

Latest from the National Youth Council



This month, we're shining a spotlight on the vital importance of immunization against measles and rubella through the [Measles and Rubella Partnership](#) Campaign. Led by the American Red Cross, along with key partners such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi the

Volunteer Spotlight: Neha Rane



Neha joined the Red Cross in 2021, starting in the International Services department after graduating from the University of California, Davis with a degree in biotechnology. There, she collaborated with community organizations to address local environmental issues

Vaccine Alliance, and others, this global initiative aims to eradicate measles and rubella worldwide.

Since its inception in 2001, the Partnership has facilitated the delivery of over 3.86 billion doses of measles vaccine, resulting in an 82% reduction in measles deaths globally. Measles is highly contagious, with a 90% transmission rate among close contacts, making immunization crucial. It weakens the immune system, leading to severe complications like pneumonia, blindness and encephalitis, claiming 373 lives daily, primarily among children under five.

Rubella, though usually mild, poses significant risks to pregnant women and their babies. Infection during early pregnancy can lead to Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), causing severe birth defects such as heart problems, deafness and blindness, affecting over 100,000 newborns annually.

Thanks to M&RP's efforts, over 57 million lives have been saved through measles vaccination, with global coverage now at 83%. Similarly, the incidence of CRS has decreased by 70% since 2000. However, our mission is far from over. We must continue striving for a world where every child can thrive without the threat of these diseases.

Join us in our efforts by hosting [awareness campaigns](#) or fundraisers like [Vaccinate a Village](#). Stay tuned for resources from the National Youth Council throughout the month and sign up for our virtual event "Why the Measles and Rubella Partnership Works" on Thursday, April 25 at 8:00 p.m. ET [here](#). For more information, follow @americanredcrossyouth. Together, let's fulfill our promise to future generations for a healthier, measles, and rubella-free world.

and contributed to a Climate Resiliency pilot program in Monterey County.

Her role expanded to developing a 'Greening the Red' repository, cataloging state, national and international-level organizations to inform Red Cross Climate Change leaders about educational, climate advocacy and sustainability resources. Neha also synthesized refugee information for Serbia and Croatia, focusing on the impacts of COVID-19 on healthcare systems and regional economies. Additionally, she created a portfolio of resources to aid in resettling Afghan migrants in Northern California.

Currently, Neha works with the Northern California Coastal Region Measles and Rubella Partnership Team. In this role, she developed a curriculum for Nursing Program partners through the Academic Service-Learning Program. Neha also coordinated the creation of activities for Red Cross Clubs and is involved in organizing the Northern California Youth Health Careers Symposium and Vaccine Documentary series. Furthermore, Neha was nominated to attend a Pfizer-sponsored 'Young Leaders in Global Health' seminar and brought home insights from international partners focusing on health equity and global vaccination efforts.

National Volunteer Month



Celebrate National Volunteer Month with us this April! Throughout April, we honor the dedication and generosity of our incredible volunteers who selflessly give their time and talents to support those in need. Whether it's responding to disasters, providing lifesaving blood donations, offering comfort and care to those affected by emergencies, or educating communities on safety and preparedness, our volunteers make a profound difference every day. Join us in recognizing and thanking our volunteers for their invaluable contributions to our mission of alleviating human suffering. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact in the lives of individuals and communities across the country.

Outside the Red Cross, Neha is an infectious diseases researcher and passionate about gardening and aquariums.

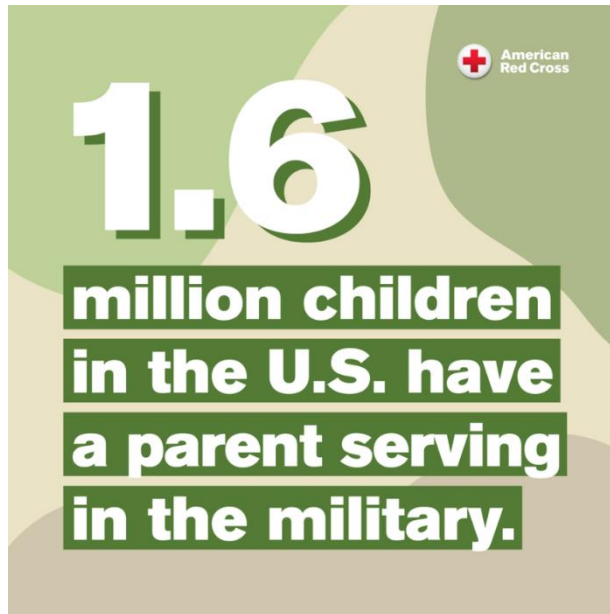
Do you know of a volunteer who has gone above and beyond to make a memorable impact in their community? Youth Spotlight is a fantastic opportunity for you to nominate outstanding volunteers to receive national recognition for their hard work! Nominate a youth volunteer who deserves this opportunity [here](#).

April Monthly Focus: Allyship in Action



Join us as we launch our month-long series, [Allyship in Action](#), which commenced on April 3! Throughout this series, we'll delve into the four essential pillars of allyship: inquire, listen, advocate, attend.

DEI Spotlight!



This April, the Red Cross celebrates the Month of the Military Child. It is a month to highlight the role of military children in the armed forces community, as they make daily sacrifices and overcome challenges to contribute to the service. Learn more about supporting military children and visit [this page](#) to become a volunteer for the cause. Also, check out this event series to understand and learn about support structures for military families. [April 12th @ 2:00 p.m. ET: Combatting Veteran Mental Health Stigma.](#)

What is YouthWire?

Created by your National Youth Council, YouthWire is a monthly e-newsletter containing important Red Cross youth volunteer opportunities, stories and resources for youth, young

These events will be led by our various team member resource groups and overseen by Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Keep an eye on the OneSource landing page for registration links, as they'll be added as soon as they're available. Don't miss out – make sure to stay updated!

April Fundraising Highlight: April Dog Walk Challenge



Calling all dog owners! Grab your furry friend (but don't forget the leash) this April, the Red Cross is hosting the second annual 30 Mile Dog Walk Challenge to help save lives and bring relief to those in need. Join the Facebook group for community and motivation, start a fundraiser, and we'll send you your **challenge doggie**

adults and youth champions! We always want to highlight great stories and hear what awesome things are happening in your region!

Let us know what's new for you!

Questions about youth volunteering with the American Red Cross? Email YouthInvolvement@redcross.org.

bandana. Register today! Contact P2PFundraising@redcross.org with questions.

Apply to the National Youth Council!



Looking to expand your impact, connect with volunteers across the country, and gain professional development opportunities? **Apply to the National Youth Council!** The National Youth Council is a group of fifteen youth and young adult members and two adult advisors who nationally represent and serve the youth and young adult volunteers of the American Red Cross. Drawing upon the creativity, dedication, and energy of youth, the National Youth Council seeks to promote young volunteers as an organizational resource.

Get Social and Share!

Share YouthWire with your peers and invite them to [subscribe](#).

Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!

Make it count!

Remember to log your hours



Help us tell the story of youth & young adults' incredible impact by submitting a [spotlight form](#) today.

Need Volunteer Connection support? Check out these helpful [guides and video tutorials!](#)



If you no longer want to receive YouthWire, please click here to [unsubscribe](#).

Applications are open now until **Friday, May 3 at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Find more information on the Council and the

