

# ACT urges students to aid in the fight against national and local hunger

The National Student Campaign Against Hunger has launched a new program to combat hunger in America, funded by a \$100,000 grant from USA for Africa. The program—Action for Community Transformation (ACT) - will offer programmatic and financial assistance to student projects, as well as a summer expedition for Africa to students who conduct the most effective projects in their communities.

"We welcome greater student activism around this pressing issue," said Larry Brown, Chairperson of the Physician Task Force on Hunger in America and member of the National Student Campaign's Advisory Board. The Task Force, which is composed of leading medical and public health experts, recently described hunger in America as "a national health epidemic" that directly affects as many as 20 million Americans each month.

The ACT program will include three components: a professionally-staffed resource center to assist students with organizing and implementing projects, a speaker's bureau composed of the nation's leading hunger experts, and an incentive fund to provide small grants to projects

requiring financial assistance.

In a recent mailing to 10,000 campus leaders announcing the availability of incentive grants, Kenny Rogers, Honorary Chairperson of the ACT program, said, "In the last year, we have reached a wider audience than ever before with a very simple message: hunger is a problem that can and must be eliminated. Through the National Student Campaign, you can do your part."

"We're especially interested in projects that forge new partnerships between student groups and community organizations," observed Hope Ricciotti, Field Coordinator for the National Student Campaign. "Some of our best fall semester projects involved student-community collaboration, and we are anxious to replicate these projects at other campuses," she added.

Among the model projects that the ACT program will sponsor are: Surplus Food Distribution (Students at Yale University arranged for surplus food from campus dining halls to be donated to local food banks, cutting campus waste to two percent.); Advocacy campaigns (Students

Dear Student:

As someone who has been involved in the fight against hunger for many years, I am writing to encourage you to get involved, too, by joining the National Student Campaign Against Hunger... Through the ACT program, the National Student Campaign will be offering small incentive grants to student projects aimed at combatting domestic hunger. For more information, write or call: National Student Campaign, 37 Temple Place, Boston, MA 02111, (617) 423-4644... Please join the National Student Campaign Against Hunger. And do it today!

Sincerely,  
Kenny Rogers

working with the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG) spearheaded a coalition to pass a \$7.7 million supplemental nutrition bill in the state legislature. The bill has passed the State Assembly and awaits Senate action., and Community Service and Fundraising (Student leaders in Michigan have recruited more than 100 colleges nationwide to join them in a one-day "Hunger Clean-Up" on April 19, 1986. The event involves students volunteering for community service projects, then raising money for anti-hunger work by recruiting individual and business sponsors for their volunteer efforts. Last year, nine schools in Grand Rapids, Michigan raised \$10,000 through a similar event.)

"The ACT program is a great opportunity for students to make a concrete difference in their own communities," noted Katy McFadden, Chairperson of the California Public Interest Research Group (CalPIRG), and member of the National Student Campaign's governing Board. "It also should inspire massive student participation in the Hands Across America event on May 25, 1986, when ten million Americans will join hands from New York to

Los Angeles to raise \$100 million for domestic hunger programs."

The National Student Campaign Against Hunger is a project of the Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs) in cooperation with USA for Africa. With statewide organizations in 25 states, the PIRGs are the largest national network of students working with professional staff on various social action projects.

The ACT program builds on the National Student Campaign's fall program, through which thousands of high school and college students across the country organized fundraising, educational and community action projects. The fall campaign culminated in a special United Nations ceremony in November, where Walter Cronkite and Kenny Rogers presented awards to the six best student projects. The spring ACT campaign will culminate with the selection of at least five students to join a summer expedition to Africa, organized by American Scholars Against World Hunger.

## Student Voice:

It has been suggested that the Reed Student Union Building be kept open later, making it more accessible to students at night. This issue's student voice question asks if the students would take advantage of the new Reed Building schedule if the suggestion would become a reality.

Amy Blair, Second Semester, DUS: "I probably wouldn't because I don't live on campus. I don't usually come up here unless I need something."



Amy Blair

Doug Gerow, Eighth Semester, Business Economics: "I would take advantage of the Gorge and the office areas being open later. It would be useful for commuter students that don't have places to study."



Doug Gerow

Donna Yeager, Second Semester, DUS: "I don't even study. What are you asking me for?"



Donna Yeager



Lisa Scherer

### AIDS lecture given

Health Center--On March 10, 1986 there will be a program on AIDS in the Reed Lecture Hall (R117). Guest speakers will be R. T. Obenreder, Campus Physician and Dr. Bloom, Oncologist.

"If the Reed Student Union Building was to stay open later, would you take advantage of the time?"

Lisa Scherer, Fourth Semester, DUS: "Yes, as a commuter, I feel that it is important that we have a place we can meet to study together. The Gorge is the ideal place."

Rob Oberschelp, Second Semester, Business Management: "They should open the library earlier on Sundays and open later on Saturdays."



Rob Oberschelp

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