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## **Summer Advantage USA Joins President's United We Serve Initiative**

(Indianapolis, IN) – Summer Advantage USA is taking part in United We Serve, a national effort launched by President Obama to engage more Americans in serving their communities this summer.

Summer Advantage USA will engage 3,000 children in intense physical and academic enrichment programs as part of the *Let's Read! Let's Move!* service initiative, which President and First Lady Obama announced earlier this year. **The initiative focuses on community efforts to engage children in reading and physical fitness.**

"In these tough economic times, we need volunteers more than ever," said founder Earl Martin Phalen. "Summer Advantage USA is facing increasing demands for services, and volunteers can help us fill this growing need. We are pleased to join this national effort and thank the President for making this call to service."

United We Serve kicks off on June 22 and runs through September 11, which will be marked for the first time as a national day of service and remembrance. The initiative is being led by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that improves lives and strengthens communities through volunteering and service.

"This summer, I'm calling on all of you to make volunteerism and community service part of your daily life and the life of this nation," said President Obama in the video. "Economic recovery is as much about what you're doing in your communities as what we're doing in Washington – and it's going to take all of us, working together."

United We Serve focuses on five key areas where everyone can have a real impact in their community: education, health, energy and the environment; community renewal, and safety and security.

To make it easy for individuals to get involved, the Corporation created [Serve.gov](http://Serve.gov), a website that allows visitors to type in their zip code to find local volunteer opportunities, recruit volunteers by posting their organization's projects, or get ideas for creating their own projects with friends, families, and neighbors. Opportunities with Summer Advantage USA will also be listed on [Serve.gov](http://Serve.gov).

"Everyone has something to give, and summer is a great time to get involved," said Earl Martin Phalen. "By serving this summer, we hope more Hoosiers will make an ongoing commitment to volunteering throughout the year."

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**Summer Advantage USA** partners with schools, school districts and parents to provide scientifically proven and cost effective summer learning programs to students in grades K – 8. Every summer, thousands of students engage in rigorous academic and physical fitness programs five days a week for 6.5 hours per day.

Summer Advantage USA is led by Earl Martin Phalen, a nationally recognized leader in nonprofit education management. For more information visit Summer Advantage USA at [www.summeradvantage.org](http://www.summeradvantage.org).