YOUTHWIRE

-Impact Starts Here —



SERVING WITH PASSION NOVEMBER 2021

Latest from Youth Leaders

This year, Daylight Saving Time will end on Sunday, November 7. As you turn back your clocks by one hour (and catch up on some sleep), take advantage of this opportunity to also test your smoke alarms as part of the Red Cross #TurnandTest campaign.

As you may know, home fires are a major threat to communities across the nation. In fact, the Red Cross responds to a disaster every eight minutes, and the vast majority of them are home fires. Working smoke alarms can reduce the risk of dying in one, so check to see if yours are fully functioning and replace their batteries, if needed. Furthermore, encourage your family and friends to do the same so that we can make our communities safer. For more information, visit redcross.org/fire.



National Youth Involvement Month 2021

November is home to one of the National Youth Council's most exciting initiatives, National Youth Involvement Month (NYIM)! During this initiative, we aim to celebrate the accomplishments of Red Cross Youth and Young Adult volunteers across the nation by spotlighting outstanding Clubs and individuals. Every NYIM has a different theme, and this year's is Serving with Passion.

If you or your Club want to be spotlighted this month, please submit this interest form. Following your registration, you will fill out a series of questions and log your involvement through Volunteer Connection. Out of the responses received, the National Youth Council will select and spotlight the most outstanding Clubs and individuals in accordance with this year's theme, Serving with Passion. For more information, please visit here.

The National Youth Council will be hosting five different events in celebration of NYIM. Please see below:

Join the Council for our Youth Diversity Pledge, Nov. 7 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. ET: RSVP Link

Youth Volunteer Spotlight: Allison Zhu



Allison Zhu, a Northern California Coastal Region volunteer, pivoted her school's Red Cross Club to adapt to COVID-19

As the world shut down at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, Allison Zhu saw a need to rally the San Mateo High School Red Cross Club to take action. Thanks to her leadership and despite the restrictions of a virtual environment, the Club thrived.

For example, Allison ran an event called "Match the Mask" in which volunteers made masks and donated them to local hospitals. The initiative grew to involve other Red Cross Clubs in the area and ultimately 500 masks were donated. Other events she has organized include an online retreat, Missing Maps MAPathon and Points of Privilege activity.

Allison advises volunteers looking to get more involved with their community to think of the impact that they will make. "Even if you're just one person, your contributions can make a world of difference to the people that you are helping."

Amazing work, Allison! We wish you the best of luck on your Red Cross journey and can't wait to see what you will accomplish in the future.

Native American Heritage Month

- Work with the Council to identify less visible communities during our Virtual Missing MAPathon event, Nov. 13 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. ET: RSVP Link
- Get a glimpse of the Youth Advisory Council for International Humanitarian Law during the Crash Course Call, Nov. 14 from 7:00-7:45 p.m. ET: RSVP Link
- Watch a movie along with a discussion during our IHL Education Night, Nov. 20 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. ET: RSVP Link
- Recognize and celebrate all participating youth volunteers during our NYIM Celebration, Dec. 6 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. ET: RSVP Link

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement – ALL Volunteers



Last week, Gail McGovern, our president and CEO, announced that the Red Cross will implement a vaccine requirement for **all volunteers** who will work in-person in Red Cross facilities and operations. That means all volunteers will need to be fully vaccinated or have received a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by December 31 to continue working in 2022.

Read the full announcement with more detail here and connect with your local volunteer supervisor for questions.

By taking just 5 minutes to update your vaccination status and upload supporting documentation in your Volunteer Connection profile, you can help us by ensuring that you are ready to engage in inperson activities. If you have previously recorded your status, you will also need to confirm this information in your account and <u>upload your supporting documentation</u>. Log in to Volunteer Connection and update your status today.

Love YouthWire???

Great—we love it too and are always looking to highlight great stories about the awesome things happening in your region! Let us know what's new for you!

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 tip sheet to walk through how to submit your volunteer hours on Volunteer Connection! Also, available via the mobile app version!



November is National American Indian Heritage Month! This important occasion celebrates the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans. During this month, we hope to help spread the many cultures of our land's original inhabitants by sharing their history and the continuing culture of America's indigenous peoples. There are many resources out there to learn more about their cultures and identities.

- Join us for last November's **Cultural Competency Series Session!** National Diversity Advisory Council members Ian Skorodin, President & Chief Executive Officer, Barcid Foundation, and Chele Rider. Red Cross Division State Relations Director, offer their Native American experience and perspective in their work toward greater representation and inclusion of Indigenous Peoples. Listen as speakers share their stories about the road to fair representation of Native Americans in both media and service delivery.
- Visit the <u>National Native</u>
 <u>American Heritage Month</u>
 government website, where
 there is a gallery of articles,
 images and resources on
 Native American culture.
- Explore the <u>National Archives</u> and research the plethora of achivements and contributions by Native American people to our nation.

November Fundraising Highlights



Want to help fundraise for Military Family and Veteran Support? Join the Red Cross and their collaboration with Tiltify, where you can stream video games or virtual events for this specific cause! Visit here once you get your stream up and ready and follow the instructions to connect Tiltify to your streaming platform. We look forward to watching what you create!





