



THE WAR ON POVERTY: *A Message to High School Seniors*

We believe high-school seniors are mature enough to comprehend the tragedy of poverty—and to contribute meaningfully to the battle that is being waged against it.

Today the United States is committed to the greatest humanitarian cause in its history—a massive counter-attack on the causes of poverty, which are robbing 35,000,000 Americans of the opportunities most of us are free to pursue because we had the advantage of a decent start in life. That start has been denied to one-fifth of the nation's people. Thirteen million of them are children.

VISTA, Volunteers in Service to America, was organized to give individuals the opportunity to apply their talents in a compassionate national cause—to fight poverty in the front lines. Here, lack of education, poor health, unemployment, inadequate housing, and disrupted family relationships condemn people, often from childhood, to a life of futility. The work of VISTA volunteers is to help intervene with the tools of opportunity.

You will become eligible for VISTA once you are 18 and have completed high school. VISTA training will prepare you to take part in programs for the poor of all ages, in all parts of the country. Young people who plan to go to college later often enroll for a year both to help others and to enlarge their own capacities for teaching, social work, or careers in sociology, economics, law, and other fields.

Home base for VISTA volunteer groups can be a city

tenement row, a struggling farm community, an Indian reservation, or a migrant labor camp. Volunteers may help organize recreation programs or tutor children who are behind in school. Some serve as aides to social workers, as mental health assistants, as teachers of hobbies and crafts to the elderly. In VISTA, volunteers do whatever is needed to encourage people to find their way up from poverty.

The opportunities are great: you can help pave the way for an America in which the democratic ideal is big enough to encompass everyone.

Will you lend your abilities to people who live in need? Join the War on Poverty as a VISTA volunteer.

to: **VISTA VOLUNTEERS**

War on Poverty
Washington, D. C. 20506

Yes, I want to help the War on Poverty! Please send me information on how I can become a member of VISTA.

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