Latest from Youth Leaders

Welcome back to another edition of YouthWire! This past month has been busy, as the world continues to grapple with the spread of COVID-19. In this time of uncertainty, there are several actions each of us can take to help slow the spread of the virus. [Here’s how you can flatten the curve.](#)

We also celebrate Global Youth Service Day between April 17-19 this month. Think about planning volunteer activities from home during this time and join youth from all over the world in making a difference. Be sure to share your projects with us during our exciting [Social Media Contest](#)!

Looking ahead? Continue supporting ongoing blood needs this summer by becoming a leader and getting involved with Biomedical Services! [Apply to become a Biomedical Summer Youth Corps Volunteer today by visiting](#) www.redcross.org/volunteer and searching for “Summer Youth Corps.”

Academic Service Learning

Academic Service Learning (ASL) is an exciting program through which colleges and universities partner up with organizations like the American Red Cross as an opportunity for students to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-life community settings. While ASL is typically a requirement for nursing majors, any high school or college student can participate!

Nursing Student Spotlight: Christine Ellis

Christine Ellis, ASL Volunteer & Graduate Nursing Student at Gonzaga University

Christine Ellis has been working with Health Services, serving as a Graduate Nursing Student in the Academic Service Learning (ASL) program for about six months. Through Gonzaga University, she partners with Service to the Armed Forces (SAF) on a project with her local Air Force base.

Christine notes that ASL has allowed her to connect with other volunteers and find future opportunities to serve. She loves meeting retired nurses who volunteer their time and continue to care for their local communities. Most importantly, working with veterans and seeing the impact the Red Cross can have on the military and veteran communities makes her work meaningful.
ASL spans all lines of service, and includes activities from becoming a blood donor ambassador to teaching community CPR. Click here to get a more in-depth look at Academic Service Learning.

**Expand Your Knowledge**

Wondering what you can do to avoid COVID-19 and help others avoid it too? Disinfecting surfaces in common spaces, washing your hands for at least 20 seconds, and coughing into your elbow will keep you and those around you safe. Learn more from our IFRC partners here!

**What is YouthWire?**

Created by your National Youth Council, YouthWire is a monthly e-newsletter containing important Red Cross youth volunteer opportunities, stories, and resources for youth, young adults and youth champions! We are always looking to highlight great stories and want to hear what awesome things are happening in your region!

**Let us know what’s new for you!**

Questions about youth volunteering with the American Red Cross? Email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org

**Get Social and Share!**

Follow our Facebook and new Instagram page for updates, events and reminders!

Facebook: @AmericanRedCrossYouthNetwork
Instagram: @americanredcrossyouth

Share this newsletter with your peers and friends or have them email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org to subscribe to our newsletter.

Thank you, Christine, for your dedication to the American Red Cross through the ASL Program!

Volunteer from Home | Virtual Missing Maps Event

With current physical distancing and stay at home practices, it is important for youth and young adult volunteers to have the option to serve virtually. All youth and young adult volunteers and youth supporters are encouraged to use this helpful Volunteer from Home Guide for some great ideas.

You can also join us and participate in our virtual Missing Maps event on **Sunday, April 26 at 8 pm EDT**. At the MAPathon, you will learn how to help map undocumented areas to help with community pandemic preparedness efforts and connect with other Red Crossers across the country. If you are interested in participating, please fill out this short RSVP form for more details. Help us spread the word. All are welcome!