Coalition
374. True Patriot Network
375. U.S. Public Service Academy
376. UALR Children International
377. UNCF
378. United Jewish Communities
379. United Neighborhood Health Services, Inc.
380. United Way of America
381. United Way of Greater Deluth
382. United Way of King County
383. United Way of Olmsted County
384. United Way of Wyandotte County
385. United Ways of California
386. United We Mentor
387. Up2Us
388. Upstarts
389. Urban Fitness Klub
390. Vermont Campus Compact
391. Virginia Mentoring Partnership
392. Voices for National Service
393. Volunteer Alexandria
394. Volunteer and Information Center, Alabama River Region
395. Volunteer Broward
396. Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County
397. Volunteer Center of Bergen County
398. Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo
399. Volunteer Center of Greater Milwaukee

400. Volunteer Centers of Michigan
401. Volunteer Center of Sonoma County
402. Volunteer Center of the Coastal Bend
403. Volunteer Center of the East Bay, CA
404. Volunteer Florida
405. Volunteer Frederick
406. Volunteer Macon
407. Volunteer Management Centers, Inc.
408. Volunteer Mobile, Inc.
409. Volunteer Muskegon
410. Volunteer New Hampshire
411. Volunteer San Diego
412. VolunteerLEON
413. VolunteerMatch
414. Volunteers in Prevention, Probation, and Prisons, Inc.
415. VSA Arts of New Mexico
416. Washington Commission for National and Community Service
417. Western Hardrock Watershed Team
418. Western New York AmeriCorps
419. Whatcom Volunteer Center
420. Women Who Look Ahead Mentoring
421. Wood County Corps
422. World Teach
423. Wrap4ASmile Foundation, Inc.
424. Year Up
425. YMCA of the USA
426. Young Women Leaders Program of the University of Virginia Women's Center and Curry School of Education
427. Youth in Action AmeriCorps- Flagstaff, AZ
428. Youth Service America
429. Youth Villages
430. Youth Volunteer Corps of America
431. YouthBuild USA
432. YWCA Annapolis and Anne Arundel County
433. YWCA of Lowell