

DATE: June 5, 2008

TO: Local Social Services and Community Action Agency Directors

FROM: Peggy Friedenber, Acting Director, Virginia Community Corps

SUBJECT: Virginia Community Corps Applications – Due Date July 11, 2008

CONTACT: Peggy Friedenber at (804) 726-7371 or margaret.friedenberg@dss.virginia.gov

The Virginia Department of Social Services is accepting Virginia Community Corps Site Applications for the FY2008-2009 Program Year that begins October 1, 2008 and ends September 30, 2009. Applications should be returned no later than July 11, 2008 at 5 PM. Virginia Community Corps (VCC) places AmeriCorps members in local departments of social services and community action agencies.

The purpose of VCC is to support low-income Virginians to move from poverty to self-sufficiency, to expand the number and effectiveness of volunteers, to assist communities in being better prepared to receive ex-offenders, to assist communities in responding to natural disasters and emergencies, to strengthen families and to offer civic engagement opportunities to our members.

The Virginia Community Corps 2008 – 2009 Host Site Application may be downloaded at http://www.vacap.org/downloads/doc/VCC_08_09_Site_App.doc. Community Corps members serve for 1700 hours over a 12 month period and earn an \$11,400 living allowance, health insurance, workers' compensation, subsidized child care, if needed, and an education grant worth \$4,725 upon completion of their hours. Part-time members serve 900 hours and earn a \$5000 living allowance and a \$2,362.50 education grant upon completion of their hours. Agencies that host an AmeriCorps member will be responsible for 20% of the living allowance, health insurance and workers' compensation for a full-time member and 20% of the living allowance for a part-time member. The education awards are made by the Corporation on National and Community Service.

We are now beginning the sixth year of this program and many localities reflect the contributions that AmeriCorps members can make in our human services agencies and our communities. Placement of members across our social services system will be contingent upon receiving final program approval by the Corporation on National and Community Service.

Applications should be returned no later than July 11, 2008 at 5 PM. Please mail or FAX to: Peggy Friedenber, Virginia Department of Social Services; Virginia Community Corps, 7 North 8th Street, 5th Floor, Richmond, VA 23219 or FAX (804) 726-7947. If you have any questions about the information being requested, contact Peggy Friedenber at (804) 726-7371 or margaret.friedenberg@dss.virginia.gov

We look forward to receiving your applications to participate in this successful statewide program.