

THE USA FREEDOM CORPS' 

Network of Service

January 2003

January Highlights

The **Peace Corps** and the National Geographic Society have created a new publication entitled "Building Bridges: A Peace Corps Classroom Guide to Cross-Cultural Understanding." These lesson plans, based on the experiences of Peace Corps Volunteers, help students gain a better understanding of their own culture and greater tolerance for people of different cultures in their classrooms, their communities and the world at large. The booklet has been distributed to more than 40,000 educators through the National Geographic Society's state-based geography alliances. For a copy of the publication, [click here](#) or visit <http://www.peacecorps.gov/www/bridges/>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as part of the **Citizen Corps**, has released "Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness," a new publication designed to help Americans take responsibility and get prepared by having a plan in place to protect their families, their homes, and their businesses. For more information, [click here](#) or visit www.citizencorps.gov

Thousands of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members joined other volunteers across the country on January 20 to turn the federal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. into a national day of service. The **Corporation for National and Community Service** awarded grants to 80 nonprofits and public agencies to honor the legacy of Dr. King. For more information, [click here](#).

President Bush Thanks Volunteers for Their Dedication

When President Bush stepped off Air Force One during a trip to Atlanta last spring, he was greeted by two of the city's most dedicated volunteers, Laura Clipper and Nir Eyal, both volunteers with Hands On Atlanta. A full-time student and mother of three, Clipper tutors children in reading for 20 hours each week at an elementary school. Eyal, a former AmeriCorps volunteer, created the Emory Bigs project, a cooperative program with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Atlanta that provides volunteer mentors to children.

President Bush thanked Clipper and Eyal for their volunteer service and recognized them as examples of the dedication to service he is hoping to instill in all Americans.

Since issuing his Call to Service last January, President Bush has personally thanked more than 140 volunteers in cities across America for their commitment to service. The President hopes to encourage all Americans to perform more volunteer service by highlighting the work of



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individuals in the communities to which he travels.

We are interested in collecting local contact information for non-profit organizations that utilize volunteers for future opportunities to recognize outstanding volunteers. Please [click here](#) to forward contact information for the cities in which your organization operates.

Join USA Freedom Corps in Helping Those in Need

Last month, President and Mrs. Bush visited the Capital Area Food Bank in Washington, D.C., where they joined food bank volunteers in packaging food collected by the White House and other federal offices.

Although the economy is growing again, food banks around the country report that cash and food donations are down while demands for hunger relief are rising. In response, the USA

Freedom Corps coordinated a nationwide food drive among federal agencies and offices to help address the need for food and highlight ways Americans can serve in their own communities.

As your organization considers service activities, we encourage you to consider coordinating a food drive in your local community. For more information, please [click here](#).

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The "Network of Service" is intended to help you answer President Bush's Call to Service. This newsletter should be used for informational purposes only.