

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

19. American Jewish Committee
20. American Red Cross
21. AmeriCorps Alums
22. AmeriCorps Family Outreach Program
23. AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation
24. Arkansas Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters
25. Arkansas Service Commission
26. Association of Performing Arts Presenters
27. Atlas Service Corps, Inc.
28. Bay Area Community Resources
29. Be the Change, Inc.
30. BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life)
31. Belle Isle Botanical Society
32. Big Brothers Big Sisters
33. Black Churches and Black Colleges/Universities Network
34. Boston Cares
35. Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County
36. Boys & Girls Club of Garfield
37. Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Lee County
38. Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salem
39. Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salt Lake
40. Boys & Girls Club of Indian River County, FL
41. Boys & Girls Club of Langlade County, WI
42. Boys & Girls Club of Poplar Bluff Teen Center
43. Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence
44. Break Away
45. BUILD, Inc.
46. California AmeriCorps Alliance
47. California Volunteers
48. Camp Fire USA
49. Camp Fire USA, Central Coast Council
50. Camp Fire USA, Green Country Council
51. Camp Fire USA, Gulf Wind Council, Inc.
52. Camp Fire USA, Midlands Council (Omaha, NE)
53. Camp Fire USA, Upper Appalachian Council
54. Camp Fire USA, National Board
55. Camp Fire USA, Portland Metro Council
56. Campus Compact
57. Campus Kitchens Project
58. Capital Area Center for Independent Living
59. CASA of Barry and Eaton Counties
60. CASA of Branch County
61. Catholic Network of Volunteer Services
62. Center for Community Change
63. Cesar E. Chavez Foundation
64. Cherry Street Health Services
65. Child Abuse Prevention Center (North Highlands, CA)
66. Children for Children
67. Choices Education Group
68. Chronic Illness Coalition
69. Citizen Schools
70. City Year, Inc.
71. Civic Enterprises
72. Civicorps Schools
73. CLEARCorps USA
74. College Summit
75. Commongood Careers
76. Communities In Schools, Inc.
77. Community Action Council of South Texas
78. Community Action Partnership
79. Community Action Programs, Belknap/Merrimack Counties, Inc.
80. Community Preservation and Development Corporation
81. Community Residence Corporation and Community Living Network
82. Connecticut Commission on Community Service
83. Cradles to Crayons
84. Cross-Cultural Solutions
85. Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
86. D.C. Central Kitchen
87. Dance/USA
88. Democrats Work
89. Diamond Acres Urban Network Fund
90. DiverseAbility
91. Do Something
92. Earth Force
93. East Boston Neighborhood Health Center
94. East LA Community Corporation
95. Edison Neighborhood Association
96. EducationWorks
97. El Cajon Community Development Corporation
98. Ensign Entertainment Group
99. Equal Justice Works
100. Erie Regional Housing Development Corp
101. Es Amor Servicios Cristianos
102. Experience Corps
103. First Focus
104. Fitness Forward
105. Forum For Democracy
106. Foster Grandparent Program (Saint Clair County, MI)
107. Genesys Works
108. Georgia Center for Nonprofits
109. Girl Scouts of the USA
110. Global Aware
111. Global Citizen
112. Global Citizen Year
113. Golden Key Group LLC
114. Good Shepherd Services
115. Greater Miami Service Corps
116. GreenLight Fund

117. Groundwork, Inc.
118. Habitat for Humanity International
119. Hampton Community Coalition, Hampton, NH
120. Hands On Asheville-Buncombe
121. Hands On Battle Creek
122. HandsOn Central California
123. Hands On Greater Richmond
124. HandsOn Greater Phoenix
125. Hands On Hartford
126. Hands On Northeast Ohio
127. Hands On Ogeechee/ Southeast Georgia
128. Hands On Southwest Louisiana
129. HealthCorps
130. Heart of America Quilt
131. Heart of Christ Ministry
132. Heart of West Michigan United Way
133. HELP USA
134. Higher Achievement
135. Hillsdale County Senior Service Center
136. Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program
137. Holistic Development Community Center
138. Hope and Healing Foundation
139. HOPE Worldwide
140. Horizons for Homeless Children
141. Humboldt County AmeriCorps Alumni Chapter
142. "I Have a Dream" Foundation
143. IdeaEncore Network
144. Independent Sector
145. Innovations in Civic Participation
146. InSTEDD
147. Institute for Family Health
148. International Association for Public Participation
149. Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
150. Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service
151. Japanese American Citizens League
152. Jericho Road Project
153. Juma Ventures
154. Jumpstart
155. Junior Achievement USA
156. Junior Achievement of Central Michigan, Inc.
157. Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes, Inc.
158. Junior Achievement of Michiana
159. Junior Achievement of Northeast Michigan
160. KaBOOM!
161. Kalamazoo College
162. Kalamazoo County Poverty Reduction Initiative
163. Kansas Center for the Medically Underserved
164. KIDS Consortium
165. Kids County in Alachua County, Inc
166. KIPP Schools
167. Kinetic Kids
168. League of American Orchestras
169. Lewis-Clark Service Corps
170. Lions Club International
171. Local Initiatives Support Corporation
172. Long Island Volunteer Center
173. Looking for My Sister
174. Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations
175. Louisiana Delta Service Corps
176. Louisiana Serve Commission
177. Love INC. of Manistee
178. Lutheran Social Services of Southern California
179. Manchester Community Resource Center
180. Manchester, NH Weed and Seed
181. Manna Project International
182. Mariners Inn
183. Maryland Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism
184. Mass Mentoring Partnership
185. Massachusetts Promise Fellowship
186. Massachusetts Service Alliance
187. MATCH Schools
188. McCormick Foundation
189. MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership
190. Mentoring USA
191. Meshkin Ventures
192. Michigan Ballet Theatre
193. Michigan Community Action Agency Association
194. Michigan Community Service Commission
195. Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency
196. Michigan County Social Services Association
197. Michigan Nonprofit Association
198. Michigan Primary Care Association
199. Michigan's Children
200. Mid Michigan Big Brothers Big Sisters
201. Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service
202. Mobilize.org
203. Monroe Center for Healthy Aging
204. Music National Service Initiative
205. MY TURN, Inc.
206. National Alliance of Faith and Justice
207. National Association of Community Health Centers
208. National Council of La Raza
209. National Council of Nonprofits
210. National Council on Aging
211. National Peace Corps Association
212. National Student Partnerships
213. National Urban Fellows
214. National Wildlife Federation
215. National Youth Leadership Council
216. Neighbors Helping Neighbors
217. Neighborworks Blackstone River Valley

218. Network for Good
219. Nevada Volunteers
220. New Beginnings New Hampshire
221. New Jersey After 3
222. New Mexico College Success Network
223. New Mexico Commission for Community Volunteerism
224. New Mexico Forum for Youth and Community
225. New Mexico Out of School Time Network
226. New Mexico V*Cadre Network
227. New Mexico Youth Alliance – Network
228. New Profit Inc.
229. New Sector Alliance
230. New York City Coalition Against Hunger
231. New York Restoration Project
232. NorthSky Nonprofit Network, Michigan
233. Northwest High School Student Government, GIVE HOPE Disaster Relief Trips, Jackson, Michigan
234. Notre Dame Mission Volunteers/AmeriCorps, Hartford, CT
235. OCA - Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans
236. Ohio Community Service Council
237. Oklahoma Community Service Commission
238. One Brick
239. Opera America
240. Opportunity Knocks
241. Outward Bound USA
242. Parents Alliance
243. Partners Worldwide
244. Partnership for Public Service
245. Peace Games
246. Peace Jam
247. Performing Arts Alliance
248. Philanthropy Solutions, LLC
249. Points of Light Institute
250. Project HEALTH
251. Project Pericles
252. Public Allies
253. Public Agenda
254. Public Architecture
255. Rebuilding Together
256. Redwood Community Action Agency
257. RMC Research Corporation
258. Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
259. Root Cause/Public Innovators
260. Rubicon Programs Inc.
261. RYASAP Catalyst for Community Change
262. SAGE Global
263. Salud Family Health Centers, CO
264. Sanilac Consortium for the Arts
265. Sanilac County Museum and Village
266. SeaChange Capital Partners
267. Self-Advocacy Association of New York
268. ServeNebraska
269. ServeNext.org
270. ServeWyoming
271. Serve Wisconsin
272. Service For Peace
273. Service-Learning United
274. ServiceNation
275. Sierra NonProfit Services
276. Smiles Change Lives
277. Spence School
278. Social Enterprise Alliance
279. Social Venture Partners
280. Southern New Hampshire University Civic Engagement and Global Citizen Circle
281. Southwest Conservation Corps
282. Special Olympics
283. Sports4Kids
284. St. Frances Cabrini Clinic of Most Holy Trinity Church
285. Streetwise Partners, Inc.
286. Student Conservation Association
287. Student Volunteer Foundation
288. Summer Search
289. Survivor Corps
290. Taproot Foundation
291. Teach For America
292. Texas Campus Compact
293. The Academy for Career Development
294. The American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
295. The Century Council
296. The CORPS Network
297. The LEAGUE
298. The Mind Trust
299. The Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center
300. The Santee Sioux Nation AmeriCorps Program
301. The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars
302. The Wellness Coalition
303. True Patriot Network
304. U.S. Public Service Academy
305. UALR Children International
306. United Jewish Communities
307. United Neighborhood Health Services, Inc.
308. United Way of America
309. United Way of Olmsted County
310. United Ways of California
311. Up2Us
312. Upstarts
313. Urban Fitness Klub

314. Vermont Campus Compact
315. Voices for National Service
316. Volunteer Broward
317. Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County
318. Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo
319. Volunteer Centers of Michigan
320. Volunteer Center of Sonoma County
321. Volunteer Center of the Coastal Bend
322. Volunteer Florida
323. Volunteer Macon
324. Volunteer Management Centers, Inc.
325. Volunteer Muskegon
326. Volunteer New Hampshire
327. VolunteerMatch
328. Volunteers in Prevention, Probation, and Prisons, Inc.
329. VSA Arts of New Mexico
330. Washington Commission for National and
Community Service
331. Western Hardrock Watershed Team
332. Western New York AmeriCorps
333. Whatcom Volunteer Center
334. Wood County Corps
335. World Teach
336. Wrap4ASmile Foundation, Inc.
337. Year Up
338. YMCA of the USA
339. Youth in Action AmeriCorps- Flagstaff, AZ
340. Youth Service America
341. Youth Villages
342. Youth Volunteer Corps of America
343. YouthBuild USA
344. YWCA Annapolis and Anne Arundel County