



SHORECORPS/PALS

Partnership for Adolescents on the Lower Shore at Salisbury University

The AmeriCorps Mission ... to strengthen communities, encourage responsibility and expand opportunities. In the Lower Eastern Shore, AmeriCorps members serve in positions providing tutoring/mentoring services, conflict resolution training, parent and family support.

Agency Partners and AmeriCorps Members 2003-04

Agency	Name
Dorchester County	
Health Dept.	Nora Smith
Kent County	
D.S.S.	Gina Morris
Family Support Ctr.	
Queen Anne's County	
Play to Learn	Joann Meekins
Somerset County	
Library	Ajbike Browne
Three Lower Counties Community Services	Cherelle Holland Andrea Patey
Talbot County	
Chesapeake Bay Museum	Mary Ann Ray
Family Support Center	Lesley Plugge
TrinityCathedral	
Wicomico County	
Bennett Middle School	Stacy Thomas, Jeanette Ibeh
Pemberton Parks, Rec., & Tourism	Haywood Barnes
Salisbury Middle School	Marquita Harris Heather Bradley, Kelly Ibarra
Salisbury Zoo	Tasha C. Saunders
Boy Scouts of America	
Delmar Elementary	David Dobbins, Teresa Jarrett Erin Bramble, Ashley Beach
King's Kids Academy	Cammie Robinson
Lower Shore Family Ctr.	
Project SIT	Nathaniel Williams
Salisbury Urban Ministries	Lena Weston
Glen Ave. Elementary	Jackie Cox
Salvation Army	Lisa Wright Remona Corbin, Monica Crockett
Wicomico Co. Library	Yvette Walker
Health Dept.	
Wicomico Alternative Learning Ctr.	Alricko Hill, Montre' Johnson
Ward Museum	Ray Emmons
YMCA	Matthew Curry
Worcester County	
Pocomoke High School	Elizabeth Carson
Health Dept.	Heather LeRouque Scott Whittemore, Dante Wilson

Become an AmeriCorps Site

If you are interested in becoming an AmeriCorps site and can use the services of ShoreCorps/PALS members, please call Linda Beall, program director, at 410-543-6137.



AmeriCorps Members 2003-2004

ShoreCorps/PALS Needs You!

AmeriCorps is a national service movement that engages tens of thousands of Americans of all ages and backgrounds in domestic Peace Corps—getting things done across America by meeting our education, public safety, environmental and human needs.

The mission of AmeriCorps is to strengthen communities, encourage responsibility and expand opportunities. On the Eastern Shore of Maryland, AmeriCorps members serve in positions providing tutoring/mentoring services, conflict resolution training, parent and family support services, health education programs, counseling services for pregnant adolescents, establishing peer support groups, conducting community outreach activities and recruiting volunteers to support project activities.

ShoreCorps/PALS members embark upon a challenging experience that will have a lasting effect on their lives and the lives of people in Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties. ShoreCorps/PALS is recruiting 41 members to serve on the Eastern Shore in 2003. We seek competent and energetic citizens 19-20 years of age for one year of service with PALS. Commitment to children and a commitment to a year of service is key to placement. PALS is seeking individuals for full-time (1,700 hours) positions. We provide a living allowance (\$9,900), post education award (\$4,725) to help pay school loans or future educational expenses and six credit hours of University course work. There are also part-time (900 hours) positions available. These positions offer (\$4,950) living allowance, post education award (\$2,363) to pay school loans or future expenses and six credit hours of University course work.

For more information call the PALS office at 410-548-5119

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[www.salisbury.edu/
community/ameriCorps/](http://www.salisbury.edu/community/ameriCorps/)

Project Management Team

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Project Director

Linda Beall
Program Director

Nancy Hatch
Program Coordinator

Jamie Cugler-Dwyer
Administrative Assistant

Bernita Earp
Clerical Assistant

Tehnisha Smith
Work Study Student

Toneisha Harris
ShoreCAN Coordinator

Christie Smith
Salisbury Promise Fellow

Life After ShoreCorps/PALS

by George Whitehead, Project Director

Each year we ask members to respond to a survey as they enter and exit PALS. On both occasions last year, the members almost unanimously agreed that it is important to do the following: become involved in a program to improve my community, work toward equal opportunity for all people, volunteer my time to help people in need and find a career that is helpful to others or useful in society. In short, members want to continue serving their communities.

Certainly they can use the Educational Award to pursue post-secondary or graduate degree in education, the helping professions or another profession that allows them the opportunity to pursue service. They can also commit to a second year as an AmeriCorps member. This year we are pleased to have 4 members serving a second year.

Service is one way to engage students in civic education. Recently a group of educators shared a common vision in the Civic Mission of Schools (www.civicmissionofschoools.org). They adopted the premise that the overall goal of civic education should be to help young people gain and apply citizenship skills, knowledge and attitudes. PALS members certainly have the opportunity to reach that goal.

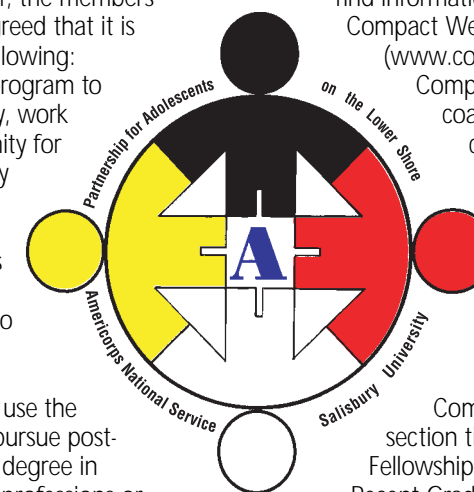
However, some members may want to find other ways to support their commitment

to service. Members may ask: "Where can I find that information?" One place they can find information is on the Campus Compact Web site (www.compact.org). Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 900 colleges and university presidents committed to the civic purposes of higher education. Salisbury University is a coalition member. On the Campus Compact Web site there is a section titled "Grants and Fellowships for Students and Recent Graduates." The following are two examples of the 14 opportunities listed.

Echoing Green Public Service Fellowship (www.echoinggreen.org) is a one-year program for graduating seniors who want to develop and implement a community service project.

Amnesty International USA, Patrick Stewart Human Rights Scholarships (www.amnestyusa.org) provide an opportunity for student activists to do applied human rights fieldwork. These opportunities are available to any university student who is interested in continuing service.

Welcome to the PALS members for 2003-2004. May this year be the beginning or the continuation of your commitment to serving your community.



Quote to Ponder

"We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as result."
-Hermann Melville

From the Desk

by Linda Beall, Program Director

On August 23, ShoreCorps/PALS celebrated its AmeriCorps Graduation at Salisbury University. Senator J. Lowell Stoltzfus from District 38, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester counties was our keynote speaker for the event. In his remarks he included that he is a strong advocate of service and AmeriCorps.

The AmeriCorps class of 2002-2003 made a difference in the lives of children. The members mentored 653 at-risk youth, tutored 2,275 students and recruited 796 volunteers who contributed 8,619 hours of community service. Besides serving at-risk youth, our members served in their communities doing service projects.

AmeriCorps member Arnetta Freeman gave an inspiring tribute to the class expressing her appreciation for the ShoreCorps/PALS program. Arnetta emphasized that serving her community changed her life and she is grateful for the opportunity. ShoreCorps/PALS staff, along with Salisbury University, Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism staff, Senator Sarbanes and Senator Milkulski thanked the members for their great service. The members who graduated from ShoreCorps/PALS are Pat Boykin, Susan Brighton, Mary Cain, Carolyn Coleman, Pam Correa, Tasha C. Saunders, Sheila Edwards, Megan Eichner, Stephanie Ellis, Kenneth Fisher, Arnetta Freeman, Tia Green, Lisa Guy, Michelle Hearne, Jennifer Heiger, Kelly Ibarra, Kelly King, Jessica Littleton, Amy Mason, Claudia Orr, Heather Shelton, Christie Smith, Shannon Staley, Stacy Thomas, April Tramonte, Rose Traini, Michael Ward and Jeannie Wilson.

No sooner was our AmeriCorps Graduation over than we began Program Year 2003-2004. September 4 began our ninth year of



(Front from left) Claudia Orr, Shannon Staley, Heather Shelton, Pam Correa, Jessica Littleton, Arnetta Freeman, Rose Traini. (Back from left) Josie Athman - GOVC, Linda Beal - Program Director, George Whitehead - Project Director, Senator J. Lowell Stoltzfus, Cindy Betts - Senator Milkulski Rep., Hazel Reicher - RSVP, Ellen Zinner - Assistant to the President.

service with the Corporation of Community and National Service. We are off to a great start this year. We have over 28 agency sites that participate in the PALS program. We currently have 36 members enrolled in the program. We can enroll up to 41 members. I am very excited about our new members. They have already participated in Disaster Preparedness Awareness Day project, in memory of September 11, Out of School Time Conference, the Low Ropes Course, and Make A Difference Day (AmeriCorps Launch). ShoreCorps/PALS mission, to make a difference in the lives of children and our communities, is the same as it was in the first year in 1995. I am proud to say PALS at Salisbury University is doing that and more.

Disaster Preparedness Awareness Day

In remembrance of September 11, ShoreCorps/PALS, ShoreCAN Volunteer Center and Salisbury's Promise, partners of Salisbury University, distributed bottled water with a label listing items needed if a disaster occurred. The bottled water was donated from Wal-Mart (north and south locations), Sam's Club, Pepsi and Coke. ShoreCAN and Salisbury's Promise staff and their volunteers along with ShoreCorps/PALS AmeriCorps members distributed the bottles September 11-13. The bottles were distributed at Salisbury University, Salisbury Urban Minis-

tries, Wicomico County Parks and Recreation, Salisbury Zoo, Lutheran Village, St. Stephen United Methodist Church and Cathedral-of-Love AUMP Church.

With over 1,000 bottles of water donated and distributed the project was a big success. Thank you to everyone involved in the service project.

September 11 will forever be a day of tragic memories, but by remembering the victims through acts of volunteerism and helping citizens better preparing themselves, their lives will never be forgotten.

Send Your Story Ideas

This newsletter is intended to let members' tell their stories about their projects, their lives, their communities and their aspirations. Each and every one of the members' has a story to tell, and it would be a shame if the public did not get to read them. Therefore, I would like members' to submit essays of no more than 300 words. We hope to publish the newsletter each quarter so keep those journal entries, re-read them, add to them and submit the finished product to me.

-Linda Beall

Salisbury's Promise

Salisbury's Promise Youth Alliance is a localized branch of America's Promise Youth Alliance. Salisbury's Promise is a non-profit organization whose main priority is to congregate the community and catalyze local organizations' resources to benefit and serve Wicomico County youth. Salisbury's Promise embodies five promises deemed to be imperative for the area youth to receive. The first of these five promises is an ongoing relationship with caring adults (parents, mentors, tutors or coaches). The second promise is providing safe places with structured activities during nonschool hours. The third promise is a healthy start and future. The fourth promise is marketable skills through effective education. The fifth and final promise is opportunities to serve through effective education. Salisbury's Promise utilizes these five promises to bring together diverse institutions and organizations for the greater good of the youth.

Currently, Salisbury's Promise has 12 Safe Sites. Safe Sites are the location where the same youth attend regularly and receive all five promises. At each of these sites, it is the goal of the program director to provide each individual child with every promise. Salisbury's Promise is partnered with seven organizations, 10 schools and 10 faith-based organizations. One of Salisbury's Promise goals is to initiate partnerships between schools and faith based organizations. Faith/school partnerships help to meet the needs of both the school and the faith based organization. Such needs include volunteerism, tutoring, mentoring and strengthening the community.

Another goal of Salisbury's Promise is to make opportunities to

serve in the community available to youth. This initiative is a wonderful way to help students fulfill their volunteer hours requirement and build a relationship with their community.



October 9 was National Lights On After School. Salisbury's Promise participated by helping to coordinate an event for the WISE after-school program that included a pizza party, career activities supplied by Junior Achievement, and volunteer guests from JC Penney. On October 11, youth had the opportunity to help out our furry friends by participating in the Humane Society's 10th Annual Walk for the Animals. October 25 was National Make A Difference Day. Salisbury's Promise participated by coordinating a trash cleanup at Schumaker Park and moving materials to assist in the construction of a new kitchen at the Christian Shelter. Activities were concluded with a presentation from Scott Schwartz of Plus One Fitness and a Volunteer Appreciation Cookout.

For more information on Salisbury's Promise, please call Christie Smith at 410-677-5396.

And the Survey Says. . . .

Each year, ShoreCorps/PALS surveys its members. Each year, the overwhelming majority of our members indicate that they joined AmeriCorps because they feel that it is important (or even essential) to:

- (1) become involved in a program aimed at improving the community;
- (2) work toward equal opportunity for all people;
- (3) volunteer time to help people in need; and
- (4) find a career that is helpful to others or useful to society.

In our weekly class, we focus on numerous topics, including civic responsibility. The lessons on civic responsibility are aimed at helping AmeriCorps members better understand the full meaning of citizenship, and at motivating them to be involved in life-long community service through volunteerism or by pursuing a full-time career in professional community service.

Of course, many of our members join the program already committed to pursuing service as a full-time career. On this year's survey, our member's goals for the future included many service-related professions: physical therapist (3); cosmetologist; nursing (2); pharmacist; college professor; high school teacher (2); ESOL teacher; science teacher; language arts teacher; child therapist; coach (2); counselor (4); attorney (2); psychologist (3); social worker (2); school guidance counselor; developing a program to help youth in urban communities; and juvenile justice/criminal investigations. We also have a member who wants to be an airport manager, and another who wants to have a successful ministry and become an international recording artist.

In addition to wonderful long-term career goals, our members also have some inspiring short-term service goals for this year.

They are: reach out to my community and to people in need (4); make a difference in the lives of the children I am serving (8); help people in my community and gain career experience (9); make a difference in my community (5); get things done for my community (3); become an asset to my site and my community (3); and bring hope to the youth of my community. With these goals as inspiration, we should have a great year together!

Finally, as in previous years, our members' survey responses also indicate that, as a whole, they are satisfied with themselves (i.e., who they are is who they want to be). Justifiably so! We all have a contribution to make. We all have unique skills and abilities which we can use to help others. We all have potential and when we start to realize that potential (as our members have), it's hard not to feel satisfied!



03-04 Kick-Off