

NLWJC - Kagan

DPC - Box 031 - Folder 013

Ideas - Service

Head-service

▶ **Diana Fortuna**
06/24/97 12:27:18 PM
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Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Christa Robinson/OPD/EOP, Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP
Subject: Corporation/AmeriCorps events

While we're thinking about scheduling events for the summer, we should think about what to submit on service. We have discussed whether to seek a Presidential event highlighting our proposal to reauthorize AmeriCorps. The proposed bill isn't cleared through OMB yet, but should be soon. At the same time, the Corporation has a few time-sensitive announcements that we need to decide on. We should probably decide whether we want to package some or all of these ideas that are floating around and submit them as one idea to scheduling. For those we don't want to pursue that are time sensitive, it may be appropriate to let the Corporation announce them with a statement from us.

In addition to the idea of a reauthorization event, we have these:

1. The Corporation is now up to about 1,300-1,600 applications from high schools/seniors who are eligible for and can receive \$1,000 high school service scholarships. They can award these any time, but want to know whether we want to announce them. It seems bad to let this announcement drift much further, in that these are scholarships for the fall. We could tell the individual schools/students, and then have an event later, I guess.

If we decide the Corporation should just announce this, we could have the President do a letter to principals and/or superintendents praising the success of the kickoff year, and expressing the hope that next year they'll all apply for the scholarships. (Actually, we have match this year for about 6,000 scholarships; I suspect applications are topping off well short of that.)


2. We also talked about highlighting the Corporation's new "scholarship only" awards that we announced at the Phila. summit. The Corporation is getting close to having a new round of these awards to announce. This could be part of a reauthorization event if the timing is right.

Let me know what you think.

ideas - service

▶ **Diana Fortuna**
06/25/97 02:34:07 PM
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Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP, Christa Robinson/OPD/EOP
bcc:
Subject: service event ideas 

1. High school service scholars -- The President could announce that his new High School Service Scholars has just completed a successful launch year, and it is awarding 1,620 high school juniors or seniors a \$1,000 college scholarship based on their exemplary community service. He can also praise those who have provided the needed matching funds, including Kiwanis, Rotary, PTAs, Minnesota state legislature, a foundation that paid for all of San Francisco's, and Sallie Mae, which provided match for all DC schools. Attending the event would be students, sponsors, and principals. The President could encourage even more schools to take advantage of this next year, through a letter to high school principals and superintendents.

This event could be ready right away.

2. Event to launch Administration's proposal to reauthorize Corporation/AmeriCorps programs -- The President could probably launch this new proposal as early as mid-July, with a bipartisan group of supporters present. He could talk about AmeriCorps' successes and also use the occasion to announce the granting of some new "scholarship-only" AmeriCorps scholarships of the type announced at the Philadelphia summit.


Potential minuses:

- Kennedy and Jeffords recommend waiting until September to avoid the debate on the Hill on AmeriCorps appropriations, which will be very active in July. Al From and Harris Wofford feel that we should not let this dictate the timing, and having both reauthorization and appropriations out at the same time might work.
- There will be 2 or 3 negative reports from the Corporation's Inspector General during July, and Rep. Hoekstra may seek an oversight hearing during the appropriations fight.

There is some danger the actual legislative language won't be ready by mid-July, but we could go with a framework if necessary, if folks don't think that's too tacky.

3. Do an event with Powell and CEO's to emphasize there has been progress made since the summit in terms of more commitments. Powell's people wouldn't be ready for this in the next few weeks, but they recognize they need to get ready soon. So this could be August.

Elena Kagan

 Elena Kagan
06/25/97 01:22:34 PM

Ideas - service

DRAFT

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Options on Service Summit Follow-up

This memo summarizes some options designed to ensure that we continue to sound the themes of the Presidents' Summit on America's Future in the coming weeks and months.

1. Working with America's Promise and Summit Leaders: We must determine how much to emphasize events that reinforce our service message vs. work with the Summit's new 501c3, "America's Promise." Although there are legal limits on our involvement, we are able to continue to work with Gen. Powell, and it probably makes sense to do so since the Summit went well and the President is so identified with it.

- We should emphasize the Summit's partnership approach and goals in our ongoing events as much as possible. Related events in May included the Welfare to Work Partnership event, and the Vice President's announcement of his new coalition of civic groups to mentor those leaving welfare.
- We should meet with staff at America's Promise to learn about their efforts to set targets for the five resources for children and track progress toward their goal of reaching two million children.
- We could ask America's Promise to report to us on its progress on a quarterly basis, if counsel approves. In that way, we could stay connected to America's Promise even as we keep its operations at an appropriate distance.
- Eli Segal has suggested bringing in CEO's to report on their progress since the Summit, or convening a conference on one or more of the five resources. The President has expressed interest in tying the summit's "safe places" goal to our juvenile justice initiative. We could also take advantage of Ray Chambers' interest in using schools to deliver services to kids to highlight our Communities in Schools proposal in the budget.
- Administration officials could participate in local summits around the country.

2. AmeriCorps and Other Service Opportunities: There are a variety of things we could do to reinforce our announcement of 50,000 new AmeriCorps scholarships

and our high school service theme.

- The President could announce the first winners of the new High School Service Scholars program, perhaps in combination with the first Maryland high school class to graduate under their service requirement.
- We plan to write non-profit organizations to restate the President's Summit announcement of 50,000 new "scholarship only" AmeriCorps members. The Corporation has asked us to hold this for the time being because of their concern that they may get too much interest in this idea.
- The President could announce the next group of scholarship-only AmeriCorps members.
- We could reach out to faith-based groups, perhaps involving Rev. Tony Campolo and his new "Mission Year" initiative. However, it is not clear whether Campolo's students can get AmeriCorps scholarships funding because of questions about their religious activities. We could work with other faith-based groups.
- One major goal we must stress in the coming weeks is getting AmeriCorps reauthorized. The Corporation wants to launch the Administration's reauthorization proposal at a roundtable on service with members of Congress in late June. Although reauthorization will be difficult, there will probably never be a better time to push for it and ensure some longevity for AmeriCorps beyond the President's term. Anything we can do to tie this to the Summit and even Powell would obviously be very helpful.
- Other options are to highlight the AmeriCorps component of America Reads, AmeriCorps' Teach for America program, various Corporation "service learning" programs, or the Corporation's senior service programs.

Diana Fortuna 05/08/97 07:42:35 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: Summit followup

Here is a (lengthy) inventory of current ideas on how to follow up on the Summit. It isn't as digested as it should be, but I figure it is better to lay it out to get us thinking. FYI, Steve Silverman needs to give Sylvia/Erskine a reaction to Eli's ideas; he says he will share any memo with me before forwarding it to her. I am assuming we will work up our own list and share it when we're ready. Let me know when/if you want to sit down on this, or email me your reaction.

A basic question is how much to strike out on our own with events that reinforce our message vs. work with the Summit/501c3 structure. Inevitably we have to decide how involved to be with Powell. We could bow out and wish him well (particularly given the legal constraints on our involvement with the 501c3). But it probably makes sense to strike a balance and stay involved, since our dealings with him in the Summit went fairly well, and the President is so identified with the Summit.

Steve Silverman and I had lunch yesterday with Col. Bill Smullen (Powell's guy), Stuart Shapiro, Ken Allen (Points of Light), and Gomperts. All of them will stay involved, but the focus now shifts to Rick Little. They invited us to a meeting with Rick next week, and Steve and I think we should go -- although we have to figure out what we want out of it. Rick is now setting targets for the 5 resources and figuring out how to track whether they achieve their goal of 2 million.

The ideal outcome, of course, would be for Powell to reinforce our service/AmeriCorps message in some way. That is why events playing up our new 50,000 slots are best. Eli suggests helping Powell see that reauthorization of AmeriCorps is critical, but I'm not sure how we pull that one off. The best hope for this would probably be a variation on Gomperts' idea -- dedicating the 50,000 new slots as some kind of army to do Powell's work.

AmeriCorps/Service ideas

We will do our letter to nonprofits/religious groups pushing the 50,000 AmeriCorps expansion. In addition, the President's note that we ("and Colin") should reach out to religious groups and publicize Campolo's efforts raises the idea that we could launch Campolo's program. This would be especially nice if it has an AmeriCorps component.

I need to learn more from Campolo about the status of his program. The President writes about Campolo's program as if it already has young people signed up, but I don't think it does yet. His coalition has 6 religious organizations, but I don't know how broadly representative of the faith community they are. I'll work with Flo McAfee on this. If Campolo wants AmeriCorps scholarships, the Corporation will first have to put it through their competitive grant process.]

Other possibilities:

- If the budget agreement really gets us the new America Reads AmeriCorps people, we could try to highlight our success there in some way.
- We could highlight Teach for America, now that we know it's ours.
- The President expressed interest in an invitation to CityYear's annual conference in Rhode Island in June. CityYear members are all AmeriCorps. We could see if they wanted to do any

- scholarship-only awards. I hear they are goofy, but he likes them.
- You mentioned the partnering service-learning initiative that got that NY Times story. Rifkin's next step is a retreat in June to hammer out how they get to their announced goals (700 coaches, 10,000 schools) in terms of organization. Maybe there is an event after that retreat.
- The Corporation is launching this "Leader Schools" program -- another announcement at Penn State last year. These are awards to recognize schools with exemplary service learning programs, with Ted Sizer figuring out how to identify them. Susan Stroud wants to make them resources for other schools. I need to figure out event opportunities here.
- On high school service scholars, we could revive our combination awards/Elks/Moose idea. The Corp. says they have made progress, but I don't know the particulars yet.
- We keep saying there is an opportunity to do something with seniors; we have to figure out what this might be.

Summit-related Ideas

Most of Eli's ideas piggy-back more directly onto the Summit. I like his idea of asking the non-profit to report to us quarterly. It's a way of staying connected without taking direct responsibility for its work (which we don't have anyway). They may not welcome such a mandate, but if we ask for it I assume they have to do it. (I'll check with counsel here.)

* Some of his other ideas seem too Summit-oriented to me, and not so related to service -- bringing in CEO's to report on progress since the Summit, or convening a conference on one or more of the 5 goals. On the other hand, the President said in a note on the weekly that we should "consider doing a more extensive followup, e.g., tied to juvenile justice initiative, try to get other cities to follow Boston, etc." (Leanne tells me this refers to Boston's work on juveniles that he learned about at the kick-off to our juvenile bill -- active churches, a comprehensive network of providers to provide services to juveniles.) This sounds to me like a focus on two summit goals (mentoring and a safe place), so maybe we could do something with Powell here.

Related to that, Ray Chambers has become convinced that the way to deliver the 5 resources is through the schools. He is pushing Rifkin's Partnering Initiative to play a role in this, but Rifkin is not anxious to. Chambers is also pushing the idea of community coaches in each school, with some sort of brainstorming meeting at the Corporation next week. We could use this to reinforce our Communities in Schools proposal in the budget, and afterschool programs generally.


I doubt Powell would agree to add welfare to work as a 6th goal, as Eli suggests.

Finally, I have to work with the federal agencies to make sure they actually follow through on their commitments.

Ideas - service


Diana Fortuna 03/26/97 10:50:41 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, weinstein_p @ a1 @ cd @ lngtwy
bcc:
Subject: Re: Interest free year for service 

I have been talking to Education about it already, and they are telling me that it is more or less already true. But their answer was confused enough that it seemed suspicious; I will obviously continue to pursue asap given the President's question.

Bruce N. Reed

 Bruce N. Reed
03/26/97 10:45:13 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, WEINSTEIN_P @ A1 @ CD @ LNGTWY
Subject: Interest free year for service

The President asked Sylvia last night whether we could support Tony Campollo's idea of exempting young people from paying college loan interest for a year while they are doing service. Can you look into this?

IDEAS - ~~Service~~
service ~~Statement~~

Diana Fortuna 03/25/97 01:40:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
Subject: Update on summit stuff

Attached is an update on summit events/communications.

For the Federal commitment, we are proceeding on the adopt a school front. It looks like there are 1,000-1,400 schools that agencies have already adopted in some form. Therefore, we could say we will adopt a total of 2,000 schools by the year 2,000.

In addition, what do you think of this approach for the balance of the Federal commitment? Rather than trying to fit it into the summit's 5 goals for kids, we should stress how service will further the President's priorities. We would stress education, health, crime/drugs, welfare, and environment. We should do this with announcements of specific partnerships between Federal agencies and the service/nonprofit/corporate world. Examples are things like having community groups reach out to the 3 million kids who are eligible for Medicaid, immunization outreach, afterschool programs, drug education, etc. (Plus, of course, the big enchilada: 1 million tutors for America Reads.) That way, we can reinforce that we are getting our agenda done, and stress our view that government should work in partnership with service/voluntarism.

Outline of Summit Events:

Radio Address:

- Week of service (see below)
- Federal adopt a school
- Federal executive order?
- High school service scholarships: announce applications, animals
- Study on HS service

Intermediate Announcements:

- HS Service Scholarships event?
- Announce Federal commitment/partnerships (see below)
- Week of service events (see below)
- Earth Day
- Net Day
- Christmas in April

Lesser Ideas:

- Partnering/service-learning?
- President's Service Awards (may not be ready until Summit)
- Convert work-study to service
- Announce private commitments

Summit itself:

- Need major idea relating to encouraging service/youth service
- America Reads tally?

Structure of Federal Commitment:

1. Adopt a school
2. Reinforce President's agenda with partnerships/service commitments from private sector/nonprofits
 - Health: Medicaid outreach, immunization
 - Welfare: afterschool programs, community schools
 - Education: reading, lots of possibilities
 - Crime/drugs: military/DOJ programs to partner
 - Environment: clean up of public lands

Outline of Week of service:


Involvement of AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps alums, returned Peace Corps volunteers
Identification of 20? 50? service sites around country
National Youth Service Day and other preexisting youth activities
Help from federal agency regional administrators
Trips by Cabinet/subcabinet
Baseball field idea



Cynthia A. Rice

03/27/97 07:52:39 PM

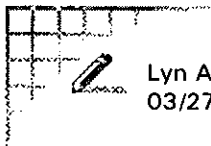
Record Type: Record

To: Lyn A. Hogan/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP
bcc:
Subject: Re: Youth Corps proposal 

I think we should try to add it to the summit -- Diana will that work?

If we do so, we should respond to the Senator. However, if we don't, you don't need to draft a note, because Bruce did send one in February, thanking her for the idea.

Lyn A. Hogan



Lyn A. Hogan
03/27/97 05:36:19 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP, Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP, Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP
cc: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
Subject: Youth Corps proposal

I reviewed the youth corps proposal Diane Feinstein sent over to us. In short, there exists in current law authority and funding for specific agencies to involve state and local youth conservation corps in public works projects. However, most agencies are not doing so. (Youth conservation corps programs offer disadvantaged, non-college bound youth work experience along with training and education assistance such as GED prep.) Feinstein would like us to consider encouraging the relevant agencies to use their existing authority to give disadvantaged youth public work experience. If this is something we want to do, it might fit in nicely with the volunteer summit.


What do you think? If it is something you think we should consider, I can write up a memo. Otherwise, I'll draft a thoughtful thanks but no thanks response back to Feinstein.

Diana Fortuna 03/27/97 08:31:30
PIV

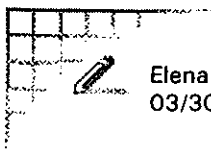
Record Type: Record

To: Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP

cc: Lyn A. Hogan/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

Subject: Re: Youth Corps proposal 

This has plenty of summit overlay/potential, so I think I need to be looking at it over the next 2 weeks with all the other ideas to see if there is something we can run with.]




Elena Kagan
03/30/97 02:26:42 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Diana Fortuna/OPD/EOP

cc: Lyn A. Hogan/OPD/EOP, Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP

Subject: Re: Youth Corps proposal 

It looks to me as if this idea might fit well with the latest conception of the federal commitment. If the idea is for agencies to forge partnerships with service organizations to advance the President's core priorities, why not include state and local youth conservation corps in this effort?

Ideas - service

Diana Fortuna 03/11/97 05:19:47 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Elena Kagan/OPD/EOP
cc: Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP
Subject: Adopting schools for service summit

The idea of having the departments adopt schools for the service summit is certainly doable. In fact, several departments have already adopted schools. They could potentially get up to 10 schools each, particularly given that most major agencies have regional offices, and many of them have already adopted schools.

Activities connected to adopting a school include mentoring, teaching reading, donating equipment and books, organizing outings, and doing career days.

EK -
for an list
of ideas under
develop.

Prior to the Summit itself, we should do at least one event designed to highlight our own approach and involvement with national service and voluntarism. The first ideas probably has the most merit, but several possibilities follow:

- National Service Scholars Program -- The President could announce the launch of this \$1,000 scholarship for high school juniors or seniors who do an outstanding job in community service. The Federal government puts up \$500, and local or community sources match that amount. Civic groups like the Lions, Elks, and Kiwanis are being encouraged to fund the local match, and could attend the event. We would push to have the first scholarship winners attend as well. By focusing on young people who do service, rather than purely volunteer efforts, this would reinforce the President's concept of service. The President first announced the scholarship program at an event last year at Penn State. Under the President's 1998 budget, the program could expand to every high school next year.
- Commit half of all work-study slots to service by the year 2000 -- Such an announcement could be made at a college with a good program of service-based work-study -- for example, where college students teach young children to read.
- Highlight Young People Serving Young People -- The President could attend an award ceremony for a program in Philadelphia that uses high school students to tutor second-graders. National Youth Service Day on April 15 could be highlighted.
- Feature AmeriCorps alumni -- The President could demonstrate how the AmeriCorps program produces future service leaders by meeting with a group of AmeriCorps alumni at a literacy or early childhood event. AmeriCorps alumni are trying to set a standard for themselves of 10 hours per month of volunteer time.
- Faith-based Service -- The President could challenge religious institutions and faith-based organizations to create full-time service opportunities, and agree to give them National Service scholarships if they do.
- Commitment by Federal Government -- The President could announce some or all of the Federal agencies' commitments to the Summit. We are working with Federal agencies to identify what types of commitments they can make to the Summit's five goals. Possibilities include making a Federal commitment around giving young people the opportunity to serve; or showing how service could further all our existing Administration priorities, such as literacy, welfare to work, crime, etc.
- Earth Day -- This year's Earth Day commemoration should tie into the service theme. We are working with CEQ on this.
- President's Service Awards -- Summit organizers are pushing to have these annual awards presented by the President or First Lady at the Summit itself, but we could push to hold them prior to the Summit. They are considered the highest honor in the volunteer world,

Add to
list
of
*
potential
action

and are normally awarded around National Volunteer Week (mid-April).

- Give Federal Employees More Flexibility to Volunteer -- We could try to expand on an executive order by former President Bush to make it easier for Federal employees to volunteer (although one area of exposure is that it is not clear how closely we have been following that executive order).

} Add to list