



"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 2012 HANDBOOK

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

SYSD: APRIL 23-25, 2010

REPORTING DEADLINE: MAY 3, 2010

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 20-22, 2012.

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, 2012 and is done on www.apo.org. 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, 2012.

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

Glen Kinder

Glen Kinder
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 or 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

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 2012.

SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY DATES:

APRIL 20-22, 2012

SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY REPORTS DUE:

MAY 1, 2012

REPORTING SPRING YOUTH SERVICE DAY

Your chapter is REQUIRED to report on your Spring Youth Service Day project.

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, 2012**.

Reporting is easy to do online and takes only a few minutes. Anyone can enter your project information in the Alpha Phi Omega Service Database on www.apo.org which 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.

Report on your chapter’s Spring Youth Service Day project at:

www.apo.org/show/National_Programs/Service/Project_Database/Service_Project_Report_Form

Report that, this spring, your chapter DID NOT do any youth based Spring Youth Service Day project at:

www.apo.org/show/National_Programs/Service/Project_Database/No_Project_Report_Form

**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
- For help with publicizing your event: APO Impact – Marketing and Public Relations:
apoimpactproject.wikispaces.com/Marketing+%26+Public+Relations
- For help with ideas for projects see: SYSD Resource page or Service Project Database:
www.apo.org/site/site_files/SYSD_Resource.pdf or www.apo.org/pages/show/National_Programs/Service/Project_Database/View_Projects
- For any other assistance contact your sectional, regional or national alumni volunteers with your questions:

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

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

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

SYSD Chair: *sysd.chair@apo.org*

Service Program Director: *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

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 (NASPP)
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