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NEWS RELEASE

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AmeriCorps*VISTA Brings Valuable Resources to the Waukegan Area

For more than 35 years, AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) members have been helping bring individuals and communities out of poverty. Members serve full-time for a year in nonprofits, public agencies, and faith-based groups throughout the country, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, increase housing opportunities, or develop at-risk youth.

In 2003, the Youth Conservation Corps, Inc. (YCC, Inc.) received an AmeriCorps*VISTA Grant to bring this national program into the Lake County area. YCC, Inc. currently has two VISTA members in Waukegan. They have been busy securing local- and federal-level grants, fund raising, receiving in-kind donations from local corporations to furnish the new office, creating brochures and other promotional pieces, making presentations to community businesses, developing collaborative partnerships with various local organizations, and much more.

Due to the success of these members, YCC, Inc. has just received a grant extension from AmeriCorps*VISTA and will be recruiting two more VISTA members to work with their YCC YouthBuild Program in Waukegan. If you are interested in applying or would like more information on AmeriCorps*VISTA, contact Bob McCammon at (847) 623-0900 or by e-mail at bob@youthconservation.org. You can also visit our website at www.youthconservation.org to get more information about YCC, Inc. programs and view employment and volunteer opportunities currently available.

YCC, Inc., VISTA Member Steve Jergensen says, "Having the opportunity to serve such a great cause has been one of the greatest experiences of my life, and one that I will never forget. To see the youth attain goals they never dreamed of and to learn a trade that will someday support them and their family is amazing."