
Youth Service California

February Affiliate Update

c/o Haas Center for Public Service, 588 Salvatierra Walkway, Stanford, CA 94305
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COMMISSION NEWS

Call For Speakers!!! - The California Commission on Improving Life Through Service is developing a California Service Speakers Bureau to provide expedited access to California experts on national service, the service ethic, service-learning, and community service. These highly qualified individuals will be called on to volunteer their time to address the service community, AmeriCorps programs, trade and industry groups, schools, businesses, and other community based organizations. The Commission encourages your support by providing them with recommendations on appropriate individuals that would have an interest in participating in the speaker's bureau. For a recommendation form, please call the Commission at (916) 323-7646.

Next Commission Meeting: February 27th, 10:30 am - 4:00 pm, San Diego Town & Country Hotel.
Staff Contact: Circe Olander

CALIFORNIA CAMPUS COMPACT

Student Leadership Academy - Launched in 1994, the Student Leadership Academy is a project of California Campus Compact created to support the leadership development of current and future college student campus leaders of community service and service-learning programs. The Academy will be held on April 21-23, 1995 in Big Bear, CA. The Academy will include training which covers issues of diversity, community, and public relations, conflict resolution, program operation and development, personal missions, fund-raising and team-building. Academy participants will also engage in a team peer mentor program. The Academy is limited to 20 qualified students who are currently enrolled in member institutions of California Campus Compact and will be entering their Sophomore or Junior years in the fall of 1995. The application deadline is March 13, 1995. For more information, call Deborah Stephens at 310-794-8638.

LEGAL NEWS

Volunteer Protection Act goes to Congress - Nearly ten years after being introduced, the federal Volunteer Protection Act appears destined to become law. The new leaders in Congress are much more likely to support the bill than has been the case in the past. Representative John Porter first introduced the Volunteer Protection Act in 1985. The bill calls upon states to protect volunteers from personal liability for claims arising from their volunteer service. To provide an incentive for states to act, the bill would condition one percent of their Social Services Block Grant funding on compliance. In past years, the bill has had hundreds of co-sponsors from both parties. Interested parties may wish to contact their elected representatives.

School Community Service Requirement Upheld - Public high schools can require students to participate in service to the community without running afoul of the U.S. Constitution, a federal judge ruled on Jan. 19. District Judge Charles L. Brieant rejected arguments made by 18 year-old Danile Immediato of Rye Neck, New York that the 40-hour service requirement at his high school amounts to slavery and violates his right to privacy. The Court agreed with the American Alliance for Rights and Responsibilities and the Rye Neck School that elected officials, not the courts, should determine the content of school curricula and that the community service requirement furthered the public schools' mission to prepare students for citizenship in a democracy. A recent survey by the Educational Research Service found that more than 25% of public schools districts have already implemented or are in the process of implementing a student community service requirement. For more information, call Suzanne Goldsmith (Director of the Community Service Project) or Rob Teir (General Counsel) at the American Alliance for Rights and Responsibilities, (202) 785-7844.

THE NATIONAL SCENE

President Clinton's Proposed FY '96 Budget

<u>Activity</u>	<u>1995 Enacted</u>	<u>1996 Request</u>
National and Community Service Act (Total)	\$575,000	\$817,476
AmeriCorps Grants	\$250,000	\$429,800
Learn and Serve America (K-12 and Higher Ed)	\$50,000	\$60,000
Program Administration/State Commissions	\$29,400	\$35,476

The House and Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Veterans, Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies has responsibility for developing the legislation that has jurisdiction over the funding of AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve Programs. For more information on the President's budget request regarding National Service programs, contact Joe Riccardo, Youth Service America at 202-296-2992 ext. 15.

National Youth Service Day - Senator Kassebaum (R-KS) has agreed to serve as an Honorary Co-Chair of Youth Service America's National Youth Service Day - April 25, 1995. She will join nearly two million young people and over 2,000 service programs across the country in celebrating the event. The National Youth Service Day Outreach Committee has tentatively selected the following sites as media cities: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, Milwaukee, Nashville, New Orleans, New York City, Raleigh, San Antonio, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington D.C. If you are interested in being involved in any of these events or know of a program or city that would be a good addition to this list, contact Vince Meldrum at 202-296-2992, ext. 20. Jenny Girard at YSCal (415-723-3803) and Eddie Aguero at the State Commission (916-323-7636) are great contacts in our state for ideas on how to organize a project and to get your project listed in press action. Let us know what you are doing!

Office of Volunteerism Abolished-New York Governor George Pataki has abolished the New York Governor's Office of Volunteer Service (GOVS). The GOVS operations have been transferred to the Division of Budget, including responsibility for the State's national service programs. The New York Commission on National and Community Service is expected to remain intact, but what staff and administrative support will remain is still unclear.

YSA Gives Grants to Encourage Volunteerism - A new fund to support innovative community-service ventures has been started by Youth Service America. YSA will give grants to 18 people or organizations that come up with new ways to encourage people to volunteer. Each award will be for \$144,000 and will be distributed over a 3-year period. For more info, contact Barbara Reynolds at 202-296-2992.

RESOURCES

RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Be an All-American City - All-American City Awards recognize civic excellence in communities of all sizes in which citizens, government, businesses and voluntary organizations work together to address critical local issues. The National Civic League and The Allstate Foundation invite you to apply. Contact The National Civic League, 1-800-223-6004 and ask for an application request form. The final deadline for completed applications is April 19. Finalists will be announced in May.

Golden Rule Awards - The Golden Rule Award is presented to groups and individuals who have performed outstanding volunteer service in their communities. The "Youth Award" is given to an individual 18 years of younger who has made an impact, shown initiative, and taken action that addresses a need in the community. Regional recipients are awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. The Golden Rule Awards are presented by the JCPenney Company and the volunteer center in your community. For more information and a nomination form (due March 1), contact your local Volunteer Center. Call YSCal if you need a list of all Volunteer Centers.

PUBLICATIONS

Realities of Families Affects Volunteerism - From the pages of Reaching Out, the newsletter of Family Matters, a program of the Points of Light Foundation...According to The *Changing Realities of Family Life and the Condition of Children in the United States*, "Research has suggested that widespread family disruption can lead to a weakening of both formal and voluntary organizations that are instrumental in linking people to the community at large and in fostering desired goals and values." (Sampson, 1987) Nick Zill, the author, says that "a healthy well-functioning community needs to have a large proportion of strong families." Copies of the report are available from *Child Trends* (202) 362-5580.

Service Matters - The national Campus Compact has just published its annual resource guide, and this year it has a whole new look. Entitled "Service Matters: A Sourcebook for Community Service in Higher Education," this publication includes information on trends and statistics, national service initiatives, community service contacts, funding information, national organizations, and more than 500 models and examples of programs. The books are \$20.00. For more information, call (401) 863-1119.

Alternative Spring Breaks - Break Away: the Alternative Break Connection has just released two new publications. "Hosting an Alternative Break" is a great for community-based organizations and national non-profits, and it provides how-to information on working with college and university teams of volunteers during school vacations. "Curriculum Based Alternative Breaks" is a guide to assist in incorporating service-learning into the alternative spring break experience. For more information contact, contact Break Away at 615-343-0385.

YSCAL NEWS

Spring “Currents” - The spring edition of *Currents* has just gone to press! It will be sent bulk mail and should arrive in about three weeks. Would you like to see your program featured in Currents!?? We would love to hear and share with others what’s happening in your area. Articles and pictures for the summer edition of *Currents* are due at YSCal by May 15. Any questions, please call Nicole at YSCal, 415-723-8749.

YSCal does Spring Cleaning!!! - You will soon receive a letter and postcard from YSCal checking basic information: Do we have your right address? Your right phone number? Your correct fax number? Please return this card, so we know that our materials are getting to you. Also, is there anyone you think should be receiving YSCal’s information? If so, give us a call at 415-723-3803.

Congressional Action on the National and Community Service Trust Act:

Word from Capitol Hill is that Congress may take three actions on the National and Community Service Trust Act - rescind the act, cut appropriations for FY96, and not reauthorize the act. Get involved...Call YSCal for a complete packet of information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 9 National Service Network Volunteer Center Meeting. Info: Christy Langan, 619-492-2164.
- 9 Fresno Regional Network Meeting; CSU, Fresno. Info: Jeanine Werner, 209-278-7079.
- 9-11 National Service Learning Conference; Philadelphia, PA. Info: 215-951-0344.
- 10 California Association of Peer Programs (CAPP) 4th Annual Middle School Peer Helping Conference; Glendora, CA. Info: CAPP, 818-564-0099.
- 16 Assessing Service Learning and Community-Based Learning; Burien WA; Info: Project Service Leadership, 206-576-5070.
- 17 Service Learning in Teacher Education: What Would Model Programs Look Like?; Stanford University, Info: SL2000, 415-322-7271.
- 21 Delano/Bakersfield Regional Network Meeting; Bakersfield, Info: Janis Van Dreal, 805-725-4000.
- 21 Far North Regional Network Meeting; Eureka High School, 1915 J Street, Eureka, CA. Time 1-3pm. Info: Alona Thomas, 707-443-0271.
- 23-26 Campus Outreach Opportunity League (Cool) National Student Service Conference; Arizona State University, AZ. Info: 202-564-0099.
- 24-25 California Association of Peer Programs (CAPP), 11th Annual Peer Helping Conference; Anaheim Hilton and Towers; Anaheim, CA. Info: CAPP, 818-564-0099.

April

- 1 Youth in Action Community Connections Conference; Delano, CA. Info: Veronica Falcinella, 805-725-4000 ext. 259.
- 2-15 California Conservation Corps Training Institute Leadership Training; San Luis Obispo, CA. Info: 805-549-3708.
- 5 San Francisco Regional Network Meeting; Fort Mason, SF. Info: Mark Friedman, 415-982-8999.
- 5 Los Angeles Regional Network Meeting; Constitutional Rights Foundation, LA. Info: Kathleen Kirby, 213-487-5590.
- 6 Central Coast Regional Network; Info: Sam Lutrin (805) 756-5839.
- 16 Central Coast Regional Network Meeting; Paso Robles School District Office. Info: Sam Lutrin, 805-756-5839.
- 22 Delano/Bakersfield Regional Network Meeting; Visalia. Info: Janis Van Dreal, 805-725-4000.
- 25 National Youth Service Day. Info: 415-723-3803.
- 27 Orange Regional Network Meeting; Volunteer Center of Greater Orange County, Santa Ana. Info: Cynthia Lanois, 714-953-5757.
- 27 So. Bay/Peninsula Regional Network Meeting; City of Sunnyvale Facilities. Info: Siobhan Kenney, 408-247-1126.
- 28 Delta Sierra Regional Network; Regional Community Tours, Modesto. Info: Rob Williams, 209-576-4689.