

DAYS OF SERVICE

January

National Mentoring Month (January) During National Mentoring Month, attention is focused on how mentoring benefits the child, adult and society, as a whole. It is also a time to thank those mentors who are "everyday heroes" to their mentees and to encourage others to share the experience and become a mentor. <http://www.nationalmentoringmonth.org/>

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (January) You can be great because you can serve! Join thousands of Americans across the country that are honoring the life and work of Dr. King by serving their community by making the holiday "a day ON, not a day off." <http://www.mlkday.org>

February

Groundhog Job Shadow Day (February 2) Beginning with a nationwide kickoff in February, and continuing throughout the school year, students across America will "shadow" workplace mentors as they go through a normal day on the job. The students get to see firsthand how the skills learned in school relate to the workplace. <http://www.jobshadow.org>

Random Acts of Kindness Week (February) Teachers enjoy emphasizing kindness on Valentine's Day because kindness, by its very nature, includes everyone. We can remind students how great it feels to be remembered with a Valentine, and that each of their peers needs this encouragement and connection with others. <http://www.actsofkindness.org>

Corporate Philanthropy Day (February) The fourth Monday in February is a day for building awareness of corporate-community partnerships and inspiring businesses to engage further in philanthropy. (Global as of 2009) <http://www.corporatephilanthropy.org/events/international-corporate-philanthropy-day.html>

March

Read Across America (March 2) The National Education Association sponsors this annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on or around the birthday of Dr. Seuss, March 2. <http://www.nea.org/readacross>

Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning Engage young people in service-learning programs that exemplify the values and principles of Cesar E. Chavez while addressing real community needs. Recognized on or near Chavez's birthday, March 31. <http://www.cesarchavezfoundation.org>

April

National Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we renew our commitment to preventing child abuse and neglect, and we dedicate ourselves to creating a safe environment in which our children can grow and thrive. <http://www.preventchildabuse.org>

National Poetry Month (April) Thousands of businesses and non-profit organizations around the country to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events. <http://www.poets.org/npm>

International Children's Book Day Celebrate on or around Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, April 2, to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children's books.
<http://www.ibby.org>

Global Youth Service day (April–Saturday of National Volunteer Week) Global Youth Service Day mobilizes millions of young Americans to identify and address the needs of their communities through service. It is also an opportunity to recruit the next generation of volunteers and educate the public about the role of youth as community leaders. Weekend of National Volunteer Week.
<http://gysd.org/>

National Volunteer Week (April–Third Week in April) National Volunteer Week encourages all Americans to commit themselves to do more through the many volunteer programs available in their communities, and to celebrate the invaluable service that volunteers do everyday.
<http://www.handsonnetwork.org/nationalprograms/signatureevents/nvw>

Earth Day (April 22) Earth Day activities join people who are committed to protecting public health and the environment for generations to come. <http://www.earthday.gov>

World Book and Copyright Day (April 23) A world-wide tribute to books and authors, sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Everyone, and in particular young people, are encouraged to discover the pleasure of reading and gain a renewed respect for the irreplaceable contributions of those who have furthered the social and cultural progress of humanity.
www.unesco.org/culture/bookday

May

National Scholarship Month (May) Celebrate students' dreams and accomplishments, recognize the current support to help students achieve their educational dreams, and underscore the ongoing need for continued support of all kinds of scholarships. Initiated by Scholarship America, National Scholarship Month is now being spearheaded by the National Scholarship Providers Association. <http://www.scholarshipproviders.org/>

Older Americans Month (May) Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular those who defended our country. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs and other such activities. <http://olderamericansmonth.org/>

Join Hands Day (May) First Saturday in May. Bring youth and adults together on the first Saturday in May to improve their own communities. A benefit of the day comes through the friendships that will be made across generations. The new partnerships will be an important first step in bringing more young people into leadership roles in many organizations.
<http://www.joinhandsday.org>

AmeriCorps Week (May) AmeriCorps Week is a recruitment and recognition event designed to bring more Americans into service, salute AmeriCorps members and alums for their powerful impact, and thank the community partners who make AmeriCorps possible.
<http://www.americorpsweek.gov/>

June

United Nations Public Service Day (23 June) The United Nations General Assembly, on 20 December 2002, designated 23 June of each year as United Nations Public Service Day (resolution 57/277). It encouraged Member States to organize special events on that Day to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process.

<http://www.betterworldcalendar.com/publicserviceday.htm>

July

Mandela Day (July 18) An annual celebration of Nelson Mandela's life (started in 2009) and a global call to action for people to recognize their individual power to "make an imprint" and change the world around them -- by giving *67 minutes* of volunteer service.

<http://www.mandeladay.com/>

August

National Night Out A unique crime/drug prevention event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations, and local officials in block parties, parades, flashlight walks, contests, and more, to generate support and participation in anti-crime programs, and strengthen community-police partnerships.

<http://www.nationaltownwatch.org/nno/>

September

9-11 Remembrance Day Originally designated Patriot Day in 2002, September 11 was amended in 2009 to a National Day of Service and Remembrance, on which all Americans and others are encouraged to voluntarily support charitable causes, perform good deeds or engage in other service activities. With leadership from MyGoodDeed Inc., the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Points of Light Institute, and the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, the goal of the event is to inspire everyone to carry forward every day in their lives, through their actions toward others, the remarkable spirit of unity, understanding, and service that brought America and the world together in the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

<http://911dayofservice.org/>

National Neighborhood Day (September) Celebrated on the third Sunday of September, the mission of National Neighborhood Day is to inspire, build, and sustain the neighborhood relationships that provide the foundation for civic action and the building of stronger, more caring and effective communities. <http://www.neighborhoodday.org>

Senior Corps Week (September) Across the country Senior Corps volunteers and adults age 55+ are mentoring and tutoring children, responding to disasters, working on environmental projects, and helping frail seniors stay independent. Senior Corps Week is a week-long initiative designed to create awareness and recognize and thank community partners and volunteers for the impact they make in their communities.

<http://www.getinvolved.gov/Default.asp>

October

Intergeneration Day (First Sunday in October Starts Intergeneration Week) Creating an age-integrated community leads to a healthy community, where the strengths of one generation meet the needs of another. Connections are being made to combat the segregation and isolation of different generations. Intergeneration Day is celebrated on the

first Sunday of October. <http://www.intergenerationday.org>

Be the Change Day (October 1) An annual service day sponsored by South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow (SAALT). (Formerly called "National Ghandi Day of Service")
<http://www.saalt.org/pages/Be-the-Change.html>

Kids Care Week Celebrated the third week of October, recognizes the power of kids to help others in their community and the world. During the week, young people focus their compassion on a specific social issue through a service project. Kids Care Week culminates on Make a Difference Day,
<http://www.kidscare.org/about/kidsCareWeek>

Make A Difference Day (Fourth Saturday in October) A unique program that inspires and rewards volunteers. Everyone who helps others on the fourth Saturday of October and sends in an entry form is eligible for a national or local award and for a cash donation to a charitable cause. www.makeadifferenceday.com

November

Youth Appreciation Week The second full week in November, Optimist Clubs recognize local youth for their efforts in the arts, athletics, academics and community service work. Youth Appreciation Week projects are intended to make children feel important and highlight their positive contributions to society.
<http://www.optimist.org/default.cfm?content=members/mbrcdpa10.htm>

World Kindness Day November 13
<http://www.actsofkindness.org>

National Philanthropy Day (November 15) Sponsored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, this day is celebrated around the US by AFP chapters in various ways, often with conferences or awards. Financial giving is the primary focus, but volunteering is almost always included.
<http://www.afpnet.org/content.cfm?ItemNumber=4032>

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week (November) Each year, one week before Thanksgiving, National Coalition for the Homeless and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness co-sponsor National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. During this week, a number of schools, communities and cities take part in a nationwide effort to bring greater awareness to the problems of hunger and homelessness.
<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/getinvolved/projects/awareness/index.html>

National Family Volunteer Day (Saturday before Thanksgiving) Designed to showcase the benefits of families working together, introduce community service, and encourage those who haven't yet made the commitment to volunteer as a family, National Family Volunteer Day is held the Saturday before Thanksgiving and kicks off National Family Week.
<http://pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nfvd/>

National Family Week (November) Embraces the premise that children live better lives when their families are strong, and families are strong when they live in communities that connect them to economic opportunities, social networks, and services. Observed during Thanksgiving week. <http://www.nationalfamilyweek.org>

December

International Volunteer Day (December 5) The United Nations General Assembly designates December 5 as an annual celebration of voluntary action by people, communities and governments of the world. <http://www.worldvolunteerweb.org/int-l-volunteer-day.html>