



NSAN News is the “behind-the-scenes” look at the effort to build a national service alumni movement.

Stay Passionate - Stay Connected
Change the World

October 2003

The National Service Alumni Network (NSAN) is the nonprofit membership association that unites all Americans who have done a year or more of full-time service.

If you received this email as a forward from a friend, and would like to be on our mailing list, email info@nsan.org

Take Immediate Action!

Please help by doing the following three things, right now:

- 1) **Forward this email** – To build a true movement, we need to spread the word! Forward this newsletter to your network of friends, family, and colleagues—and especially national service alumni.
- 2) **Sign our petition** – We need to demonstrate the value and importance of a national service network. Visit <http://www.petitiononline.com/nsan1000/petition.html>
- 3) **“You should talk to . . .”** – Help NSAN connect with alumni leaders, funders, or nonprofit experts. Who is that person that we ought to be speaking with—for resources, moral support, partnership, etc? Email rich@nsan.org.

Message From The Founder

The past month has been our greatest month ever! Well, okay, so it was only our third month ever. But the trend is the right one!

In recent weeks hundreds of national service alumni have rallied together to protest the devastating cuts to the AmeriCorps budget, and to share a Day of Service on September 11. But these participants were also rallying around NSAN—the vision that 500,000 alumni, when united, can make a tremendous difference in the civic life of this country.

Especially during this start-up phase, every day brings new lessons and opportunities for improvement. Though the NSAN concept clearly resonates with many, I have not always been able to explain it in 10-seconds or less, something I have come to realize is essential. So I wanted to share with you my latest thinking on why this work is so important:

Our vision is that one day all citizens will become fully engaged civic activists, participating in our democracy to improve our communities and the world.

Our belief is that the 500,000+ alumni of national service programs are the greatest untapped reservoir of “civic power” in this country. These alumni are ethnically, religiously, economically and geographically diverse, yet united by their ground-level experience and their passion to make a difference.

Our plan is to build a locally vibrant and nationally powerful alumni movement that:

1. Prevents burn-out and a gradual weakening in the desire for social change by building a national service community that lasts long after the year of service has ended.
2. Makes alumni tremendously powerful by allowing them to draw on the resources of 500,000 alumni across the country.

If you haven't already, please help out by forwarding this newsletter on, and by signing the petition. And remember, if you didn't get this email directly, you can always sign up by emailing info@nsan.org

Let me know what you think—all feedback is always welcome.

Thanks so much for your support. Be well.

Rich Leimsider, Founder
rich@nsan.org

The Latest News

NSAN Alumni Mark September 11 With Powerful Day of Service

More than 200 national service alumni and corps members gather together on September 11 to mark the second anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States. Demonstrating a renewed commitment to service and our communities, attendees represented such organizations as the NCCC, the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Teach For America, City Year, Generations Incorporated, and the Massachusetts Promise Fellows (to name a few!).

The event started off with a plenary session led by Michael Dukakis, former governor and presidential candidate, and Robert Lewis, Jr., the executive director of the National Conference for Community and Justice – Boston.

READ MORE [<http://www.nsan.org/911event.htm>]

NSAN Alumni Stay Up All Night For AmeriCorps

At 7 AM on a Saturday morning in Washington DC, a tired but determined band of national service alumni reached in to the center of a football-style “break,” and shouted “Save AmeriCorps!” Every member of this diverse and passionate group had just stayed up all night to protest the recent cuts in the AmeriCorps national service program.

READ MORE [<http://www.nsan.org/Allnighter.htm>]

Upcoming Events

- December 2003 - New York City Fundraiser
- Winter 2003 - Boston Fundraiser
- TBA - All-Alumni Event co-sponsored by City Year
- TBA - All-Alumni Event co-sponsored by United Leaders

Check out the added capabilities of the NSAN Website, now featuring online contributions payment of Member Dues. Yes, we take credit cards!

www.nsan.org

Thank you

To everyone who responded to our needs for office machines- our office is now fully mechanized!

Contact us

We would love to hear from you.

Visit us at www.nsan.org

Email any comments or questions to: info@nsan.org