**Latest from Youth Leaders**

Although many of us are continuing to study and volunteer from home, there are many ways to help your community as a youth or young adult volunteer for the Red Cross!

Recently, the National Youth Council added a virtual option to two activity guides: Mingle for a Mission and Tweets to Thanks. Both are great events that allow you to promote the Red Cross mission and have fun with your fellow volunteers, all while social distancing!

Have you heard of the Field Ambassador program? This opportunity, in which one high school volunteer per region is chosen to act as a liaison between their local region and the National Youth Council, is an amazing way to become more involved with the Red Cross. Field Ambassadors serve by promoting national initiatives, improving youth programs, and facilitating communication between national and local leaders. Any questions can be directed to Himashi Liyanarachchi or Pranay Gundam, this year’s Field Ambassador Leads. Applications are currently open and will close on Thursday, September 10, at 11:59 p.m. ET.

In addition, look out for monthly Crash Course Calls to learn more about various aspects of the Red Cross and to connect with the National Youth Council. Past topics have included blood drives, scholarships, and planning your Red Cross year – you never know what will inspire you next! Register today for the next Crash Course Call on Sunday, September 6th.

**Youth Volunteer Spotlight: Anushka Gupta**

Anushka Gupta, a Rice University Red Cross volunteer, helped build a website that tracks Emergency Response Vehicles and the number of supplies on them.

Inspired by the Red Cross mission, Anushka Gupta founded the Cypress Ranch High School Red Cross Club and was its President for four years. This initial experience motivated her to become more involved with the Red Cross. She continued her Red Cross journey by serving on the Texas Gulf Coast Region Youth Service Council and was the 2018-2019 Field Ambassador for the region.

One of Anushka’s favorite Red Cross memories was interning with the Southwest and Rocky Mountains (SWaRM) SharePoint team. Using tools such as Microsoft Power BI, she helped program a website that tracks the locations of Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) and the amount of supplies on them. Drivers of ERVs can input information through the website, which organizes the data into graphs and charts. For their work, the SWaRM SharePoint team won the...
As summer transitions to autumn, students will transition from vacation mode to the back to school groove. However, this year will be slightly different. While some are returning to physical classrooms, many students will be learning online or in hybrid courses. As for Red Cross Clubs, many activities will take place virtually to encourage social distancing and promote #VFH – volunteering from home.

Although you and your fellow Red Crossers may not be meeting in-person, there are still plenty of ways for you to create and/or engage your Club online. The National Youth Council has compiled the Virtual Club in a Computer Toolkit and Updated Red Cross Club Resources, two great starting points for officer training guides, navigating Volunteer Connection, event inspiration, and more! You can also check out this great new activity guide on live stream gaming. Celebrate National Video Games Day on September 12th by planning an event with your Club!

Tips and ideas will also be shared on social media, so be sure to join the American Red Cross Youth Network on Facebook and follow @americanredcrossyouth on Instagram for updates. Always know that the National Youth Council is here to support you, and we can’t wait to see the amazing things that you and your Club will accomplish this year!

Expand Your Knowledge

In keeping with this month’s theme of preparedness, we encourage you to install the Red Cross First Aid app for information on how to handle common first aid emergencies. For example, you can search how to do CPR or how to treat a sprained ankle. This app is available on the App Store and Google Play, by texting “GETFIRST” to 90999, or by enabling it on your Amazon Echo device.

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

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