



Athletes in Service to America

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Newsletter

Athletes in Service Starts its Eighth Year...

Athletes in Service to America (AIS) is proud to announce the start of its eighth service year. All operating sites commenced their start-up in early September. Before heading into their respective service sites, members received training by the Parent Staff, Project Teamwork and the Mentors in Violence Prevention program staff. In addition, members will be receiving additional professional development at the National Training event. For the 2002-03 service year AIS will be operating at four sites nationally, they are Canisius College, Eckerd College, the University of Kentucky and Northeastern University. To see a full listing of the 2002-03 corps members please visit our website at www.sportinsociety.org/ais.html. All but Eckerd

**Eckerd College Corps**

College (now in its 3rd year of operation) are original host institutions who started corps groups in 1995-96.

We would also like to share some of the data from the 2001-02 service year. Last year was a very productive

year for our sites and we are very proud of the number of hours served in the respective local communities and our retention rate. Below are the year-end results for last service year.

2001-02 Results

<i>Canisius College:</i>	28,962
<i>Drexel University:</i>	3,354
<i>Eckerd College:</i>	14,629
<i>University of Kentucky:</i>	10,479
<i>Northeastern University:</i>	22,147
Total Number of Hours:	79,570

Overall Retention Rate for Program: 74%

Year-to-Date Figures

<i>Total number of student-athletes enrolled:</i>	446 members
<i>Total Program Hours at end of year 2002:</i>	569,729
<i>Total amount of money issued in education awards:</i>	\$1,071,719

Director's Message...

Welcome to another installment of the Athletes in Service to America Newsletter! I am happy to announce that the newsletter will be coming out quarterly to keep our members, alumni and friends updated on information. The Parent staff completed the AmeriCorps orientation for all of our sites and from being with our new group I can guarantee that we are off to another great service year!

We have corps members from all over the country represented at our four operating sites who are eager to start "getting things done." We look forward to being able to report on their progress throughout the year.

Yours in service,

Eileen Smart

Member Spotlight



Name: Kenny Miller
Site: Univ. of Kentucky
College: Univ. of Kentucky
Sport: Baseball

Kenny Miller, who is a native of Joliet, Illinois, is one of the 19 second-year AIS corps members serving this year. Kenny is serving at UK for his second consecutive year as well. Miller is a former baseball player for UK, who was drafted by the NY Mets organization in 1997. While in service in the Lexington public school system, Miller primarily serves at Morton Middle school. Kenny tutors in many academic areas and has established mentoring relationships with some of his students. Kenny has also facilitated Project Teamwork with other fellow UK corps members.

Corps Member Reflections

Perspectives from the front lines of service from our corps members.

My Last Day

By Peter Butler, NU Corps member

Woke up at 5:45
Same time as usual
It was not as hard as
watching a Sampras-Agassi duel

Went to serve, just like many days before,
but in the back of my mind knowing
this would be my last day with the corps.

The last member to finish
There were fifteen in the crowd,
knowing I worked with passion.
Just for that I am proud.

“In the face of apathy,
I will take action.”
An AmeriCorps ideal,
The quote inspired me a year ago
and still does today as I complete the deal.

There are many I want to thank
And I will in due time.
My experience has been fulfilling
and I thought I would end with a rhyme.

It is time to move on
take another challenge or two.
This year has taught me
with my head, heart and passion
There is nothing I can't do.

Highlights from Orientation



NU Corps members encourage fellow member Sandra Dobson in an exercise called the “Trust Fall,” during Northeastern’s orientation.



Eckerd corps members (l-r) Amy Vandervort, Ken Rostek, and Sara Gordon participate in a challenge course activity.



Athletes in Service to America is a proud member of the AmeriCorps network.

Alumni News

Just in time for the new year, the Parent office would like to share some thoughts that our alumni would find useful. This article was taken from the National AmeriCorps Association, the new website for members and alumni. To view the entire story please visit: www.lifetimeofservice.org and visit the News section.

Five Service Resolutions for the New Year

1. Commit to Four Thousand Hours of Service (in Your Lifetime).

Did you know that in 2003, AmeriCorps celebrates its 10th anniversary? To commemorate this historic moment and to build on the momentum of the new Citizen Service Act of 2002...

2. Tell Your AmeriCorps Story.

We all know that facts and figures are important to promoting programs such as AmeriCorps, but individual stories are just as vital...

3. Mentor or Recruit an AmeriCorps Member.

Just because you've finished your year of service doesn't mean that you're done with your commitment to AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps alumni are essential to the future of the program...

4. Write an Op/Ed Piece for your local newspaper about your AmeriCorps experience.

Local newspapers love to hear about individuals that are making a difference...

5. Wear AmeriCorps Gear in Public.

Wear a badge of honor, especially while volunteering in your community. Take out your gray shirt and lead by example...