

## 2012 Global Youth Service Day: April 20 – 22



ServeNebraska is proud to have been chosen by [Youth Service America](#) as a lead agency for [Global Youth Service Day](#). In line with our mission of mobilizing Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration, and national service programs ServeNebraska conducted a mini-grant process to maximize the involvement of youth in communities across our state. Applications were sought from youth-serving groups and organizations for projects uniting community involvement with service learning.

### Stand for the Silent: Anti-Bullying Initiative

The statewide Stand for the Silent Anti-Bullying Initiative is the signature event of ServeNebraska's 2012 Global Youth Service Day efforts. On April 20, 2012, schools and groups have the opportunity to get involved by taking a pledge to combat bullying and participating in 7 seconds of silence followed by a balloon release reflecting the statistic that every 7 seconds someone is bullied. Participating schools and youth service organizations receive balloons and pledge cards from the generous support of sponsoring entities including the [Oriental Trading Company](#). A \$200 Global Youth Service mini-grant was awarded to support this effort.

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**A project of the Nebraska InterCorps Council  
In conjunction with Global Youth Service Day**

## Mini-Grant Awards



Nebraska InterCorps  
Council

Facilitated by ServeNebraska, the [ServeNebraska InterCorps Council \(ICC\)](#), a leadership council of AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps\*VISTAs in service throughout Nebraska, took the lead in coordinating the Mini-Grant Process. Members assisted in the creation of the application; rallied their communities to participate in Global Youth Service Day and apply Mini-Grants; and conducted a thorough and deliberative consensus-based grant review process. Leading these efforts for the ICC was Katie Brokaw, an AmeriCorps member in service with College Possible in Omaha.

A total of **\$3,675** in 2012 Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant funding was awarded to applicants by ServeNebraska in two project areas – Youth Service (**\$2,200**) and Disability Youth Service (**\$1,475**). ServeNebraska received grant funds from the [State Farm Foundation](#) to be a Lead Agency for Global Youth Service Day in Nebraska as designated by Youth Service America and grant funds from the [Corporation for National & Community Service](#) for disability and inclusion services.

### Youth Service Mini-Grant Awards

- [North Central Development Center \(Ainsworth\)](#) - **Grant Award: \$150**
  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: Ainsworth Soccer Field, 335 N. Main St. Ainsworth, NE 69210
  - Contact: Kristin Olson, (402) 387-2740, [ncdc@ainsworthlinks.org](mailto:ncdc@ainsworthlinks.org)
  - Description: Youth of all ages implement the community plan to upgrade the soccer fields and increase the opportunities for the youth to play, coach and referee.

**ServeNebraska: 2012 Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant Projects (continued)**

- **[Asian Community & Cultural Center Youth Program \(Lincoln\)](#) – Grant Award: \$225**
  - Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012
  - Location: 2635 "O" St., Suite A 68510
  - Contact: Britt-Marie Varisco, (402) 477-3446, [britt@lincolnasiancenter.org](mailto:britt@lincolnasiancenter.org)
  - Description: Youth supported by volunteers from the First Baptist Church, University of Nebraska Lincoln and Nebraska Wesleyan University service learning classes assist with the planning and coordination of a drive to collect school supplies to send to schools in the Mae La refugee camp in Thailand.
  
- **[Beatrice Humane Society \(Beatrice\)](#) – Grant Award: \$200**
  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: Beatrice Humane Society, 300 Ella St., Beatrice, NE 68310.
  - Contact: Bette Anne Thaut, (402) 228-1965, [btatgal@windstream.net](mailto:btatgal@windstream.net)
  - Description: A week long camp focuses on volunteering, the needs of animals, and the benefit that the shelter brings to the community. Youth execute a supply drive for the shelter and then be part of putting up the shelving and stocking shelves.
  
- **[City of Lincoln Parks & Recreation – F Street Community Center \(Lincoln\)](#) – Grant Award: \$250**
  - Date: Weekend of April 20, 2012
  - Location: 1225 "F" Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
  - Contact: Melanie Allen, (712) 301-4420, [melanieallen712@gmail.com](mailto:melanieallen712@gmail.com)
  - Description: Youth in after-school programming enhance and restore a garden bed that has been in existence for 6 years and helps students to understand the importance of nutrition and learn gardening practices to improve healthy eating habits.
  
- **[City Sprouts \(Omaha\)](#) – Grant Award: \$300**
  - Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012
  - Location: 4002 Seward Street, Omaha, NE 68111
  - Contact: Kaitlin Hamilton, (402) 559-9317, [khamilton4@mccneb.edu](mailto:khamilton4@mccneb.edu)
  - Description: Youth will plant vegetables, learn about their nutritional value, learn about how to prepare healthy meals with fresh produce and design a pamphlet to increase awareness of good nutrition benefits in the Orchard Hill area, a food desert with individuals living in poverty and at risk of obesity.
  
- **[City Impact \(Lincoln\)](#) – Grant Award: \$50**
  - Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012
  - Location: 400 No. 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68503
  - Contact: L Koehler, (402) 430-7155, [lkoehler@cityimpact.org](mailto:lkoehler@cityimpact.org)
  - Description: City Impact Youth Philanthropy team adopt a low income family in Lincoln to assist them and increase awareness of poverty issues. A food drive conducted in conjunction with a University of Nebraska Lincoln Service Day project.
  
- **[Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault \(Cedar Bluffs\)](#) – Grant Award: \$75**
  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: Cedar Bluffs Schools, 110 West Main Street, Cedar Bluffs, NE 68015
  - Contact: Suzanne Smith, 402-721-4340, [suxzanneccne@questoffice.net](mailto:suxzanneccne@questoffice.net)
  - Description: Youth increase awareness of dating violence, bullying/bystander and sexual respect and healthy relationships within the school community. Skits presented by the health class to the entire student body help encourage respect with the rest of the student body. A banner made by the class encourages the student body be respectful of each other.
  
- **[Little Priest Tribal College \(Winnebago\)](#) – Grant Award \$300**
  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: Little Priest Tribal college, 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE 68071
  - Contact: Marcella Gilbert, (402) 878-3305 [mgilbert@littlepriest.edu](mailto:mgilbert@littlepriest.edu)
  - Description: Youth will work with the tribal elders to prepare garden boxes to be distributed to the elderly in the community. Focus on growing fresh garden vegetables enhancing the nutrition of the elderly but also enhancing the relationships between the two generations and passing along cultural information.

## ServeNebraska: 2012 Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant Projects (continued)

- **[Peru State College \(Peru\)](#) – Grant Award \$250**

  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: Calvert Elementary, Auburn, NE 68305
  - Contact: Sheri Grotrian-Ryan, (402) 872-2263, [sgrotrian-ryan@peru.edu](mailto:sgrotrian-ryan@peru.edu)
  - Description: A community health fair provides information regarding health, activity and nutrition to promote positive lifestyles. Elementary students present information on curriculum and activities centered on healthy activities and the Healthy Eating Plate.

- **[United Methodist Ministries \(Omaha\)](#) – Grand Award: \$300**

  - Date: Saturday, April 21
  - Location: Omaha Metro Area
  - Contact: Lisa Maupin, (402) 898-9862, [lmaupin@bigmuddyumc.org](mailto:lmaupin@bigmuddyumc.org)
  - Description: This project unites youth from the metro Omaha and surrounding rural areas together to address the needs of multiple sites and address poverty issues by filling food bags, sorting donations, building community garden beds, and/or stocking food pantry shelves.

- **[Willard Community Center \(Lincoln\)](#) – Grant Award: \$150**

  - Date: Thursday, April 19
  - Location: 1245 Folsom Street, Lincoln, NE 68522, West "A" neighborhood
  - Contact: Janelle Soderling, (402) 475-0805, [willardcenter@windstream.net](mailto:willardcenter@windstream.net)
  - Description: Youth from the community gather with the West A Neighborhood Association to clean up the roadways, parks and private property with homeowner's permission to keep the area clean from garbage.

## **Disability Youth Service Mini-Grant Awards**

ServeNebraska is dedicated to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are fully engaged in their communities, have the opportunity to participate actively in service, and are vitally involved in community preparedness initiatives.



- **[Blue Valley Community Partnership \(Fairbury\)](#) – Grant Award: \$275**

  - Date: Friday, April 20
  - Location: FYI Center, 514 D Street, Fairbury, NE 68352
  - Contact: Collena Laschanky, (402) 729-6510, [claschanky@bvca.net](mailto:claschanky@bvca.net)
  - Description: BVCA AmeriCorps members along with the students that attend the afterschool program raise community awareness of the importance of bicycle safety and risk of brain injury. Students with and without disabilities will be exposed to the consequences of unsafe riding. Other features include presentation by law enforcement and present bike related prizes.

- **[Connect Columbus \(Columbus\)](#) – Grant Award: \$300**

  - Date: Saturday, April 21
  - Location: Columbus Family Resource Center, 3020 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Columbus, NE 68601
  - Contact: Denise Kollath, (402) 562-5462, [volcntr@megavision.com](mailto:volcntr@megavision.com)
  - Description: The ARC of Platte County disabled clients create a small visual garden in front of the Family Resource Center in Columbus. The Center is in need of a face lift to attract new tenants; signage will remind the community and the clients of the wonderful work done.

- **[Hart of the Matter \(Omaha\)](#) – Grant Award: \$300**

  - Date: Wednesday, April 18, 2012
  - Location; 14562 Decatur St. Omaha, NE 68145
  - Contact: Jody Carhart, (402)651-6035, [jcarhart@mpsomaha.org](mailto:jcarhart@mpsomaha.org)
  - Description: The "Hart of the Matter" is a partnership between Ackerman Elementary fifth grade students and Children's Respite Care Center (CRCC) which provides extensive care for medically fragile and developmentally delayed children. The Hart of the Matter as a service learning program teaches "typical" school age children compassion and sensitivity towards others. It helps to build awareness of peers that have various physical and mental disabilities. Cooperatively all youth create a mural as large as a normal sized gymnasium with the use of adaptive equipment. Art tools that hook up to wheelchairs help participants with limited movement or lack of fine motor skills be successful in creating artwork they have never been able to before.

**ServeNebraska: 2012 Global Youth Service Day Mini-Grant Projects (continued)**

- **[Prescott Elementary School \(Lincoln\)](#) – Grant Award: \$300**
  - Date: Saturday, April 21, 2012
  - Location: 1930 South 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68502
  - Contact: Meghan Sullivan, (617) 699-8572, [mscullivan@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:mscullivan@lincoln.ne.gov)
  - Description: The project involves designing an outdoor classroom including a focus on a butterfly garden. Built by first & second graders with and without disabilities who are studying butterflies habitats their lifecycles. This garden will exist for years and contribute to hands-on learning from many 1<sup>st</sup> graders to come.
  
- **[Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School \(Gering\)](#) – Grant Award: \$300**
  - Date: Friday, April 20, 2012
  - Location: 1200 "D" Street, Gering, NE 69341
  - Contact: Stacey Meisner, (308) 635-0206, [smeisner@esu13.org](mailto:smeisner@esu13.org)
  - Description: Students with and without learning disabilities introduce the community of Scottsbluff to Bio-swales and the use of rain barrels, rain gardens. They prepare for two rain gardens and bio-swale in the landscape of a greenhouse and design a map for the plantings and plant and mulch the area. This provides the community with demonstration plots so they can learn and view the latest trends and techniques in food production and gardening. Like and follow on [Facebook](#).