**NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM LEADER LETTER**

Dear MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

As you continue work on Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations and consider your appropriations requests for Fiscal Year 2018, I am writing to encourage you to do all you can to protect critical funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the independent federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, important community partnerships making an impact in our community every day.

ORGANIZATION NAME is supported by CNCS and provides vital services to local residents in CITY, STATE. ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PROGRAM, SERVICE MODEL, LOCAL IMPACT, ETC.

Beyond the local impact in our community, national service programs have strong bipartisan support among American voters. According to a poll by TargetPoint Consulting, 83 percent of voters across nine battleground states want Congress to maintain or increase federal spending on national service. This includes 78 percent of Republicans, 84 percent of Independents, and 90 percent of Democrats surveyed.

National service is also a smart, cost-effective investment for the nation. Research shows that, for every dollar invested in national service, there are returns of nearly $4 in community-wide benefits. The modest federal investment helps to generate matching support from private and local partners including CORPORATE SPONSOR, CORPORATE SPONSOR, and CORPORATE SPONSOR. Participation in national service programs also develops young leaders, providing valuable skills and experience to prepare citizens to enter the workforce.

You are in a position to ensure CNCS-supported programs can continue serving our community. I ask that you support sustained funding for proven CNCS programs by including CNCS in your Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations priorities.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, ORGANIZATION

**BUSINESS LEADER LETTER**

Dear MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

As you continue work on Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations and consider your appropriations requests for Fiscal Year 2018, I am writing to encourage you to do all you can to protect critical funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the independent federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, important community partnerships making an impact in our community every day.

PROGRAM NAME is an example of a local program supported by CNCS that provides vital services to residents in our community. ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PROGRAM, SERVICE MODEL, LOCAL IMPACT, ETC.

Built upon a robust public-private partnership, PROGRAM NAME is a cost-effective initiative that I am proud to invest in personally. Across the country, the federal investment in national service programs is highly-leveraged to cultivate matching support from community partners. And last year, private and local support for national service programs exceeded the federal appropriation.

National service programs also prepare young Americans to enter the workforce. During their term of service, national service members learn valuable job skills, gain experience, and earn post-service education scholarships that increase their employability and earning potential over the course of their careers. National service alumni are exactly the kind of talent my organization seeks to hire.

You are in a position to ensure CNCS-supported programs can continue serving our community. I ask that you support sustained funding for proven CNCS programs by including CNCS in your Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations priorities.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, ORGANIZATION

**SERVICE PARTNER/FIELD LEADER LETTER**

*This letter, which is drafted from the perspective of a school district superintendent, can serve as a model for letters from other field leaders that represent your service partners, including hospital officials, government agency representatives, university presidents, and other organization heads.*

Dear MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

As you continue work on Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations and consider your appropriations requests for Fiscal Year 2018, I am writing to encourage you to do all you can to protect critical funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the independent federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, important community partnerships making an impact in our local schools every day.

As superintendent of SCHOOL DISTRICT, I have seen the impact CNCS-supported programs have in the lives of our students. PROGRAM NAME, for example, receives support from CNCS to PROGRAM DESCRIPTION. ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PROGRAM, SERVICE MODEL, LOCAL IMPACT, ETC.

Nationally, more than half of CNCS funding is directed toward education. One in ten public schools, and one in four low-performing public schools, is served by AmeriCorps or Senior Corps. More than 11,000 public, parochial, and charter schools are supported by national service programs nationwide.

You are in a position to ensure CNCS-supported programs can continue serving our community. I ask that you support sustained funding for proven CNCS programs by including CNCS in your Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations priorities.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, ORGANIZATION

**MAYOR/LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL LETTER**

Dear MEMBER OF CONGRESS:

As you continue work on Fiscal Year 2017 appropriations and consider your appropriations requests for Fiscal Year 2018, I am writing to encourage you to do all you can to protect critical funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). CNCS is the independent federal agency that oversees AmeriCorps and Senior Corps, important community partnerships making an impact in our community every day.

As MAYOR/ELECTED OFFICIAL TITLE of CITY/COMMUNITY, I have seen the impact CNCS-supported programs have in the lives of local residents. In CITY, CNCS invests HOW MUCH to support HOW MANY AmeriCorps members and HOW MANY Senior Corps members serving in support of local initiatives annually. PROGRAM NAME, for example, receives support from CNCS to PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.

Additionally, national service programs help young leaders develop skills and find jobs. A study by CNCS shows that unemployed individuals who volunteer are 27 percent more likely to secure full-time employment. This relationship is even more significant for volunteers without high school diplomas and those who live in rural communities. Participation in national service programs prepares citizens to enter the workforce and develops them into exactly the kind of employees local companies seek to hire.

Built upon a robust public-private partnership, national service programs are a smart, cost-effective investment for the nation. Research shows that, for every dollar invested in national service, there are returns of nearly $4 in community-wide benefits. National service members strengthen communities from within by fueling community-driven solutions to pressing local challenges.

You are in a position to ensure CNCS-supported programs can continue serving our community. I ask that you support sustained funding for proven CNCS programs by including CNCS in your Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations priorities.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, ORGANIZATION