## YOUTHWIRE ——Impact Starts Here—



RED CROSS MONTH MARCH 2024

Latest from Youth Leaders

# March Is Red Cross Month American Red Cross

This March is all about the American Red Cross as we celebrate Red Cross Month! As part of the world's largest humanitarian network, the Red Cross dedicates itself to a range of essential services, from disaster relief to blood donation initiatives and support for military families. Established in 1943, Red Cross Month is also a time when the National Youth Council seeks to encourage action that touches countless lives.

We hope you, as youth volunteers, support the mission by volunteering, giving blood, learning lifesaving skills or making donations. You can encourage those around you to become active and support efforts as well. Visit this page to learn about the variety of opportunities and join us today!

The National Youth Council will be featuring weekly takeovers on the Red Cross Instagram, showcasing the diverse contributions of volunteers and clubs. Additionally, get ready for engaging trivia questions and interactive stories—there's plenty in store

### Youth Spotlight: Vananh Tran



Vananh's journey with the Red Cross began amidst the challenges of the pandemic, echoing her deep-rooted passion for service and community impact. Inspired by

to keep you engaged and informed! Below, you will find a series of events and activities to sign up for now:

- American Red Cross Volunteerism: Then & Now (March 9, 7:00-8:00 p.m. ET)
  - Join this call to hear about our organization's past and present as well as current opportunities perfect for youth and young adults!
  - Register for this event on Volunteer Connection > My Shifts > Youth & Young Adult <u>here!</u>
- Sickle Cell Panel Presentation (March 16, 4:00-5:00 p.m. ET)
  - This presentation will consist of panelists connected to the Red Cross Sickle Cell Initiative and Sickle Cell Warriors who can emphasize the importance of increasing blood donor diversity!
  - o Register for this event <u>here!</u>
- National Youth Council Tiltify Livestream (March 27, 7:00-8:00 p.m. ET)
  - Watch Council Members and Field Ambassadors from your region and beyond raise funds for Red Cross disaster relief efforts through Tiltify all while gaming, live-streaming, and having a blast!
  - Register for this event <u>here!</u>

Stay on the lookout for more updates, opportunities and promotional posts through our social media channels. We're so excited to see your active participation and support throughout *March is Red Cross Month 2024*. Together, let's make this Red Cross Month one to remember!

her father's stories of the Red Cross humanitarian mission, she embarked on this path during her freshman year of high school.

Throughout her journey, Vananh has demonstrated remarkable dedication and leadership. From conducting emergency drills to training K-5 students in emergency preparedness during her early years, to assuming roles like Spirit and Publicity Coordinator and Committee Member for her region's East Bay Youth Executive Board, Vananh has been a driving force in fostering community engagement and awareness.

Currently serving as the International Services
Coordinator for the East Bay Youth Executive Board,
Vananh leads a team dedicated to educating the public
on International Humanitarian Law, policy and health.
Her commitment to these initiatives reflects her
profound gratitude towards the Red Cross for the lifechanging opportunities it has provided her.

Vananh's journey exemplifies the transformative impact of volunteering with the Red Cross, inspiring others to join in serving humanity and creating positive change in

#### Navin Narayan Scholarship



As promised, applications for the Navin Narayan Scholarship are open! Both a Rhodes Scholar and Harvard graduate, Navin Narayan was a high-achieving student as well as a compassionate, dedicated and innovative American Red Cross volunteer. Tragically, Navin succumbed to cancer at 23.

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

their communities. Let's applaud Vananh for her outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication to the Red Cross mission!

Do you know of a volunteer who has gone above and beyond to make a memorable impact in their community? Youth Spotlight is a fantastic opportunity for you to nominate outstanding volunteers to receive national recognition for their hard work! Nominate a youth volunteer who deserves this opportunity here.

## March Monthly Focus: Women's History Month



of **\$1,000** paid directly to one recipient upon proof of matriculation. Visit these links to access the online form for <u>applicants</u> and <u>recommenders</u>.

The deadline to apply is **March 27**, **2024**. Visit this <u>page</u> to learn more information about the scholarship and its eligibility requirements.

In honor of Women's History Month, we celebrate the remarkable contributions of women throughout history and in our communities today. As volunteers, we can play a pivotal role in recognizing and uplifting women's achievements. Engaging in the Cultural Competency Series: The Resilience of Women and the Power that Comes from It can offer you insights regarding the impact of women in the context of the Red Cross. Check out this page to learn more!

#### March Fundraising Highlight: Red Cross Giving Day



On March 27, the Red Cross marks Giving Day, a unique initiative aimed at assisting individuals and families facing crises. Join us in showing your support this month by participating in Giving Day. Your involvement will contribute towards providing essential relief items, emotional support, shelter and sustenance, making a meaningful impact on those affected by adversity. Our collective goal this

#### **Expand Your Knowledge**



March 18th marks Global Recycling Day—a worldwide initiative aimed at promoting recycling and sustainability practices to protect our planet. As volunteers, there are numerous ways we can contribute to this vital cause. Consider organizing community clean-up events to collect recyclable materials, educating others about the importance of recycling, or initiating recycling drives in your local area. Here are some more ways you can make an impact within your environment:

- Bring a reusable water or coffee cup to school and/or work
- Explore alternative reusable sanitary item options
- Buy fewer items that come with extra packaging
- Use reusable grocery bags
- Use reusable straws
- Get creative with bin liners instead of using plastic bags
- Host a workshop about environmental sustainability to learn about the variety of classes and training you can participate in.

year is to unite 30,000 supporters in this noble cause!

- Initiate a charity livestream fundraising campaign on Tiltify!
- Make a financial donation at this page
- Raise awareness about Red Cross Giving Day and encourage family and friends to get involved #HelpCantWait

Learn more about Giving Day 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 always want to highlight great stories and 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 <u>YouthInvolvement@redcross.org</u>.

Together, let's reduce waste, conserve resources and build a more sustainable future for generations to come. Join us on Global Recycling Day as we make a positive impact on our environment!	

#### Get Social and Share!

Share YouthWire with your peers and invite them to subscribe.

#### Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!



Help us tell the story of youth & young adults' incredible impact by submitting a spotlight form today.

Need Volunteer Connection support? Check out these helpful <u>guides and video</u> tutorials!





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