

# YOUTHWIRE

— Impact Starts Here —



American  
Red Cross

Youth Engagement

GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

DECEMBER 2022

## Latest from Youth Leaders

We hope you are excited for the holidays this season as it's a time for giving! First, we want to celebrate a successful NYIM this year with 65 submissions from all over the country and a total of over 2,000 hours throughout the month!

As the end of the year is approaching, it's a great time to reflect on your involvement thus far and think about how to continue engaging with the Red Cross mission to finish the year strong. One great way to stay involved this month is to attend the [December Crash Course Call](#) on December 11 from 7:00 to 7:30 PM ET.

We also want to announce that the 2023 Youth and Young Adult International Humanitarian Law Essay and Art Competition is now open to 8<sup>th</sup> graders to graduate students, with a deadline of January 27, 2023. This year's focus is to craft a piece highlighting the importance of protecting the environment during armed conflict. A \$200 prize will be awarded to first place winners and finalists will be featured in a special Red Cross magazine and more. Check out [this page](#) to learn more about the competition. All submissions are due to [IHLyouth@redcross.org](mailto:IHLyouth@redcross.org).

We wish you a happy holiday season and happy New Year! See you in 2023!

## Club Spotlight:

### University of California, Berkeley



*Red Cross Club at UC Berkeley. Here, Red Cross at Cal volunteers with additional volunteers from NCCR's Alameda County Red Cross. They installed a total of 193 smoke alarms in 62 homes!*

With over 100 active volunteers that engage with Berkeley's local community, the American Red Cross at Cal is composed of a passionate group of college students dedicated to the mission and spirit of the Red Cross. Ranging from hosting monthly blood drives, to



### Holidays for Heroes

As we just celebrated Veterans Day on November 11, it's our time to give back to those that served our country! Get involved with [Holidays for Heroes](#), which include a variety of activities that recognize and thank local veterans and military communities.

Working with your region, you can convey appreciation in various ways, including making holiday cards and banners or gathering small donations. The Red Cross doesn't have a national Holiday Mail for Heroes PO Box to which cards are sent so this activity is great to work with your local Red Cross unit.

One young adult volunteer recently shared, "I loved participating in Holidays for Heroes because it was a great way to give back to service members during the

doing live CPR demonstrations, and even educating at local Sound the Alarms, the American Red Cross at Cal strives to provide service, aid and relief to their local Berkeley community. The Red Cross at Cal volunteers specifically worked shifts at Berkeley's half marathon, where they were on call for any hands-on CPR or first aid for fatigued runners.

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

### December Monthly Focus: National Humans Rights Month

Millions of stateless people are denied access to **basic rights** like education and health care.

National Human Rights Month this December serves as

holidays. It was something tangible that I was able to organize at a recent family gathering.”

## Expand Your Knowledge

In honor of International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, you can continue to support the Red Cross’ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion mission and explore the [Cultural Competency Series: The Importance of Disability Identity in Disaster Response](#).



Additionally, [register](#) and join us for our upcoming **Cultural Competency Series: In the Voices of Immigrants** on December 9 at 2:30 PM ET, which will include a great panel discussion.

## 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](mailto:YouthInvolvement@redcross.org)

Get Social and Share!

a reminder of the importance of standing up for human rights. A part of the Red Cross’ humanitarian mission is to stand against violations based on individual factors and aim to ensure that all have access to basic rights. Engage with some of these great resources to learn more and spread awareness:

- Learn about how you can become involved with the **International Humanitarian Law (IHL)** program on [this page](#). You can take free professional training courses that are listed or learn more about the IHL Youth Action Campaign.
- Engage with Learning 2 Action EDGE videos (log into your Volunteer Connection account before accessing the following): [Uncovering Unconscious Bias](#) or [Anti-Racism Action: Changing Systems with Candor, Compassion, and Courage](#)

## December Fundraising Highlights: Holiday Giving Campaign



Share this newsletter with your peers and friends or have them email [YouthInvolvement@redcross.org](mailto: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.



It is the holiday season and giving hope is a focus this month with the Holiday Giving Campaign. With the variety of ways to give, you can Give Something That Means Something. Make sure to check out [this page](#) to learn more and encourage others to get involved! Donations can be made through a [Holiday Giving Donation](#) or by making a blood donation. Some great ways to get involved and support the campaign include supporting our partners by shopping with AmazonSmile, checking out with PayPal, or purchasing at Circle K!

The Hope for the Holidays campaign will also be occurring throughout this month to raise money to support disaster relief. You can set up your Hope for the Holidays fundraiser [here](#) and share with friends and family. There will be opportunities to win prizes such as hoodies, holiday sweaters, pins and more. To stay connected, follow @RedCrossGaming on Twitter, join the Discord at American Red Cross, and contact [charitystream@redcross.org](mailto:charitystream@redcross.org) with any questions.

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