



NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY

*"Enlisting young people in community service is one of the most important tasks we face as we enter a new century. As we look back on the (last) century - as we contemplate two world wars, the great Depression, the struggle for civil rights and other grave national trials - we cannot help but be struck by how much our nation's youth have sacrificed to give us the America we have today. We have a solemn obligation to preserve the rich heritage they have bequeathed to us. That obligation includes preparing today's young people to be worthy heirs of these earlier generations. By teaching young people the joys of service to others, we make good citizenship a vital, transforming and continuing aspect of our national character."*

*— General Colin L. Powell, founder of America's Promise*

# SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY 2013 HANDBOOK

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES  
SYSD: APRIL 26-28, 2013  
REPORTING DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2013



Dear Brothers,

It is time again to participate in one of Alpha Phi Omega's largest service events – Spring Youth Service Day (SYSD). Participation in this event is an excellent way to rededicate ourselves to the youth of all nations through service for and with them. Spring Youth Service Day is scheduled in conjunction with Global Youth Service Day, which is the world's largest service event organized by our partner, Youth Service America. This year Spring Youth Service Day and Global Youth Service Day are being held April 26-28, 2013.

Participating in SYSD helps realize Frank Reed Horton's dream that Alpha Phi Omega make the world a better place, particularly through service to "the youth of all nations." A SYSD project is a wonderful opportunity to work together as a fraternity to provide service that leaves a lasting and positive impact on the youth of America. Through projects that guide youth by engaging them in service, we both directly benefit them and inspire them to become the next generation of volunteers.

We challenge you to maximize the resources of your chapter to plan a project that:

- Addresses the needs of youth in your community.
- Utilizes your chapter strengths and desires for service
- Mobilizes and supports youth on a lifelong path of leadership and service.
- Educates the public about the contributions of APO and young people in the community as servant leaders. Therefore, don't just limit this project to the members of your chapter! Use this opportunity to develop new relationships and build stronger communities by including other volunteers and organizations from your campus and neighborhood.

As Spring Youth Service Day is part of the national service program of our fraternity, there is reporting that needs to be done. The reporting of Spring Youth Service Day is due by May 1, 2013 and is done through the Chapter Officer Portal. If your chapter cannot perform a project during the weekend of SYSD, please report another project that is for or with youth that you performed in the spring semester. Even if you do not complete a project you have to report nonparticipation by May 1, 2013.

This handbook is here to help you plan for Spring Youth Service Day in your chapter and guide you to resources that will help you have a successful Spring Youth Service Day. Also please use the resources of the sectional, regional and national alumni volunteers to support your activities.

Last year Alpha Phi Omega completed more than 42,000 hours of service affecting 50,000 youth as part of Spring Youth Service Day. Help us keep serving the youth of all nations and continue our success with Spring Youth Service Day.

In Leadership, Friendship and Service

*Mike DeLuka*

Mike DeLuka  
SYSD Chair

*Michael Haber*

Michael Haber  
Service Director

## **SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY PARTNERS AND RESOURCES**

Alpha Phi Omega first made a commitment to become a part of Youth Service America's National Youth Service Day in 2001 (now Global Youth Service Day). Our involvement helps us meet part of the commitment we make to America's Promise, the "Network for Youth" founded by General Colin Powell (Ret).

### **GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY (GYSD)**

*[www.ysa.org](http://www.ysa.org) or [www.gysd.org](http://www.gysd.org)*

Global Youth Service Day gets young people involved in service and calls attention to the impact that youth service makes on the public. GYSD is organized by Youth Service America (YSA) and includes more than 100 countries and



millions of young people worldwide. Projects are organized by communities, schools, and local organizations. Global Youth Service Day is an opportunity to recruit the next generation of volunteers while promoting the benefits of youth service to the public.

### **AMERICA'S PROMISE**

*[www.americaspromise.org](http://www.americaspromise.org)*

America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, founded by General Colin L. Powell (Ret), is mobilizing people from every sector of American life to build the character and competence of our nation's youth by fulfilling Five Promises for young people:



1. Ongoing relationships with caring adults in their lives — parents, mentors, tutors, or coaches;
2. Safe places with structured activities during non-school hours;
3. Healthy start and future;
4. Marketable skills through effective education; and
5. Opportunities to give back through community service.

These Five Promises contain the seeds for a national movement capable of advancing the health and wellbeing of the next generation. But we all must take responsibility and get involved to make this a reality.

Alpha Phi Omega has made a national commitment to America's Promise's national service program by continuing our strong tradition of youth service, and also by participating in National Youth Service Day annually.

## **IMPORTANT SYSD INFORMATION**

Start planning early to participate in SYSD 2013.

### **SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY DATES:**

APRIL 26-28, 2013

### **SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY REPORTS DUE:**

MAY 1, 2013

### **REPORTING SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY**

Your chapter is REQUIRED to report on your Spring Youth Service Day project through the Chapter Officer Portal at <https://op.apo.org>.

Even if your chapter does not perform a Spring Youth Service Day project, you are required to submit a report confirming that you did not do a project. Both types of reports (participation and non-participation) on Spring Youth Service Day are due **May 1, 2013**.

Reporting is easy to do online and takes only a few minutes. Chapter officers can enter your project information on the OP Spring Youth Service Day Report under Forms. The report has a combination of “drop down menus” (date, chapter, etc.) and “fill in the information” boxes (project description, number of hours, etc). Be sure to choose the correct selections from the drop down menus. You can view the online service project report form at any time so you know what information is requested.

Whoever submits the chapter’s report will be asked to give his/her name and an e-mail address. An e-mail message containing the information submitted in the report will automatically be sent to the person who submitted the project information, the sectional chair, the regional service chair, the Service Director, the Spring Youth Service Day Chair, and the National Office. Please save a copy of this e-mail to confirm your submission. You may also check on your chapter’s report (to see if it has been submitted/what was submitted) by pulling up the information from the database.

*\*Remember: you can report on any youth-based project your chapter did this spring*

## **FRATERNITY RESOURCES**

The Fraternity developed resources to help plan service projects. Here is a list of online resources available to help with planning and project implementation:

- For help with planning a service project: APO IMPACT – Service Project Leader:  
*[apoimpactproject.wikispaces.com/Service+Project+Leader](http://apoimpactproject.wikispaces.com/Service+Project+Leader)*
- For help with publicizing your event: APO IMPACT – Marketing and Public Relations:  
*[apoimpactproject.wikispaces.com/Marketing+%26+Public+Relations](http://apoimpactproject.wikispaces.com/Marketing+%26+Public+Relations)*
- For help with ideas for projects see:  
*<http://www.apo.org/service>*
- For any other assistance contact your sectional, regional or national alumni volunteers with your questions:

Section Chair: *[section.XX.chair@apo.org](mailto:section.XX.chair@apo.org)*  
(XX is you section number)

Region Director: *[region.XX.director@apo.org](mailto:region.XX.director@apo.org)*  
(XX is you region number)

Region Service Chair: *[region.XX.service@apo.org](mailto:region.XX.service@apo.org)*  
(XX is you region number)

SYSD Chair: *[sysd.chair@apo.org](mailto:sysd.chair@apo.org)*

Service Program Director: *[service.director@apo.org](mailto:service.director@apo.org)*

# **SERVICE PROJECT IDEAS**

Here are a few service projects carried out by Alpha Phi Omega chapters in past years. Try to involve youth and other organizations in these projects as much as possible.

## **ONE-DAY/WEEKEND PROJECTS**

- Assist or visit children at a hospital, a school for the blind, deaf or developmentally disabled
- Run a youth carnival or crafts fair. Consider having a special theme like safety, literacy, or science
- Hold an Easter egg hunt for children at a local school or children's home
- Playground building, repair and litter control
- Hold a teen dance, talent show, or game night
- Cleanup projects at community centers, summer camps, and local parks, etc. Get children involved and teach them about important environmental issues
- Hold a children's story time in conjunction with a local library, elementary school, etc.
- Teach younger children of the values of proper hand washing techniques and staying clean
- Hold an educational seminar for teens. Topics can include issues such as violence, drugs, fitness, etc.
- Organize a field day or sporting event to get children exercising

## **LONGER-TERM PROJECTS**

- Coach or sponsor a youth athletic team (as permitted by your university and risk management plans)
- Create an after-school program for local children where they can get help with their studies or learn a new activity
- Collect diapers, toys, or other baby essentials for needy families
- Sponsor a toy drive for a local organization or youth charity
- Make blankets, stuffed animals, etc., for seriously ill or needy children
- Help to provide leadership for a youth organization such as Scouting, 4-H, Campfire, etc.
- Collect food and funds and provide assistance for local food pantries and soup kitchens
- Sponsor a book drive for a local library, school, or community center
- Help with child-care services at a shelter or day care center
- Record books for blind children
- Raise money for an organization that serves youth through walk-a-thons, rock-a-thons, etc.

## **PROJECTS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP YOUTH**

- Organize a Merit Badge University or advancement event for Boy or Girl Scouts
- Work with Child Rescue Network or local police departments to create photo/fingerprint ID cards for children
- Hold a career/college fair at a local high school
- Develop or staff an event for a youth related organization, such as Ronald McDonald House, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys/Girls Clubs, YMCA, child abuse centers, etc.
- Do a joint service project with a high school service club such as the JROTC, Key Club, etc.
- Volunteer to help at a Special Olympics event

## **OTHER SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

Spring Youth Service Day Partners: These organizations are among those that have joined with Alpha Phi Omega to be partners in serving youth as part of Global Youth Service Day. Feel free to contact local chapters to see if they will join you in your projects: [jsa.org/GYSDUS/GYSDPartnersList/tabid/236/Default.aspx](http://jsa.org/GYSDUS/GYSDPartnersList/tabid/236/Default.aspx)

Afterschool Alliance  
Alliance for Catholic Education  
Alliance to Save Energy  
America SCORES  
America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth  
American Association of  
Community Colleges  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Planning Association  
American Probation & Parole  
Association  
American Red Cross  
AmeriCorps Alums  
Arab American Institute Foundation  
Association of Children's Museums  
Best Buddies International  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America  
Boy Scouts of America  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America  
The C4 Group  
Camp Fire USA  
Campus Compact  
Chi Psi Fraternity  
City Year  
CISV USA  
Close Up Foundation  
Communities In Schools, Inc.  
The Congressional Award  
Congressional Hispanic Caucus  
Institute (CHCI)  
Constitutional Rights Foundation  
Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago  
Corporation for National and  
Community Service  
The Corps Network  
Department of Defense (Children and Youth Pro-  
grams)  
Department of Veterans Affairs,  
Voluntary Service  
Do Something  
Earth Day Network  
EducationWorks  
F.I.L.M. - Finding Inspiration in

Literature and Movies  
Family, Career and Community  
Leaders of America  
Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta  
Lambda  
Habitat for Humanity International  
Hands On Network  
Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life  
HOPE worldwide  
Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership  
Innovation Center for Community and Youth De-  
velopment  
International Baccalaureate  
Organization  
J-Serve  
JCC Association  
Jewish Coalition for Service  
Job Corps  
Local Initiatives Support  
Corporation (LISC)  
March of Dimes  
MENC: The National Association for Music Educa-  
tion  
Mobilize.org  
National Association of Elementary  
School Principals  
National Association of Independent Schools  
(NAIS)  
National Association of Secondary School Princi-  
pals (NASSP)  
National Association of Social  
Workers  
National Association of Student  
Councils (NASC)  
National Association of Students  
Against Violence Everywhere  
(SAVE)  
National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy  
National Collaboration for Youth  
National Council for the Social  
Studies  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court  
Judges



National Crime Prevention Council  
National Dropout Prevention  
Center/Network  
National Education Association  
National Family Week  
National Honor Society (NHS)  
National Human Services Assembly  
National Junior Honor Society  
(NJHS)  
National League of Cities  
National Middle School Association  
National Network for Youth  
National Organizations for Youth Safety  
National Service-Learning  
Clearinghouse,  
National Service-Learning  
Partnership  
The National Society of Collegiate Scholars Nation-  
al Student Partnerships  
National Wildlife Federation  
National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC)  
National Youth Court  
Center/American Probation and  
Parole Association  
National Youth Leadership Council  
PANIM: The Institute for Jewish  
Leadership and Values  
Partnership for Food Safety  
Education  
Points of Light Foundation  
Public Allies  
Reading is Fundamental, Inc.  
Rural School and Community Trust  
SEANet-- the State Education  
Agency K-12 Service-Learning  
Network  
Search Institute  
Service for Peace  
Share Our Strength  
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and Foundation  
Sigma Alpha Lambda  
Sister Cities International  
Souper Bowl of Caring  
Special Olympics  
Sports Gift  
Student Conservation Association  
Students Against Destructive  
Decisions (SADD)  
Take Pride in America

Teach For America  
Tri-M Music Honor Society  
U.S. Conference of Mayors  
U.S. Center for Citizen Diplomacy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
USA Freedom Corps  
Volunteers of America  
VSA arts  
Women in Community Service  
Work, Achievement, Values &  
Education (WAVE), Inc.  
YMCA of the USA  
Youth Service America  
Youth Venture  
Youth Volunteer Corps of America  
YWCA USA