Congressional Update from the National and Community Service Coalition and Youth Service America - In a flurry of late night deal making, Senate Majority leader Bob Dole (R-KS) and minority leader Thomas Daschle (D-SD) reached agreement on the $15 billion rescission package — nearly $3 billion less than the House rescission bill. As you know, part of the rescission bill is the first federal effort that threatens cuts to the Corporation for National Service Programs (namely, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America K-12 and higher education). The compromise translates into $415 million in FY95 funding for the National and Community Service Trust Act — $105 million less than authorized in the Trust Act, but a $105 million increase over FY94. The Dole/Daschle compromise must still be approved by the full Senate and go to a House/Senate conference to reconcile differences between the House and Senate versions of the package.

The grassroots support for continued federal support for national service has been impressive! YSCal thanks all who wrote letters and called. Thanks for sending us copies too! The war is not won. Take advantage of the Congressional Recess:

Congress is on Recess!

- Arrange site visits by your Congressional members and senior staff to show what national service means to your community, your organization and your participants.
- Arrange face-to-face meetings with members of Congress and/or top Congressional staff
- Promote National Youth Service Day in your community on April 25th (see below).
- Attend town meetings that your members of Congress hold and ask what members think about federal investment in national and community service.

National Youth Service Day - Last Call to tell YSCal what is going on in your community. Call or FAX Jenny Girard immediately with activities going on in your community on or around Tuesday, April 25. We will send them on to Washington. As you know by now, National Youth Service Day is a national celebration of the power of young people to meet community needs. Your activities do not have to be anything new or special. Just a recognition of the power of young people in your programs and community.

Some activities already listed:
April 22, Saturday— Citywide service day coordinated by Linking San Francisco and the Volunteer Center of San Francisco. With AmeriCorps members, elementary/middle/high school students will be brought together to work on environmental projects.

April 25, Tuesday— Coordinated by United Way of San Diego Volunteer Center, “Peacing Together San Diego” will focus on the different forms of violence that
affect us, our communities and our environment. Projects will happen all over San Diego with a rally at Balboa Park in the afternoon for all participants.

April 25, Tuesday— As an alternative to regular classroom studies, Jane L. Stanford Middle School in Palo Alto will initiate service-learning classes so as to discuss current social issues such as Hunger and Homelessness, Child Care, Arts and Service.

**FAX your items by Monday, April 17 to Jenny at (415) 725-7339.**

**Students Challenge Volunteerism Rule** - Two North Carolina students are contesting the legality of their public high school’s mandatory community-service program. They argue that the program, which requires high school students to perform 50 hours of community service over four years to graduate, is unconstitutional because it forces students to perform involuntary service. The students also say that Chapel Hill-Carrboro School District’s graduation requirement also violates the 14th amendment which they say permits public schools to teach students values but not to force students to act on those values. Kim Hoke, a spokeswoman for Chapel Hill-Carrboro School District says that the school district believes that “service-learning is important because it helps students come up with hands-on solutions to real life problems.”

**National Civilian Community Corps Recruits** - The National Civilian Community Corps, part of AmeriCorps, is recruiting for the 1995 class. AmeriCorps NCCC gives young Americans between the ages of 18-24 the opportunity to serve their country, focusing on projects that protect and conserve natural resources, promote public safety, and help meet the educational and human needs of children, seniors and others in the community. AmeriCorps NCCC combines the best aspects of community service and military life. Members live on military bases that have been closed or scaled down. The application deadline is April 24. For more information, contact AmeriCorps NCCC at 1-800-924-2677.

**YSCal NEWS**

**YSCal Responds to National Policy Events** - Over the next few months, YSCal will continue to play a major role in informing affiliates about current policy events and educating policy makers about the value of youth service programs. As you know, YSCal is a public/private collaboration that is distinct from state agencies. This gives us freedom to participate constructively and to educate policy makers. **YOU ARE OUR PARTNER IN THIS ENDEAVOR.**

**New Flash FAX Tree** - YSCal is using a new process to get information to you quickly! We call it the Flash FAX, where we fax important information to you as soon as we get it. We have Flash FAXED two items to you already. **IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED FAX ALERTS THIS MEANS WE DO NOT HAVE A FAX NUMBER FOR YOU.** Call Nicole immediately to give it to her. Updates will be put in abbreviated form on our voice mail. We also depend on you to alert us to happenings in your programs, letters you sends, and your interactions with policy makers.
On March 29, the YSCal Policy Subcommittee affirmed the following policy role for YSCal:

- Remain the core educator on policy events for the California youth service field including forwarding information from national policy players and agencies such as the Coalition on National and Community Service, Youth Service America, the Corporation for National Service, and the California Commission on Improving Life Through Service.
- Write rebuttals to national and local columnists who discuss national service.
- Contact California funders of national service programs to educate and inform them on the status of national funding.
- Publicize National Youth Service Day and other activities and successes.

In the coming months we will also research current state and federal programs that include service in their legislative intent and begin to gather information on opportunities for other areas where policy makers might include service as a strategy. Give us your thoughts!

Spring “Currents” - Have you received the spring edition of Currents? Send us back your card that was inserted in the newsletter so we can update our database. Many Currents’ articles were written by the field. Would you like to see your program featured in Currents!? Or is there someone you would like to nominate to be a local hero? 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. Please note: sometimes space constraints force us to edit or remove articles. Any questions, please call Nicole at YSCal, 415-723-3803.

Service and Volunteerism Conference - YSCal is recovering from the “1995 Service & Volunteerism Conference: Coming Together for A Stronger California.” Over 1600 people attended. YSCal is still selling conference T-Shirts. The cost is $7 each and 2 for $12. Also, YSCal is compiling the workshop handouts for $25. To order, contact Nicole at YSCal. We are meeting next week with state agencies and other state-wide organizations to begin thinking about next year’s conference...stay tuned.

Youth CAN Recruitment!!!!! - Since 1993, YSCal, CA Department of Education-CalServe, and CA Campus Compact, and others. Youth California Action Network (Youth CAN) has worked with a core group of young California service leaders. By acting as a network for youth voice, Youth CAN trains young service leaders, administers annual Youth-to-Youth grants and mobilizes regional outreach as local service spokespeople. This spring and summer, Youth CAN is recruiting new members!! Young people between ages 12-25 who are active in youth service are eligible. We encourage individuals with a strong desire to serve on a state-wide level, to develop skills, and to motivate their peers to apply. THE TIMELINE IS AS FOLLOWS:
- Week of April 24, 1995—applications available @ YSCal
- May 5, 1995—last day to request an application
- June 5, 1995—deadline for completed applications and recommendation forms.
Notified in June/July.

For information and applications, please contact Jenny Girard at YSCal (415) 723-3803.

Regional Networks
Thanks to funding from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and CDE-CalServe, YSCal
recently distributed $22,000 to twelve regional networks to assist with administrative costs. If you are not hooked into a regional network and would like to be, call us! They are the best way to build local leadership, stay informed, and promote programs in your region.

**YSCal Technical Assistance Efforts**

Thanks to funding from The James Irvine Foundation, YSCal has started a project to create a more customer driven technical assistance effort for CA youth service programs. The first priority is to support AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve grantees. Components include:

- coordinating technical assistance organizers.
- continuing to update our technical assistance booklet to be useful to the field and work with TA providers to insure high quality assistance.
- providing mini-grants and other support directly to programs for unmet technical assistance needs that they identify.
- writing a publication on first year implementation.

If you would like more information about this project, please call YSCal’s lead consultant, Arlene Stepputat, (805) 565-0834. She has a wealth of information!

**COMMISSION NEWS**

**Commission Openings** - The California Commission on Improving Life Through Service is accepting applications for Commissioners. *Youth are encouraged to apply*. Call the Commission for applications (916-323-7646).

**Service Video in Development** - The Commission is developing a 30-minute video on service in California. The current plan is to focus on the results of AmeriCorps programs in the four issue areas: education, public safety, the environment, and human need. Linda Forsyth, executive director, and Suzanne Fisher, public information officer, are open to suggestions about content. Call (916-323-7646) or FAX (916-323-3227) your ideas for how this can be a useful video for California.

**Next Commission Meeting:** April 27th in Sacramento. Contact: Circe Olander at the Commission for more time, location, and additional information (916-323-7646).

**CALIFORNIA CAMPUS COMPACT**

**Consortia on Community Service Meetings** - California Campus Compact sponsors two California Consortia on Community Service for CACC member institutions. The Consortia on Community Service are support networks for campus-based community service administrators, faculty members and students. It is a forum for topics regarding higher education community service and an opportunity for the development of collaborative efforts and partnerships. During the May Consortia meetings, the Higher Education Research Institute will conduct a Student Leadership Development workshop based on their model of Leadership change. The Southern California Consortium will be held May 3rd at Pitzer College and the Northern California Consortium will be held May 9th at DeAnza College. For more information, contact California Campus Compact at 310-794-8638.
RESOURCES

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FIPSE Funds to Become Mentor Institutions - The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) in the US Department of Education invites applications from innovative postsecondary education programs that became “fully institutionalized” between 1988 and 1994 and for which there is clear evidence of improving student learning - for funds to disseminate their work by becoming mentors to institutions committed to adapting their models. Funding will be available to support 11-16 mentor institutions, each working with 3-6 adapting mentor institutions over a two year period to disseminate their reforms by coaching the adapters as they set up their new programs. The deadline to apply is May 25, 1995. For more information, contact FIPSE at 202-708-5750.

HUD YouthBuild Funds - The Department of Housing and Urban Development announces the availability of approximately $74 million for FY95 program funds under its YouthBuild program. The purposes of the program are to 1) provide economically disadvantaged young adults with opportunities to obtain education, employment skills and meaningful on-site work experience as a service to their communities and a means to achieve self-sufficiency, 2) foster the development of leadership skills and commitment to community and 3) expand low and very low income persons by providing planning grants for program design and implementation grants for carrying out a YouthBuild programs. For information, call 202-708-2035.

EPA Funds for Communities and Universities - The Environmental Protection Agency announces its Environmental Justice Community/University Partnership Program. The program emphasizes meaningful, fully interactive two-way cooperation between communities and Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Tribal colleges, and institutions of higher education serving Asian-American and other minority or low-income communities, to address environmental justice issues and to identify pollution sources, train residents on their rights and responsibilities, and help to resolve environmental problems. A minimum of 4 awards of $300,000 each will be granted in FY95. The application deadline is May 17, 1995. For more information, fax the EPA at 202-260-0852.

RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

Peter F. Drucker Award - The Drucker Foundation has announced the 1995 Peter F. Drucker Award for Nonprofit Innovation and will present $25,000 to a non-profit organization on October 31, 1995. The award encourages the development of innovative programs, projects and initiatives. Applications are due June 1, 1995. Write the Drucker Foundation, 666 Fifth Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY, 10103 or call YScal for more information.

PUBLICATIONS

Beyond the Myths about Disabilities - Published by the Nonprofit Risk Management Center, this free pamphlet strives to increase the involvement of people with disabilities in community service programs by dispelling misunderstandings about dangers their participation may create and offering strategies for managing risks for people with all abilities. To receive the pamphlet, contact the Nonprofit Risk Management Center, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20036 or 202-785-3891.

The Kids Guide To Service Projects - Written by Barbara Lewis, this resource highlights over 500 service ideas for young people who want to make a difference to get involved. Available from: Free
Today’s Heroes: Pedro, Tony & Hope, by Hitachi Foundation. This 13 minute video features taped conversations with three teenagers who chose to make a difference. Demonstrates the value of community service through the eyes of those who experience it. Available from Today’s Heroes, P.O. Box 19247, Washington, D.C. 20036. Mail a postcard or letter to get a copy.

Route to Reform: Service Learning and School Improvement - From National Youth Leadership Council, a 20-minute video describing K-8 service learning activities. NYLC also has an accompanying booklet of curriculum ideas. For more information, contact National Youth Leadership Council at 612-631-3672.

Picture Yourself in Local Government - This 17 minute video is intended to inspire an interest in the vital role of local government. By featuring young people engaged in real-life projects, the video shows what students can accomplish in their communities when they work with local government. For more information, contact the Institute for Local Self-Government, 1400 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814 or (916) 443-4136.

CONFERENCES

Superconference ’95 - Join Youth Service America and 2,000 of the top policy makers, program entrepreneurs, educators and young people from all streams of the service movement to “build national service into a permanent institution of American life.” The Superconference will be held in Washington D.C., October 18-21. For more information, call 202-296-2992.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April
12, 14 Introductory Training Workshops: Foundations of Community Service Learning. Amherst, MA. Sponsor: Community Service Learning Center, Inc. Info: Sally Fuller, 413-734-6857.
13 California Commission on Improving Life Through Service Executive & Programs and Policy Subcommittee Meeting. Contact: 916-323-7646
16 Central Coast Regional Network Meeting; Paso Robles School District Office. Info: Sam Lutrin, 805-756-5839.
21 California Campus Compact College Leadership Academy; Leadership Training for college students. Contact: 310-794-8638
22 Delano/Bakersfield Regional Network Meeting; Visalia. Info: Janis Van Dreal, 805-725-4000 ext. 259
22 March for Change: Walk the Talk of National Service. Topics: Draw attention to the value of national service; create a collective voice in support of the National Service movement; provide leadership and support for the Corporation for National Service; Raise funds to support youth service internships and fellowships. Sponsor: Contact: March For Change, COOL, Bonner Foundation 609-924-7717
26 So. Bay/Peninsula Regional Network Meeting; City of Sunnyvale. Info: Siobhan Kenney, 408-247-1126.
27 Orange County Regional Network Meeting; Volunteer Center of Greater Orange County, Santa Ana. Info: Cynthia Lanois, 714-953-5757.
27 California Commission on Improving Life Through Service Full Commission Meeting. Contact: 916-323-7646
27 Learning Through Environmental Service: Designing Model Environmental Service Learning Projects. Topics: Environmental educators and experienced service learning teachers will work together to develop models
of outstanding service learning curricula. Contact: Service Learning 2000, Don Hill 415-322-7271

27 Orange County Youth Services Regional Network Meeting. Topics: Youth Service and Education issues in the Orange County Area. Focus on financial issues post-bankruptcy proceedings. Contact: Cynthia Lanois, 714-953-5757

28 Delta Sierra Regional Network; Regional Community Tours, Modesto. Info: Rob Williams, 209-576-4689.

28 Building a System of Service in Colorado. Topics: Service Learning Colorado and the Colorado Department of Education offer this conference as an opportunity for educators, youth, community agents, and others to exchange information, share resources, and acquire skills for the development of service learning programs. There will be designated sessions based on geographic regions, to network and collaborate forming eight Colorado Regional Action Teams. These teams will be comprised of representatives of K-12, higher education, AmeriCorps programs, National Civilian Conservation Corps, and community based agencies. Contact: Colorado Department of Education, Carol Reagan 303-866-6897

30 California Conservation Corps Training Institute Leadership Training. Contact: California Conservation Corps, 805-549-3708

May

3 Southern California Consortium on Community Service Meeting. Contact: California Campus Compact, 310-794-8638

4 - 6 1995 Southern Institute on Service-Learning: Linking Learning with Life. Greenville, SC. Sponsor: National Dropout Prevention Center. (contact: Southern Institute on Service-Learning, c/o National Dropout Prevention Center, Clemson University, 205 Martin Street, Clemson, SC 29634-5111, 803-656-2599)

8 San Diego Regional Network Meeting. Contact: Christy Langan 619-492-2164

9 Inland/Empire K-16 Service Learning Network Meeting. Contact: Riverside County Office of Education, Barbara Clarence 909-788-6529.

9 Northern California Consortium on Community Service Meeting. Contact: California Campus Compact, 10, 12 Advanced Training Workshops: CSL as a Strategy for Teaching and Learning. Amherst, MA. Sponsor: Community Service Learning Center, Inc. (contact: Sally Fuller, 413-734-6857)

13 Youth Connection Conference: Crossing Boundaries and Strengthening Community Topics: Local, state, national trends and issues facing youth volunteering in schools and the community. Contact: Volunteer Center of Greater Orange County, Melanie Donohoe, 714-953-5757.

17 Learn and Serve America Higher Ed. Grantees Technical Assistance Meeting Topics: Issues related to grant process, accountability, and reporting. Contact: Corporation for National and Community Service, 202-606-4880

20 National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Conference. Topics: Juvenile justice. Contact: National Association of Court Appointed Special Advocates, 1-800-628-3233

23 Far North Regional Network Meeting. Contact: Alona Thomas 707-441-0271

31 Senses of Discovery. Topics: 4th Annual Conference of the Campus Compact Center for Community Colleges. Contact: Campus Compact Center for Community Colleges, 602-461-7392

31 Sonoma County Regional Network Meeting. Contact: Nancy Vogl 707-573-3355

June

1 Building On Family Strengths Second Annual Conference: Topics: This second Annual Conference is a forum for the examination and dissemination of state-of-the-art research findings and program models in the areas of family support and family-centered values. The conference is intended to bring together family members, researchers, policy-makers, service providers, and advocates interested in strengthening research and practice in response to the needs of children and families. The conference will provide an opportunity for participants to disseminate findings and innovations in family research. Contact: Research and Programs in Support of Children and Their Families, 503-725-4040


8 Fresno Regional Network Meeting. Contact: Jeanine Werner 209-278-7079


11-25 Summer Civic Education Institute for K-8 Teachers. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Sponsor: James F. Ackerman Center for Democratic Citizenship. (contact: Dr. Denee Corbin, 317-494-4755)

12 San Diego Regional Network Meeting. Contact: Christy Langan 619-492-2164

12 Volunteer- Because Change is Possible. Contact: Points of Light Foundation, 202-223-9138

19-21 Summer Teacher Institute. University of Idaho, Moscow, ID. Sponsor: Project Service Leadership. (contact: 208-576-5070)

22-24 Summer Teacher Institute. University of Idaho, Coeur D'Alene, ID. Sponsor: Project Service Leadership. (contact: Kate McPherson, 206-576-5070)


24 Global Youth Environment Summit. Topics: Youth engaged in service towards the environment will share ideas and strategies for greater community involvement and impact upon broad conservation initiatives. Sponsors: UN University For Peace, Thompson Valley High School, Youth Engaged in Service Committee, Students Against a Vanishing Earth of Niles West High School, Illinois. Contact: Chris Fontana 708-966-3800

26-1 The Community Service Learning Summer Institute on Nantucket Island. Nantucket Island, MA. Sponsor: Community Service Learning Center, Inc. & others. (contact: Carol Kinsley, 413-734-6857)

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**Summer Institutes**

June 20-23 Connecting Service and Learning to Improve Schools and Communities. This eight-day summer institute will bring together fifty educators to build curriculum that effectively connects community service to classroom learning. Participants will meet with state and national leaders to learn about service learning pedagogy and service learning models being used around the country, develop service learning curriculum for personal use and practice activities that stimulate active student learning. Location: Stanford University. Cost: $800/team (2 people) for Non-members and $600/team (2 people) for Center Members. Each additional team member is $250. For more information contact the Service Learning 2000 Center, 415-322-7271.

June 25-30 The Community Service Learning Summer Institute on Nantucket Island. This institute provides experiences and resources for educators, community agency personnel and youth to work together and demonstrate how to integrate community service learning into the educational process. This week-long program will be interactive and participants will be trained through hands on experience. Participants will focus on: methods and activities for creating community service learning units based on service themes such as aging, homeless and hungry, environment, health and citizenship. Location: Nantucket Island, Massachusetts. Cost: $525. For more information, call 413-734-6857.

June 26 Time Out To Resolve It: Beginning Training Workshop in Conflict Resolution. The Citizenship and Law-Related Education Center will present a beginning training workshop in alternative conflict resolution and peer mediation programs for 4-12th grade level school administrators, teachers, counselors, support staff, parents and volunteers. The workshop teaches the participants valuable decision-making, problem-solving and communication skills which their students can use as a peer mediators to serve their school community. Location: Sacramento County Office of Education. Cost $300 per participant. For more information contact, Rhonda Schafer at 916-228-2322.

Jul 26 Service Learning Symposium: A Conversation among experienced service learning educators. Sponsored by the Service Learning 2000 Center, a small groups of experienced service-learning practitioners will gather for three days of rejuvenation, collegiality and facilitated dialogue. Conversation will focus on institutionalization of service learning programs, links between service learning and school reform efforts, building support for service learning and assessment and program development. Space is limited. Location: Stanford University. Cost: $150. For more information contact the Service Learning 2000 Center, 415-322-7271.

June 28-30 Time Out To Resolve It: Advanced Trainer of Trainers Institute in Conflict Resolution. The Citizenship and Law-Related Education Center will present an advanced trainer of trainers institute for 4-12th grade level school administrators, teachers, counselors, support staff, parents and volunteers with previous experience in alternative conflict resolution & peer mediation programs. Location: Sacramento County Office of Education. Cost $450 per participant. For more information contact, Rhonda Schafer at 916-228-2322.
July 7-8 Meeting Community and Academic Needs in our Classrooms: Service Learning in Our Schools. Come learn about this exciting hand-on teaching strategy that engages students in real-life experiential learning within academic disciplines. Participants will learn from real practitioners how to initiate student projects, write integrated curriculum using District and State Frameworks, engage in a service project and forma link to mentor teachers, community agencies, Linking San Francisco and AmeriCorps. For more information, contact Jill Glickman at 415-759-2882. Course through San Francisco State.

July 24 - July 29 An Adventure in Service and Education Reform. The seventh annual National Youth Leadership Council Institute brings together diverse educators from schools and community-based agencies across the country. For teachers, principals, superintendents, community educators and agency staff to discuss philosophy of service-learning, cross-cultural aspects of service, project and curriculum development and implementation strategies. Location: Wilder Forest Conference Center, Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota. Cost: $695. For more information, contact Kim Koscianski, 612-631-3672.

July 31 - August 4 Participating in Local Government: Summer Teacher Trainer of Trainers Institute. The Citizenship and Law-Related Education Center and the Institute for Local Self-Government will present a week long institute that provides 4-12th grade teachers with the knowledge and skills to create a “learning laboratory” to teach students to participate as citizens in a democracy. The institute will cover local government funding, institutions, processes and relationships with other levels of government. Location: Sacramento County Office of Education. Cost: Free. For more information contact, Gary Gonsalves at 916-228-2322.

August 25 - 28 Linking San Francisco Summer Institute for new Linking San Francisco teachers and Linking San Francisco AmeriCorps members and teachers. The institute will include an introduction to service learning for those who are new and advanced training and planning time for school teams. Location TBA. For more information, contact Jill Glickman at 415 759-2882.