



VOICES *for* NATIONAL SERVICE

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VOICES FOR NATIONAL SERVICE STEERING COMMITTEE

America Forward
America's Service Commissions
Bay Area Community Resources
Blue Engine, Inc.
California Volunteers
Cities of Service
City Year
College Possible
Conservation Legacy
FoodCorps
Habitat for Humanity International
Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Massachusetts Service Alliance
Notre Dame Mission Volunteers
Points of Light
Public Allies
Reading Partners
SBP
Service Year Alliance
Student Conservation Association
Teach For America
The Child Abuse Prevention Center
The Corps Network
United Way Worldwide
YouthBuild USA
9/11 Day

VOICES FOR NATIONAL SERVICE MEMBERS

Alliance for Catholic Education America
Learns
American Red Cross
American YouthWorks
Campus Compact
Citizen Schools, Inc.
Colorado Youth Corps Association
Communities In Schools, Inc. Community
Training Works Connecticut Commission
on Community
Service
Education Northwest
Encore.org
Equal Justice Works
Great Basin Institute
Great Oaks Foundation
Hunger Free America
Michigan Community Service
Commission
Michigan Nonprofit Association Minnesota
Alliance With Youth Montana
Conservation Corps
My Good Deed, Inc./ 9/11 Day of Service
National Association of Foster
Grandparent Program Directors National
Association of RSVP Directors National
Center for Appropriate
Technology
National HealthCorps
National Senior Corps Association National
Youth Leadership Council Nevada
Volunteers
Northwest Youth Corps
OneStar Foundation
Playworks
Rebuilding Together, Inc.
Relay Graduate School of Education Repair
The World, Inc.
Texas Association of Senior Service Corps
Directors
Utah Commission on Volunteers
Utah Conservation Corps
Volunteer Florida
Volunteer Mississippi
Youth Volunteer Corps

May 13, 2020

The Honorable Speaker Pelosi
United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

Voices for National Service is a coalition of nonprofit service organizations, state service commissions, and individual champions who believe empowered citizens can solve the most persistent challenges confronting our communities.

Today, as the nation mourns the trauma of a pandemic that's claimed the lives of tens of thousands, those challenges are great and growing: spiraling unemployment and joblessness, food insecurity for families who were hovering on the fringes even before this crisis upended the economy, and a widening achievement gap for students in systemically under-resourced communities.

No one understands the unprecedented strains on our public health systems, schools, and essential public services better than the national service field, which was encouraged that your alternative to Senator Mitch McConnell's CARES 1.0 would have provided substantial increased funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service to stabilize the field and deploy additional emergency recovery resources across the country.

As this process has unfolded, the field and many legislators in both parties believed that level of support would grow. Instead, we were heartbroken and deeply disappointed this week to learn that the new HEROES stimulus package offered no new support for national service.

National service members are real heroes of this crisis, and they belong in your vision for response and recovery. For the more than 30 years they have been providing critically needed service to their communities and they deserve your continued confidence and support.

AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members are on the front lines of the pandemic's fallout by supporting testing and contact tracing efforts, assisting at drive-through COVID-19 testing centers, organizing blood drives, setting up temporary isolation sites, delivering emergency food and supplies to vulnerable populations, making support calls to elderly and medically fragile community members, working with homeless populations where exposure is acute and supporting students to mitigate the tremendous learning loss resulting from school closures.

Of equal importance is the opportunity to put Americans to work in service to the nation. With potentially 20% of Americans out of work – many of them young people – this program serves a double bottom line. These national service programs offer Americans of every background the opportunity to gain professional experience and skills, earn a living stipend and support to pay for college at a time when so many Americans are struggling economically.

Recently, Representatives David Price, Doris Matsui, Rosa DeLauro, Tom Cole, and others introduced the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act (H.R. 6702), which would deploy 750,000 civilian national service members to help our communities heal and recover. That proposal has the support of more than 50 mayors and 100 organizations around the country.

The HEROES Act should empower the everyday heroes of this pandemic. Beyond the financial capital required to address the crisis, we should also invest in human capital to meet the challenges of this time. We urge you to reconsider including this bipartisan language to stabilize and expand AmeriCorps and Senior Corps in a revised stimulus package.

Service makes citizens. In these challenging times, it also makes heroes.

In Service,

AnnMaura Connolly, President, Voices for National Service
Sheila Boxley, President & CEO, The Child Abuse Prevention Center
Deborah Smolover, Executive Director, America Forward
Kaira Esgate, CEO, America's Service Commissions
Marty Weinstein, CEO, Bay Area Community Resources
Josh Fryday, Chief Service Officer, California Volunteers
Gail B. Nayowith, Interim Executive Director, Cities of Service
Jim Balfanz, CEO, City Year
Jim McCorkell, CEO and Founder, College Possible
Amy Sovocool, Chief External Affairs Officer, Conservation Legacy
Curt Ellis, CEO and Co-Founder, FoodCorps
Jonathan Reckford, CEO, Habitat for Humanity International
Naila Bolus, CEO, Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc.
Maurice Jones, CEO, Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Emily Haber, CEO, Massachusetts Service Alliance
Adrienne Andrews, Executive Director, Notre Dame Mission Volunteers
Natalye Paquin, CEO, Points of Light
Jaime Ernesto Uzeta, CEO, Public Allies
Karine Apollon, CEO, Reading Partners
Zack Rosenburg, CEO and Co-Founder, SBP
Jesse Colvin, CEO, Service Year Alliance
Elisa Villanueva Beard, CEO, Teach For America
Mary Ellen Sprenkel, CEO, The Corps Network
Brian Gallagher, CEO and President, United Way Worldwide
John Valverde, CEO, YouthBuild USA
David Paine, CEO and President, 9/11 Day



May 12, 2020

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker Nancy Pelosi
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Minority Leader Chuck Schumer
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer and Leader McCarthy:

As mayors, we write to urge you to include The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act in the next COVID-19 relief package. The bill, introduced last week by Senators Coons and colleagues in the Senate and Representatives David Price (D-NC), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Tom Cole (R-OK) and others in the House, would provide a comprehensive, locally focused, national service strategy to help communities, including ours, respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As our own cities and the country as a whole, contemplate the future, we know that the challenges to recovery – for our grieving families, shuttered schools and churches, and halted economy – are manifold. And as you know, the road to normalcy will require more than economic stimulus, even historic levels of it. We should call on Americans across the country to step up and contribute through service.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to help America recover from the Great Depression. The 21st century version of the CCC, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members, are already actively helping respond to the pandemic. They are serving at drive-thru testing sites, providing child care for health care workers, helping deliver food and life-saving medicines to our most vulnerable, supporting students struggling with distance learning, checking in on isolated seniors, and more. But we need their help in far greater numbers if we are to successfully recover from one of the greatest challenges our country has ever faced.

The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act expands AmeriCorps to 750,000 AmeriCorps positions over three years, and establishes a partnership with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to manage a quick deployment of AmeriCorps members to crisis areas. As we face the triple threat of a health, economic, and educational crisis, we should lean into the robust and flexible national service infrastructure offered by AmeriCorps and Senior Corps to meet the acute needs mounting in our communities.

The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act would ensure AmeriCorps can provide surge capacity to support COVID contact tracing; job counseling, training and placement programs to get Americans back to work; hunger prevention programs to deliver meals to senior citizens or staff community and church food banks; and education programs to help our students make up for lost time in the classrooms. Investing in national service organizations will enhance communities' ability to address, respond, and recover from the far-reaching impacts of COVID-19. The bill is supported by more than one hundred organizations.

We urge you to include the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act in the next COVID-19 relief package so we can tap the talent and energy of national service members to help our cities and the country respond to and recover from this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Tim Keller, Mayor of Albuquerque, NM
Justin M. Wilson, Mayor of Alexandria, VA
Steve Adler, Mayor of Austin, TX
Bernard C. "Jack" Young, Mayor of Baltimore, MD
Sharon Weston Broome, Mayor of Baton Rouge, LA
Randall L. Woodfin, Mayor of Birmingham, AL
Chris Mehl, Mayor of Bozeman, MT
Byron W. Brown, Mayor of Buffalo, NY
Steve Benjamin, Mayor of Columbia, SC
Michael E. Duggan, Mayor of Detroit, MI
Emily Larson, Mayor of Duluth, MN
Van Broughton, Mayor of Elkins, WV
Cassie Franklin, Mayor of Everett, WA
Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River, MA
Jerome A. Prince, Mayor of Gary, IN
Roxann Wedegartner, Mayor of Greenfield, MA
Knox White, Mayor of Greenville, SC
Pat Moeller, Mayor of Hamilton, OH
Luke Bronin, Mayor of Hartford, CT
Patrick Taylor, Mayor of Highlands, NC
Steve Williams, Mayor of Huntington, WV
Richard Strick, Mayor of Huntington, IN

Eileen Weir, Mayor of Independence, MO
Lenny Curry, Mayor of Jacksonville, FL
Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles, CA
Robert Garcia, Mayor of Long Beach, CA
Joyce Craig, Mayor of Manchester, NH
Libby Schaaf, Mayor of Oakland, CA
Buddy Dyer, Mayor of Orlando, FL
Donald Grebien, Mayor of Pawtucket, RI
Ted Wheeler, Mayor of Portland, OR
Jorge Elorza, Mayor of Providence, RI
Levar M. Stoney, Mayor of Richmond, VA
Rusty Bailey, Mayor of Riverside, CA
P.T. Wood, Mayor of Salida, CO
Ron Nirenberg, Mayor of San Antonio, TX
Sam Liccardo, Mayor of San Jose, CA
Jenny Durkan, Mayor of Seattle, WA
Michael Tubbs, Mayor of Stockton, CA
Melvin Carter, Mayor of St. Paul, MN
James Mueller, Mayor of South Bend, IN
Michelle De La Isla, Mayor of Topeka, KS
Randy Toms, Mayor of Warner Robins, GA
Muriel Bowser, Mayor of Washington, DC



May 8, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

As mayors of some of California's largest cities, representing more than seven million people, we write to urge you to include The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act in the next COVID-19 relief package. The bill, introduced this week by Representatives David Price (D-NC), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), and Tom Cole (R-OK), among others, would provide a comprehensive, locally focused, national service strategy to help communities, including ours, respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As our own cities, State, and the country as a whole, contemplate the future, we know that the challenges to recovery for our grieving families, shuttered schools and churches, and halted economy are manifold. And as you know, the road to normalcy will require more than economic stimulus, even historic levels of it. We should call on Americans throughout California and across the country to step up and contribute through service.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the [Civilian Conservation Corps](#) (CCC) to help America recover from the Great Depression. The 21st century version of the CCC, [AmeriCorps](#), and [Senior Corps](#) members, are already actively helping respond to the pandemic. They are serving at drive-thru testing sites, providing childcare for health care workers, helping deliver food and life-saving medicines to our most vulnerable, supporting students struggling with distance learning, checking in on isolated seniors, and more. But we need their help in far greater numbers if we are to successfully recover from one of the greatest challenges our country has ever faced.

The Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act expands AmeriCorps to 750,000 AmeriCorps positions over three years, and establishes a partnership with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to manage a quick deployment of AmeriCorps members to crisis areas. As we face the triple threat of a health, economic, and educational crisis, we should lean

into the robust and flexible national service infrastructure offered by AmeriCorps and Senior Corps to meet the acute needs mounting in our communities.

The Price-Matsui bill would ensure AmeriCorps can provide surge capacity to support COVID-19 contact tracing; job counseling, training and placement programs to get Americans back to work; hunger prevention programs to deliver meals to senior citizens or staff community and church food banks; and education programs to help our students make up for lost time in the classrooms. Investing in national service organizations will enhance communities' ability to address, respond, and recover from the far-reaching impacts of COVID-19. The bill is supported by more than one hundred organizations. Companion legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate by Chris Coons (D-DE) and 13 others.

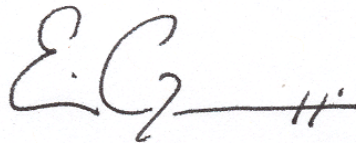
We urge you to include the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act in the COVID-4 package so we can tap the talent and energy of national service members to help our cities and the country respond to and recover from this pandemic.

Sincerely,

The California Big City Mayors Coalition



Sam Liccardo
Mayor
City of San José



Eric Garcetti
Mayor
City of Los Angeles



Darrell Steinberg
Mayor
City of Sacramento



Robert Garcia
Mayor
City of Long Beach




Libby Schaaf
Mayor
City of Oakland



Miguel Pulido
Mayor
City of Santa Ana



Rusty Bailey
Mayor
City of Riverside



Michael Tubbs
Mayor
City of Stockton



Support for the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act

American Conservation Experience	Great Basin Institute	Points of Light
AmeriCorps Mentors for Success	Great Oaks Charter Schools	Public Allies
America Forward	Habitat for Humanity International	Prevent Child Abuse California
America Learns	HandsOn Atlanta	Reading Assist
American YouthWorks	Hunger Free America	Reading & Math, Inc.
Appalachian Trail Conservancy	Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center	Reading Partners
America's Service Commissions	Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact	Rebuilding Together
Association for Utah Community Health	Jumpstart	Regional Youth Adult Social Action Partnership
Bay Area Community Resources	Kansas Volunteer Commission	Relay Graduate School of Education
Boston Cares	Homestead Affordable Housing	Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico
Boys & Girls Club of Utah County	Larimer County Conservation Corps	Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
Breakthrough Central Texas	Local Government Commission	SBP
California Family Resource Action	Literacy Coalition of Central Texas	Serve Austin
Catholic Volunteer Network	Literacy Minnesota	Serve Colorado
Changeist	Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)	Serve Connecticut
Child Abuse Prevention Center	Louisiana Conservation Corps	Serve Illinois
Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento	Maryland Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism	Serve Indiana
Cities of Service	Massachusetts Service Alliance	ServeMinnesota
Citizen Schools	Metropolitan Family Service	Serve New Mexico Commission
City Year	Mile High Youth Corps	Serve Ohio
Civic Assets	Minnesota Alliance With Youth	Serve Washington
CivicWorks, Inc.	Montana Education Partnership	ShreveCorps
CLIMB Community Development Coalition	National Association of Foster Grandparent Program Directors	Sierra Nevada Alliance
Colorado Youth Corps Association	National Center for Appropriate Technology	Student Conservation Association
College Forward	National Health Corps	Service Year Alliance
College Possible	National Senior Corps Association	Teach for America
Community Economic Development Association of Michigan	National Youth Leadership Council	TerraCorps
Communities in Schools	New Leaders	United Way of Dane County
Conservation Corps of the Forgotten and Emerald Coasts	New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity	United Way of King County
Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa	New York Cares	United Way of South Carolina
Conservation Legacy	Northwest Youth Corps	Up2Us Sports
The Corps Network	Notre Dame Mission Volunteers	UServeUtah
East End Neighborhood House	Oklahoma AmeriCorps	Voices for National Service
Education Northwest	Ohio Reading Corps	Volunteer Mississippi
Encore.Org	OneStar Foundation	Volunteer Tennessee
FoodCorps	Oregon Volunteer Commission	Volunteer West Virginia
Girl Scouts of the USA	Playworks	Washington Campus Compact
		Youth Action Programs and Homes, Inc.
		YouthBuild USA, Inc.
		YWCA Central Alabama