

March 23, 2005

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE. NO. 04-26
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTRACH, ADMISSIONS AND CTS CONTACTORS

FROM: GRACE A. KILBANE
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: National Association of Service and Conservation Corps Member Programs

1. Purpose. To share information regarding the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps (NASCC) member programs and the partnership opportunities available to Job Corps centers.

2. Background. The NASCC member programs operate at the state and local level, engaging youth and young adults, ages 16-25, in full-time community service, training and education activities. Currently, 106 programs operate in 37 states and the District of Columbia. In 2003, more than 23,000 young people provided 14.5 million hours of service during year-round and summer projects. These programs provide young men and women with the chance to change their communities and their own lives through service, while developing important citizenship skills.

Although many of the projects focus on conservation, a wide range of human services/health care, homeland security/disaster relief, and building renovation/construction activities are also available. Participants receive guidance from adult mentors, technical trainers and supervisors. In return for their efforts to restore and strengthen their communities, participants also receive classroom training to improve basic and technical skills and, if necessary, to secure General Educational Development (GED) certificates or high school diplomas. The experiences also provide environmental service-learning based education. In addition, participants also receive living allowances and a wide range of supportive services.

Recently, at the request of NASCC President Sally Prouty, the National Office of Job Corps staff participated in the NASCC Annual Conference to share information about the Job Corps program. The NASCC program operators, many of whom knew very little about Job Corps were sincerely interested in collaborating with Job Corps center officials to explore the possibility of joint ventures in serving eligible youth.

3. Opportunities for Job Corps Students. Based upon our common emphasis on vocational and educational training, a strong community service component, nationwide locations, and unique services provided to a similar youth demographic, local NASCC programs and Job Corps centers have the potential for creating meaningful partnerships in a number of locations across the country. Such partnerships have successfully operated for several years. Collaborative activities include work-based learning, placement, cross-referrals, and co-enrollment and shared curriculum. Examples of existing partnerships include:

Harpers Ferry Job Corps Center – The partnership provides paid work-based learning opportunities primarily for construction vocations.

Treasure Island Job Corps Center – This Job Corps center has been working with the California Conservation Corps for a number of years. A variety of opportunities include paid work-based learning, 12-week internships, and job placement for 1 year. The partnership is now exploring expanding the number of students beyond the construction programs.

San Jose Job Corps Center – The Conservation Corps is co-located on the Job Corps center and provides enhanced training opportunities for Job Corps students who co-enroll in programs teaching landscaping, transportation (Cal Train) and opportunities in parks and recreation. The training may lead to full-time placements with the Conservation Corps, Cal Train, and other private companies.

4. Action. Additional information on NASCC can be found on their website, <http://www.nascc.org/>, which provides a listing of program by state with links to individual local operations. Addressees are to ensure that a copy of this Notice is distributed to the appropriate staff.

5. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

6. Inquiries. Questions concerning this Notice should be addressed to Alan Lafferman at (202) 693-3108, or emailed to Lafferman.alan@dol.gov.