

## Latest from Youth Leaders

This year, May 8 marks World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, a day to celebrate the principles, values, history and impact of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Wherever and whenever crisis presents itself, a Red Cross or Red Crescent volunteer is ready to support the people affected, ensuring that they recover quickly and can live with greater resilience and dignity. Their commitment never wavers, and their compassion has no limits. During this day, we pay tribute to the millions of volunteers, members and staff who work every day to prevent and alleviate human suffering all over the world. They work on the front line of every crisis, often in difficult circumstances and at risk to their own safety and deserve our deep gratitude. On this World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, the American Red Cross celebrates our long journey and reaffirms our commitment to our humanitarian mission.

As a reminder, National Youth Council applications are currently open. By joining the [National Youth Council](#), you will not only support the Red Cross mission to a greater extent, but also write the story of youth and young adult volunteerism across our nation. The application is made of three components: a Volunteer Connection form, a Red Cross recommendation, and non-Red Cross recommendation. The deadline to submit all application materials is 11:59 p.m. ET on May 13, 2022. Good luck to everyone applying.

## Red Cross Club Spotlight: Bethel Baptist High School



Commented [GA1]: Let's add the link to NYC application here



This month, the American Red Cross marks 141 years of preventing and alleviating human suffering. In our effort to best serve the multitude of needs across the nation, the American Red Cross is separated into five distinct lines of service. All of these branches work cooperatively to fulfill the Red Cross mission. Below is a brief overview of the impact each branch has made throughout our history, and how you can personally get involved.

**DISASTER CYCLE SERVICES:** Across our nation, Red Cross workers have responded to over 3 million disasters, providing comfort, support and hope to millions of people after crises of all kinds — from natural disasters to home fires to tragic shootings. Get involved by learning more about [disaster relief](#), signing up to be a [disaster volunteer](#), or following the [Preparedness Activity Guides](#).

**BIOMEDICAL SERVICES:** The American Red Cross is one of the largest national collectors and distributors of blood products in the country, supplying about 40% of the nation's blood. Through the work of our Biomedical Services, the Red Cross remains at the forefront of the nation's blood supply, teaching

*Bethel Baptist High School from the Southern California Region led their club in an Ice Cream Fundraiser which raised over \$200 for the American Red Cross*

Earlier this year, the Bethel Baptist Red Cross Club members took action by continuing their annual ice cream social. The club had to consider a multitude of factors before enacting their initiative, discussing the ideal location, times and flavors to include. They focused a large amount of time on advertising and placed a large poster at the entrance of the school as well as arranged flyers all throughout the school. Their event was a huge success, with over 50 customers from their small school participating in the fundraiser.

For those interested in following this fundraising campaign, the club reinforces the importance of "discussing with your members what they believe the majority of the population wants. Whether interesting toppings or more ice cream flavors, it is better to get multiple opinions in order to maximize profit." They state that "it's better to overestimate than underestimate how many people are willing to buy ice cream. Proper advertising and announcements get people excited."

Thank you so much for your work, Bethel Baptist Red Cross Club! We look forward to the exciting things you'll continue to do.

**AAPI Month**

skills that save lives and providing comfort to victims of disasters. Get involved by [giving blood at a local center](#), becoming a [Blood Donor Ambassador](#), or by [hosting a blood drive](#) at your school.

**TRAINING SERVICES:** For more than 100 years, Red Cross instructors have empowered ordinary individuals with extraordinary skills that save lives — starting in 1909 with its First Aid Training Department, which trained as many as 8,000 instructors to meet the increasing demand for first aid classes across the country. Continue the American Red Cross mission by learning lifesaving skills and emergency preparedness techniques. Sign up for CPR, AED, First Aid [here](#), and [connect with your region](#) to see how else they can support you.

**SERVICE TO THE ARMED FORCES:** Red Cross staff have deployed alongside the military in every U.S. conflict since the Spanish-American War. Together, we honor the more than 500 Red Cross SAF workers who have lost their lives during these conflicts, and the many other service members and veterans who have sacrificed themselves for our country. Help support the Armed forces by [establishing an IHL Campaign](#), making [holiday cards for veterans](#), or by [throwing a birthday party](#) for service members.

**INTERNATIONAL SERVICES:** As part of the world's largest humanitarian network, the American Red Cross is one of 192 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies across the globe that respond to disasters, help families search for loved ones missing as a result of war, natural disaster or civil unrest, and work to prevent the spread of infectious diseases in communities around the world. Join in the efforts of our international services by participating in a [Vaccinate a Village Campaign](#).

## Expand Your Knowledge



May is [Asian American and Pacific Islander Month](#). This important occasion celebrates the rich ancestry and traditions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and the many contributions they have provided for our nation. During this month, we hope to bring awareness and respect to the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander cultures through the sharing of their history and experiences. There are many resources out there to learn more about their cultures and identities.

- Join us for last [May's Cultural Competency Series Session](#). Listen in as speakers bust the model minority myth, discuss the Asian American and Pacific Islander Experience during the modern day, and the implications of COVID-19 on the community's sense of belonging and safety.

May is [Military Appreciation Month](#). This month, the American Red Cross highlights its commitment to serving the U.S. military community at every step – from the time a service member takes the oath to when they navigate life as a veteran. The Red Cross supports military communities across the globe at military hospitals, overseas installations, and communities across America. Help further our mission this month by [hosting a gift drive for a veteran's hospital](#) or by participating in the ["Totes of Hope" program for homeless veterans](#), where you pack backpacks of personal care items.



### 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!

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 today! Use this helpful [tip sheet](#) to walk through how to

- Watch the Red Cross' talk on [Dismantling Anti-Asian American/Pacific Islander Bias in the Workplace](#). Jennifer Brown Consulting, the Hate Is A Virus non-profit community, and Adrienne Lawrence will lead the conversation as we learn how to identify and stop anti-AAPI bias in our workplaces.
- Visit the [Asian Pacific Heritage Month government website](#), where there is a gallery of articles, images, events and resources on Asian/Pacific American culture.
- Explore the [National Archives](#) and research the plethora of achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to our nation.
- Join the Red Cross' [Asian American and Pacific Islander Resource Group](#) in order to help create awareness around the many ways this community contributes to the Red Cross.

### May Fundraising Highlights

**SOUND THE ALARM**  
Save a Life

**Practice** your 2-minute drill.

**Test** your smoke alarms.

When a home catches fire, two minutes may be all the time you have to escape. That's why the American Red Cross is promoting the importance of home fire safety and preparedness by launching our inaugural 2-Minute

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

Fitness Challenge during Sound the Alarm. Each day in May, complete as many reps of your favorite exercise as you can in 2 minutes all while helping raise funds for home fire relief and to help save lives. Earn free workout swag for participating! Are you up for the challenge? [Sign-up today to fundraise and save lives.](#)