Hi volunteers!

As the school year is coming to a close, it often becomes especially difficult for many to continue volunteering. However, the American Red Cross needs volunteers all year long, and your help is continually in demand and appreciated. We wanted to highlight some of the great ways you can get involved over the summer!

- Hold a summer cookout with friends and family by preparing popular dishes from cultures across the world in order to raise money for the Red Cross. Check out the [Taste of Diversity resource guide](#)!
- Though many Red Cross Clubs pause their activities during the summer, you can continue by [volunteering or interning at your local Red Cross chapter](#). Connect with the communities closest to you and provide help firsthand.
- Plan for the upcoming school year by [starting, reorganizing, or improving your school's Red Cross Club](#). Have fun by leading your Club’s members and/or officers in bonding events.
- For those of you who recently graduated high school, take some time this summer to read the [Red Cross transition guide](#).
- Visit the [American Red Cross Website](#) in order to find local volunteer opportunities around you.

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**Young Adult Spotlight:**

Anna Du serves as the secretary of Davis Senior High School’s Red Cross Club and as the Disaster Services Coordinator of the Gold Country Region Youth Executive Board.
We also have notable resources for important periods this month. View the Red Cross’ Brochure on Pride Resources here. You can also check out last year’s 10th anniversary event here!

On June 20th, we celebrate World Refugee Day, which is a time to honor refugees and recognize those whose lives have been impacted by war, conflict, and persecution. 1 in every 88 people on earth has been forced to flee their homes in search of safety, serving as a reminder that refugees come from all walks of life and many countries around the globe. Read a story about the Red Cross impact here.

Anna is the secretary of Davis Senior High School’s Red Cross Club as well as the Disaster Services Coordinator of the Golden Country Region Youth Executive Board. While being able to help her community with her school’s club, she is also able to contribute to her region as a part of the Youth Executive Board outside of school. She was able to host her first Red Cross regional event: the Zombie Apocalypse. This zombie-themed disaster preparedness event served to educate the region on natural disasters that quite commonly reoccur throughout the year in California. Her club has arranged card-making opportunities for veterans and healthcare workers, participated in Missing Mapathon with the members, hosted restaurant fundraisers for Red Cross disaster relief funds, planned blood drives for our school, and assisted in many community service projects with other organizations as well as the Red Cross. Being able to help positively impact those around her as well as those miles away from her has been an important experience for Anna.

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

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June is National Safety Month!

June is National Safety Month! Each year in the United States, injuries account for over 150,000 deaths and over 3 million non-fatal injuries. Throughout this month, take the time to review safety tips and research how to change or avoid behaviors that may lead to harm. As injuries are a leading cause of disability for people of all ages, taking preventative measures and maintaining good safety practices is extremely important.

The Red Cross will be doubling the size of its groundbreaking Aquatics Centennial Campaign by the end of 2023. The campaign aims to reduce drowning rates in locations where drowning rates are above the national average. As part of this expansion, the Red
Cross plans to help teach 22,500 more children annually to become water competent. Additionally, each year, the campaign is expected to support the training of 900 lifeguards and 600 Red Cross Water Safety Instructor® professionals.

These additions will augment the already successful campaign, which has delivered more than 120,000 sets of swim lessons and 5,000 certified lifeguards and Water Safety Instructors. The expansion of this Red Cross drowning prevention work comes at a time when national data shows that drowning continues to be a problem in underserved communities. For more information, visit redcross.org/CentennialSwim.

A couple of good safety tips are to always keep a first aid kit on hand and a list of emergency numbers nearby. You never know when disaster will strike and it's best to be prepared. We encourage you to make and practice emergency drills with your family so that everyone is on the same page if something were to occur. Visit these sites for health and safety training education and information about preparedness.

Some general tips to explore to learn more about safety:

- General swimming skills: enter water, tread for at least 1 minute, rotate in a circle, swim 25 yards, exit the water
- How to handle a jellyfish sting
- How to escape a rip current
- Using a life jacket
- Identifying signs of drowning
- Staying hydrated
- Treating heat cramps
- Treating heat stroke
- Conserving water

**DEI Spotlight!**
It is Pride Month! There are many resources out there to learn more about the LGBTQIA+ community and how you can get involved. Check out this statement honoring pride month and Juneteenth that our Chief Diversity Officer, Adrienne Alberts, wrote!

- Check out the recording of last December’s Cultural Competency Series to discuss the experiences and challenges of racial minorities in the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Join the Red Cross’ Pride Resource Group for a supportive environment to exchange information and ideas, foster a better understanding of the unique issues facing LGBTQ+ people and allies, and gain opportunities to learn about the LGBTQ+ community.
- Watch June’s Cultural Competency video on Perspectives of Chance: a Decade After the Repeal of Don’t Ask Don’t Tell (DADT). Hear and observe how the repeal of DADT conversely provided a space for LGBTQ+ individuals to serve in the military freely and with more authenticity than ever available before in history.
- Check out the Allyship in Action: After George Floyd as Umoja explores how the mass movement toward social justice reform is shifting and what tangible implementations are being put into place.

Additional DEI Highlights:

June Fundraising Highlight: 15 Mile Swim Challenge

Join us for our first June 15 Mile Swim Challenge on Facebook! This is a virtual event hosted on Facebook to promote swim safety! Participants who raise $200 or more will receive a Red Cross beach towel and sweetFrog tote bag. Join the Facebook Group! Contact P2PFundraising@redcross.org with questions.

Where is the Challenge?
The June 15 Mile Swim Challenge is hosted on Facebook. You can complete your miles anywhere you choose!
• It’s Juneteenth on June 19th! Juneteenth is a day of reflection and pride that commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth celebrates the Black experience and the progression toward inequality.

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 happenning 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!

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