

President Drafts America's Promise To Help Mobilize Volunteers Nationwide

(NAPSA)—Volunteering in your community is now easier than ever. America's Promise—The Alliance for Youth has partnered with USA Freedom Corps in its launch of the new USA Freedom Corps Volunteer Network—www.usafreedomcorps.gov. As the federal government's national service coordinating council housed at the White House and chaired by President George W. Bush, the USA Freedom Corps works to strengthen our culture of service and to help find opportunities for every American to start volunteering. Created in partnership with the broadest group of service organizations ever brought together, the new USA Freedom Corps network acts as the most comprehensive online clearinghouse of volunteer opportunities found nationwide. The Web site offers "one-stop shopping" for potential volunteers, allowing them to find opportunities that match their interests, abilities, schedules and location.

"The President has issued an important call to all Americans to serve others for the equivalent of two years or 4,000 hours over their lifetimes. In heeding that call, we hope to make the children and youth of this nation a focus of people's service, said Harris Wofford, co-chairman of America's Promise. "By working together, we can deliver the critical resources they need to develop their character and confidence—child by child, community by community."

America's Promise was founded after the Presidents' Summit for America's Future in 1997 where Presidents G.H.W. Bush, Carter,



Clinton and Ford, with Nancy Reagan representing President Reagan, challenged the country to make children and youth a national priority. General Colin L. Powell is founding chairman. The mission of America's Promise is to mobilize people from every sector of American life to build the character and competence of youth by fulfilling the Five Promises: Caring adults; safe places with structured activities during non-school hours; a healthy start; marketable skills through effective education; and opportunities to serve.

"This expansive network is of tremendous value to the 400 Communities of Promise and the hundreds of nonprofit and corporate commitment makers across the country, participating in the America's Promise effort for children and youth," said Peter A. Gallagher, President and CEO of America's Promise.

The Volunteer Network site was created for the Corporation for National and Community Service and is powered by Network For Good with sponsorship from the AOL/Time Warner Foundation, Microsoft and Cisco. For more information about America's Promise visit www.americaspromise.org or call 1-888-55-YOUTH.