



<http://gysd.org/>

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) celebrates and mobilizes children and youth who improve their communities through service and service-learning. Established in 1988, GYSD is the largest service event in the world and is now celebrated in over 100 countries. On GYSD, children and youth address the world's most critical issues in partnership with families, schools, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and governments.

Governor Heineman's Nebraska Global Youth Service Day Proclamation



ServeNebraska has been selected by Youth Service America as one of just two Global Youth Service Day projects in Nebraska. (The other is the University of Nebraska – Omaha). As a lead agency, ServeNebraska strives to increase the scope, visibility, and sustainability of Global Youth Service Day by leading city, regional, and statewide service projects.

In order to maximize the breadth of initiatives in Nebraska, ServeNebraska provides support to local efforts through a competitive mini-grant application process. National service participants, through the Nebraska InterCorps Council, lead this process with the support and approval of ServeNebraska leadership. 2010 supported projects are:

Youth Services

- City Impact (Lincoln)
- Cleaner Greener Lincoln (Lincoln)
- C.O.P.E. (Elkhorn)
- Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault (Fremont)
- GLW Children's Council (Burwell)
- Omaha Fire Department
- Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance
- People's City Mission (Lincoln)
- West Ridge Wrangler 4-H (Almeria)

Disability Focus – Engaging Youth With Disability

- About Group (White Clay)
- FYI Center (Fairbury)
- Hart of the Matter (Omaha)
- HETRA (Valley)
- MMI AmeriCorps (Omaha)
- Region V Services (York)
- SANDS (Omaha)
- Western Nebraska Community College (Scottsbluff)

Details and contact information on each supported project can be found below:

YOUTH SERVICES

City Impact (Lincoln)

The Youth Philanthropy Team at City Impact raises awareness of child abuse while educating the public about child abuse prevention on Saturday, April 24, 2010. The youth build awareness by handing out blue silicone wristbands that state "Prevent Child Abuse". Youth engage in public education by conversing with families, youth and children about child abuse prevention and their ongoing project benefiting the Friendship Home, a shelter for battered women and children.

CONTACT

Chelsea Amundson
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Cleaner Greener Lincoln

Youth promote conservation and support Earth Day celebrations by informing and educating attendees about the need for recycling, and Lincoln Earth Day's zero-waste policy. This will involve instructing attendees how to properly use the recycling bins, handing out "Get Caught Recycling" coupons to attendees using the recycling bins, and encouraging attendees to use recycling bins. The effort will also assist with educational activities.

CONTACT

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YOUTH SERVICES – CONTINUED

C.O.P.E. (Christian Outreach Program – Elkhorn)

Youth enrich the soil, till, fence, and organize the rows for an expanded community garden growing vegetables that will be donated in the fall to hungry families that access food pantries

CONTACT

Jennifer Jeffrey
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Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault (Fremont)

The Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault partners with Midland Lutheran College's "C 4 C Group", a social change student organization, to promote a Watch Your Drink campaign. The Watch Your Drink Campaign is designed to educate youth and the public on the potential dangers of date rape drugs. C 4 C students will be presenting at Midland's Academic Achievement Day on date rape awareness and risk reduction and the Watch Your Drink Campaign to about 150 high school seniors. The high school students will be invited to volunteer on the campaign and to attend the C 4 C's Youth Service Day on April 24th. The Crisis Center's Community Educator will provide training on dating violence, healthy relationships, bullying/bystander and sexual respect. Lunch will be provided and then the students will plan their campaign to partner with local restaurants, bars and clubs. They will be providing the businesses with coasters and posters with the Watch Your Drink message and emergency contact numbers if you or someone you know has been assaulted.

CONTACT

Suzanne Smith
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GLW Children's Council - GLWCC (Burwell)

Youth volunteer to help renovate the local "Rodeo Theater" by painting, cleaning, and planning a benefit "Grand Re-Opening". The re-opening will feature addresses on local norms and the affects of alcohol on our youth. GLWCC actively promotes the 40 Developmental Assets for youth that help them to thrive and survive and will teach them how to develop positive character traits and leadership skills, instill a heightened sense of personal responsibility and community involvement, and raise the level of commitment to education and public service. This project offers youth a chance to design a project to improve their community and help others. In doing so, they will be helping themselves to become better citizens. Every student will understand the character, leadership and service count for a great deal, and the entire community can be proud of them!

CONTACT

Trisha Caldwell
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Omaha Fire Department

Captain David Mann, the City of Omaha Fire Department Public Education/Recruiting Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist, coordinates the Omaha Fire Department's Juvenile Firesetter Program which works to educate youth who have had incidences of firesetting or display common behaviors associated with firesetting, as well as their families. For this project, Captain Mann will reach out to 10 families to participate in the *play safe! be safe!* Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Project. These youth (ages 10-18) and their families provide to local childcare providers serving youth between the ages of 3-5.

CONTACT

Capt. David Mann
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Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance - OHKA

Project G.P.S (Gardening with Purpose and Service) combines knowledge about lead safety and horticulture into an educational and innovative project for youth. The focus of this project is to teach children about potential lead hazards in soil and how to landscape the area using lead safe practices. OHKA and the third grade science class of Lothrop Magnet Center (LMC) are partnering together to get youth engaged in environmental education by teaching them how to safely garden and landscape. Landscaping is an effective method of remediating lead, because it helps to eliminate lead dust. Lead dust is very harmful to children, particularly because of their hand to mouth activity and rapid physical development. Lead poisoning can cause aggressive behavior, damage to the nervous system and organs, and learning disabilities in children. It is essential to teach children how to make their home and community lead safe through effective and dynamic hands on activities.

CONTACT

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YOUTH SERVICES – CONTINUED

People's City Mission (Lincoln)

On April 24, 2010, the People's City Mission homeless shelter will be hosting a food drive. The volunteers for the food drive will be teams of college students competing to collect the most food. The teams will go into the local community, as well as surrounding areas, and collect canned/non-perishable food for the People's City Mission shelter. PCM houses the majority of the homeless people in Lincoln, and serves 3 meals a day to all guests as well as unsheltered homeless who wish to eat.

CONTACT

Amy Cink

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West Ridge Wrangler 4-H (Almeria)

Youth will rehab Abbott Community Park whose play equipment has fallen into disrepair and the grounds have become overgrown with weeds. There has been a recent spike of families with young children moving into Western Loup County, bringing a renewed need for an area recreational site. For the most of the West Ridge Wrangler (WRW) families, simply taking the children to play in a park is currently a twenty-five mile trip...one way. The children have decided that this can be solved through the restoration of the local Abbott Community Park.

CONTACT

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DISABILITY INCLUSION: ENGAGING YOUTH WITH DISABILITY

About Group (White Clay)

There is a tremendous need for physical clean-up of the unincorporated 50-acre community of White Clay. This project will bring together a diverse group of youth [white, native, disabled, middle-class and poverty-level] to demonstrate that good things can happen when people choose to come together – breaking down historical barriers – and serving as role models to other youth and adults. Partners include the Nebraska Attorney General, Keep Nebraska Beautiful/Keep America Beautiful, Boys & Girls Club of Pine Ridge, and area schools and churches.

PROJECT WEBSITE: www.whiteclayredux.com

CONTACT

Bruce BonFleur

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FYI Center – Blue Valley Community Action (Fairbury)

Youth will convene a gathering at a summer camp, with the theme "Celebrating Differences". This celebration will teach the youth that despite disabilities, differences among people don't mean they should be excluded.

CONTACT

Connie Schwartz

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Hart of the Matter (Omaha)

The Arts for All project provides tools and equipment that offer individuals of all abilities an opportunity for creative expression. Art tools that hook up to wheelchairs allow success for participants with limited movement or lack of fine motor skills. Students work together to roll out paint, print, create and draw – all while working on mobility skills and coordination through art. Students will continue to build awareness and appreciation for each child's individuality.

[Photos of the Hart of the Matter activity](#)

CONTACT

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DISABILITY INCLUSION: ENGAGING YOUTH WITH DISABILITY - CONTINUED

Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy - HETRA (Valley)

The project will assist in producing and mailing the *Heartland Hoofbeat*, HETRA's quarterly newsletter. This newsletter is a chance for students and volunteers to show and tell the community what they have accomplished at HETRA. For some, putting their mark in the newsletter may be a volunteer who helps a student sign their name or a volunteer who writes an article on how her volunteer commitment has made the difference in her life. Accomplishments are seen daily in students and volunteers all because they have chosen to make a difference in the lives of those around them.

CONTACT

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MMI AmeriCorps – Munroe Meyer Institute, University of Nebraska Medical Center (Omaha)

Participants will take part in a day of service featuring a greeting by Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle and concluding with a communal lunch. Buses and private vehicles transport them to pre-determined locations in South Omaha to chemically wash graffiti from businesses, poles and road signs. All cleaning products and materials will be provided by the Omaha Neighborhood Center through a grant from the Omaha Weed and Seed Program. A target number of 30-40 businesses will be served as well as 25 to 30 objects, such as stop signs and electric poles.

CONTACT

Michael Siref
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Region V Services (York)

Participants will build a shed at a Region V foundation owned group home. This shed will protect and store valuable specialized bicycles for people who could not experience riding a regular bicycle. Region V has one such bicycle and has individuals who are interested in helping purchase other bikes, but not without a storage facility.

CONTACT

Lisa Obermier
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Sportsmen Assisting the Nation's Disabled Sportsmen - SANDS (Omaha)

On each of two days, approximately 35 participants (total 70) will be provided free-of-charge 3 1/2 hours of accessible dock fishing with volunteers that will help them with any aspect of the sport they require. All needed accessible equipment and supplies will be provided.

CONTACT

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Western Nebraska Community College - WNCC (Scottsbluff)

LifeLink-Nebraska students at WNCC will assist a community group with a goal of revitalizing the Soap-Box Derby Hill and Race in Scottsbluff. The community has a track which has not been used since the 1980's. The citizen's committee has raised enough money to resurface the track and obtained lumber from Home Depot to build a concession stand. LifeLink students will assist the community group with building the concession stand, installing rail guards, bleachers, and general landscaping to prepare the track for racing in the Summer of 2010. In addition, LifeLink students will purchase a soap box derby kit car authorized by the organization Soap Box Derby. The students will build the car to specifications as a class project with help from the citizen committee. Although the students are too old to race the car, they will donate the use of the car to younger students with disabilities or other young people in the community who are disadvantaged and need a car. The LifeLink program promotes the philosophy of service-learning by completing annual projects which promote this philosophy. We also strongly believe that youth with disabilities can contribute to the good of the community in a number of ways. We are anxious for community members at large to recognize the abilities of our students and not their disabilities.

CONTACT

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