



Dear President Trump,

Our nation is at a crossroads. We are grappling with public health, economic, and educational crises as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities across the country are confronted by significant challenges as they seek to treat and contain the virus, start the school year responsibly, and address the economic consequences of the pandemic. Millions of young people are out of work, their talents untapped while the college affordability crisis has left too many of them with debt that they're struggling to repay. Americans are more profoundly polarized than any moment in recent history. And, we are experiencing a national reckoning around the systemic racism of our institutions and society.

In this moment, we can invest in young Americans and give them a chance to serve their communities, addressing the impacts of the pandemic, while also helping to knit our society back together.

Imagine a future in which young people earn college tuition by addressing our communities' greatest challenges — where they are empowered to shape their own destinies and those of their communities, regardless of zip code. Imagine a future in which empathy triumphs over apathy and participation and problem-solving outmatch indifference. Imagine a shared experience far stronger than anything that may seek to divide us.

National service would help address all of these challenges and make this future a reality. If we are going to achieve this bold vision, we must be audacious in our call to action and make national service a national priority. National service can transform lives, strengthen communities, and fuel civic renewal.

We are pleased that national attention has been drawn to the issue of national service in recent months, with great leadership from Congress on the bipartisan CORPS Act, the Pandemic Response and Opportunity Through National Service Act, the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service's Inspire to Serve Act, and many other pieces of legislation — but there is more work to be done.

We call on you to prioritize a significant expansion of national service if you are reelected. Specifically, this expansion must:

1. Exist at scale, engaging at least one million young Americans in civilian national service annually
2. Address America's unmet needs
3. Bridge divides and fuel civic renewal

4. Be an opportunity for all
5. Build pathways to long-term success for individuals who serve through benefits and connectivity to future education and careers

America has been at crossroads like this before. Our country *can* do big things together, and by prioritizing national service, your Administration can make this future a reality.

Service Year Alliance is organizing the stakeholders, the strategy, and the movement we need to bring this vision to life through the Serve America Together campaign — a campaign to make national service part of growing up in America. The campaign is led by a first-of-its-kind coalition that unites the military and civilian service movements under one banner. Enclosed is the campaign’s platform.

We would be happy to work with your campaign and Administration in its efforts to expand national service.

Please contact Moran Banai, Managing Director of Policy & Government Relations at Service Year Alliance, mbanai@serviceyear.org, for more information.

Sincerely,





Dear Vice President Biden,

Our nation is at a crossroads. We are grappling with public health, economic, and educational crises as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities across the country are confronted by significant challenges as they seek to treat and contain the virus, start the school year responsibly, and address the economic consequences of the pandemic. Millions of young people are out of work, their talents untapped while the college affordability crisis has left too many of them with debt that they're struggling to repay. Americans are more profoundly polarized than any moment in recent history. And, we are experiencing a national reckoning around the systemic racism of our institutions and society.

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We call on you to prioritize a significant expansion of national service in your Administration's first hundred days. Specifically, this expansion must:

1. Exist at scale, engaging at least one million young Americans in civilian national service annually
2. Address America's unmet needs
3. Bridge divides and fuel civic renewal

4. Be an opportunity for all
5. Build pathways to long-term success for individuals who serve through benefits and connectivity to future education and careers

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