

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

A campaign that celebrates and mobilizes millions of children and youth to contribute to their communities every day of the year through service and service-learning

Create a Project

Investigation
Identify a local, national, or global need of sources to research the need and you would like to address. Use a variety of sources to research the need and identify community partners. Think about the things you are good at, as well as the skills that other people bring to the table.

Preparation and Planning
Develop a strategy for change and a common vision for success. Determine what you will do: create a timeline, assign responsibilities, develop a budget and an outreach plan, and find a project location. Include community partners in the process. Is the project providing hands-on assistance (direct service), raising money (indirect service), or increasing awareness around an issue (advocacy and research)? How can you involve people who are not usually asked to serve?



Reflection

Include reflection before, during, and after your project. Reflection helps you understand why you are providing the service, what difference you are making, and what you are learning along the way. It also gives you a chance to review the outcomes of your project and to assess what worked, what you might do differently next time, and to determine potential next steps. Be sure to also seek feedback from the community you have served.



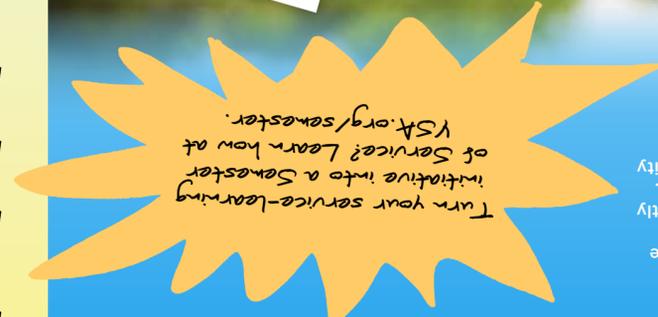
Action

Now it's time to do the project you planned! Does everyone know where to go and what task to do? Make sure someone is ready to answer any questions posed by volunteers, the community, elected officials, special guests, or local media. Document your action by taking photos and videos.



Celebration/ Demonstration/

Share what you have done and what you have learned from the experience by teaching others. Draft a report for the community, present your results at a public event, write letters to public officials, or send out a newsletter to parents and peers. Host a volunteer and partner awards ceremony, recognizing the contributions that each person brought to the project.



- CHECKLIST**
- Here are some important steps to follow to ensure a successful GYSD in your community:
- Determine an issue or cause you want to address
 - Research the resources available
 - Read about issue online and in newspapers
 - Interview community members
 - Learn about an issue from those already working on it
 - Contact potential partners
 - Invite three or more project partners
 - Seek additional funding or in-kind donations
 - Create a budget for the event
 - Create marketing materials to raise awareness
 - Post flyers
 - Create a Facebook invite
 - Use a Twitter hashtag
 - Invite local media
 - Print/Blogs
 - Radio/TV
 - Invite public officials (mayors, state legislators, members of school boards)
 - Coordinate and assign volunteer responsibilities
 - Thank volunteers
 - Demonstrate and celebrate your accomplishments
 - Host a community forum to show what you learned
 - Write a letter to your newspaper or public official detailing what you accomplished
 - Document your success in a blog, journal, or photographs
 - Determine what more you can accomplish and how you can sustain your project
 - Celebrate by coordinating a reception or public event



additional resources

Youth Service America offers a variety of resources to help you implement your Global Youth Service Day event, including grants and planning materials. The *GYSD Tool Kit*, the *Semester of Service Strategy Guide*, and issue-based service-learning guides such as *First Responders: Youth Addressing Childhood Obesity* are available for free download at YSA.org.

Established in 1988, GYSD occurs in over 100 countries each year and is the largest service event in the world. On GYSD, children and youth address the world's most critical issues by partnering with schools, families, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and governments. GYSD is coordinated by Youth Service America.

To learn more about GYSD and to register your project, visit GYSD.org.



Like Global Youth Service Day on Facebook or follow @GYSD on Twitter.

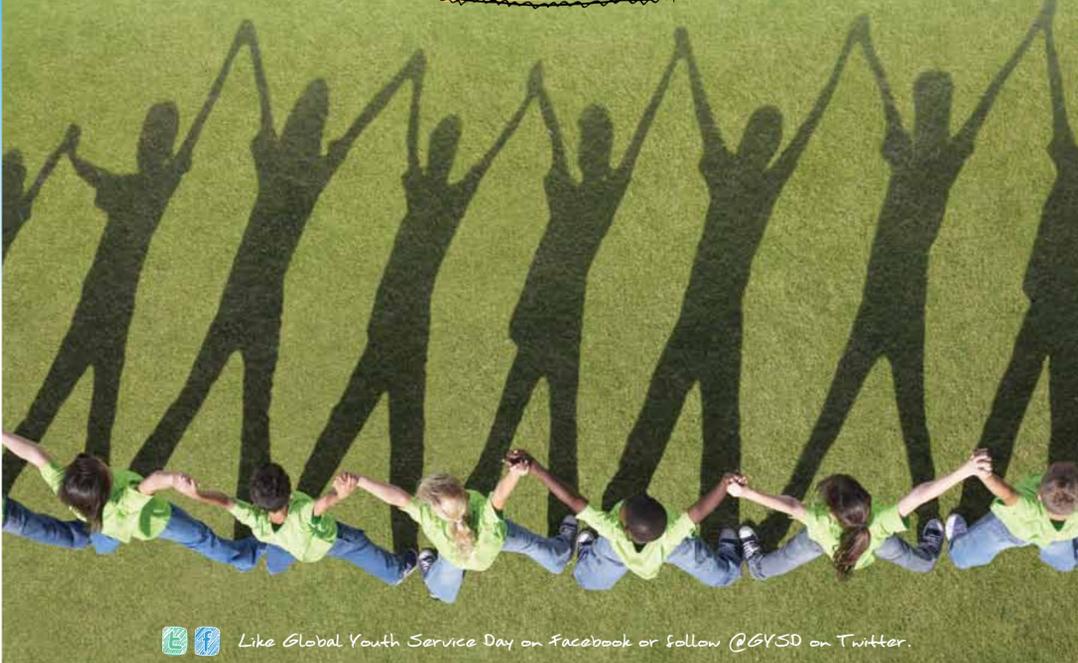
Youth changing the world

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

APRIL 15-17 2011

The largest service event in the world celebrating the contributions young people make 365 days of the year

www.GYSD.org



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How are you going to change the world?

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