Latest from Youth Leaders

As we are entering February, we wanted to announce that the application for the Navin Narayan Scholarship is now open!

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 will be due on March 10, 2023. Visit this page to learn more about the scholarship and the eligibility requirements.

Youth Spotlight: Ariel Gao

Ariel Gao has served as the president of the Eastern North Carolina Red Cross Youth Chapter and has served actively as a Lead Advocate for IHL and Mapping Lead.

As the President of the Eastern North Carolina (ENC) Red Cross Youth Chapter, Ariel initiated numerous donation drives and service projects with local organizations to donate 2000+ pairs of
February is all about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion! DEI is a significant part of the Red Cross mission, applied in all lines of service. It is a great time to recognize what makes each individual special and show commitment to maintaining an inclusive environment.

Leading the Youth Diversity Pledge is a great way for you to show initiative and lead your fellow volunteers this month. This pledge was created to empower volunteers to serve as advocates and leaders of the American Red Cross through education about diversity and inclusion in the context of the organization. You can start the discussion about what makes us unique and the different challenges we face.

To further engage with this aspect of the Red Cross mission, you can sign up for various EDGE trainings. These are just some of the wide varieties of options there are:

- The Effects of Racism, Trauma and Chronic Stress on Health
- TikTok, Instagram, and other Languages of the Younger Generations
- Busting the Model Minority Myth: The Asian American and Pacific Islander Experience Today
- The Power in Now: Engaging Youth and Young Adults

What’s more? Help promote diversity by participating in some of these resource groups:

- Ability Network
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Resource Group

Serving as the Lead Advocate for the ENC International Humanitarian Law (IHL) teams, Ariel organized IHL events to educate 100+ Red Cross youth volunteers on how International Humanitarian Law and cultural property can be damaged by armed conflict. She continued to stay engaged as the Mapping Lead for regional Missing Maps events, where she trained 20 new members on how to map and hosted weekly mapping meetings to encourage others around her to volunteer. Ariel herself has also mapped 6000+ square miles of satellite data in rural areas such as Indonesia and South Sudan that are vulnerable to conflicts, natural disasters and epidemics.

Thank you so much for your work, Ariel! We can’t wait to see how else you will make a difference.

February Monthly Focus: Black History Month
• Latino Resource Group
• Pride (LGBTQ+ Resource Group)
• Umoja (Black & African American Resource Group)
• Veterans+ Resource Group
• Women’s Resource Group

For a more comprehensive list of interesting training options and more information about resource groups, check out this page.

Expanding Your Knowledge

In honor of American Heart Month this February, you can sign up for various Red Cross courses, including Basic Life Support and First Aid/AED. These courses allow you to gain knowledge in handling such situations and develop the problem-solving skills needed to help those around you. Engaging in trainings you could participate in.

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

February Fundraising Highlights
The Red Cross has partnered with Spartan Race, a leader in obstacle course racing. YOU can answer the Spartan call to become unbreakable while supporting the mission of the Red Cross in 2023. Create a fundraiser, earn Red Cross swag, and once you raise $400, receive a code to register for any Spartan Race in the USA for FREE! Questions? Email P2PFundraising@redcross.org.

Get Social and Share!
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 youth & young adults have by logging your hours and by filling out the spotlight form today. Use this helpful tip sheet to walk through how to submit your volunteer hours on Volunteer Connection. We also have this great new video to aid you in the process of logging your hours on the desktop version and mobile app version of Volunteer Connection.

Unsubscribe from YouthWire