



March 11, 2009

The Honorable George Miller  
2205 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Carolyn McCarthy  
2346 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Buck McKeon  
2184 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Platts  
2455 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller, Ranking Member McKeon, Chairwoman McCarthy, and Ranking Member Platts,

Thank you for your leadership in the face of such unprecedented economic challenges. We are writing to express our strong support for the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism and Education Act of 2009 (GIVE Act). The GIVE Act will reauthorize the National and Community Services Act of 1990 by making key reforms to the Americorps program. Community challenges such as rising unemployment and the current foreclosure crisis have disproportionately affected our most vulnerable communities, which is why the work of those who choose to serve these communities through programs such as the ones supported by the GIVE Act is so crucial.

The Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) is dedicated to helping community residents transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy and sustainable communities. Through this effort we operate a successful Americorps program placing volunteers into grassroots Community Development Corporations (CDCs), thus providing human capital for the non-profit community development industry. Answering to local LISC office Advisory Commissions and responsive to neighborhood based community development organizations, the LISC model is highly successful and deeply rooted in the neighborhoods that it serves. LISC Americorps members provide essential services to the communities they serve including; foreclosure prevention, employment counseling, community organizing, and volunteer recruitment.

Thank you for your service to our country and leadership in these very difficult economic times. We hope that this bill will enable a greater number of Americans to serve their country, and help to transform the communities in which they live and work.

Sincerely,

Michael Rubinger  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation