YOUTHWIRE





WITH ALL OUR HEART FEBRUARY 2022

Latest from Youth Leaders

Both a Rhodes Scholar and a Harvard graduate, Navin Narayan was a high achieving student as well as a dedicated, compassionate and innovative American Red Cross volunteer. Tragically, at the age of 23, Navin succumbed to cancer. For the past 21 years, the National Youth Council has continued his legacy of volunteerism and academic excellence by awarding the Navin Narayan Scholarship to a high school senior who embodies his principles. This scholarship is a one-time award of \$1,000 paid directly to one recipient upon proof of matriculation. The application for the award opens today and closes on March 11, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. ET. For more information about the scholarship and to determine your eligibility, please visit this page.



American Red Cross Resource Groups

Diversity is what makes each individual special – whether that's along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, age or beliefs. By understanding what makes one and others unique, an environment with wider perspectives is fostered. This environment allows for stronger ideas and a better understanding of the best ways to approach a problem. Every person holds different experiences which enhance creativity – it allows us to look at information from unique perspectives. At the American Red Cross, we strive to stay committed to diversity throughout all of the work we do. We understand that through our commitment to an inclusive environment we bolster the strength found both internally and beyond our doors. These efforts allow us to work across the country to develop and deliver lifesaving services to the many communities we serve. Help promote diversity within the Red Cross by joining or participating in some of the Resource Groups below.

- Latino Resource Group
- <u>Umoja Resource Group</u>
- Red Cross Pride
- The Ability Network
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Resource Group
- Veterans+ Resource Group
- Women's Resource Group

Expand Your Knowledge



The American Red Cross national social media team is looking for social media posts to reshare on the national Red Cross Twitter and Facebook pages as part of their #LeadingLikeClara campaign. If you have a story that you'd like to share — whether it's about a blood drive, virtual livestream fundraiser, or another

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volunteer activity – we highly encourage you to fill out this nomination form.

Region Spotlight: Los Angeles Region Volunteers



On January 1, over 50 youth and young adult volunteers participated in the Los Angeles Region's First Aid Support to the Rose Parade.

Every year, the Rose Parade is hosted to kick off the Rose Bowl, one of the most anticipated games in college football. The event typically features colorful floats, marching bands and equestrian units. However, working behind the scenes to ensure the Rose Parade's success is a team of hundreds of people, among them Red Cross volunteers.

This year, 54 Red Cross high school and college Red Crossers participated in the event as part of the Los Angeles Region's First Aid Support. After passing Basic Life Support, Oxygen Administration, First Aid and Bloodborne Pathogen courses, they assisted their leads from 4:00 a.m. PT to well into the afternoon "with a professionalism [that] I have only seen in hospital settings," remarks Government Relations Director Christina Thomas.

These youth and young adult volunteers worked a grand total of 432 hours and made an unforgettable impact on the Red Cross mission. Thank you so much for your hard work, Los Angeles Region volunteers. The Red Cross is lucky to have you as part of our family.

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.

Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!

The time you spend volunteering is critical to the American Red Cross. It is important that volunteer hours are submitted through Volunteer Connection so that they can be tracked as part of the overall mission.

Help us tell the story of the incredible impact of youth & young adults have by logging your hours today! Use this helpful <u>tip sheet</u> to walk through how to submit your volunteer hours on <u>Volunteer Connection</u>!







Youth Diversity Pledge



Lead your fellow youth and young adult volunteers in a Youth Diversity Pledge this month. By doing so, engage in insightful discussions on the challenges and perspectives that make us unique. This pledge was created to empower youth to be advocates and leaders for the Red Cross through education surrounding diversity and inclusion issues. As volunteers, we can best serve our communities by celebrating our differences and learning about what makes each of us unique. Staying consistently aware of one's communities, one fosters a positive volunteer environment for both the people we volunteer alongside and the communities we serve. By embracing our individuality, one works against our nation's growing polarity, allowing communities to come together for positive change.

The National Youth Council will also be hosting a Youth Diversity Pledge this month. On February 19 at 4:00 p.m. ET, join us in our discussion about cognitive and implicit biases with a focus on ageism. We hope to see you there.

February Highlights



February is American Heart Month! Help better patient outcomes for those with cardiovascular diseases by signing up for a Red Cross Basic Life Support Course and earning the skills needed to save those around you when needed most. During this training, develop the needed critical thinking and problem-solving techniques to help save those around you. Register for a training by accessing this link.