

**SPOTLIGHT**

**Better Together:  
Family Volunteer Day**

The [Points of Light Foundation](#) and the [Walt Disney Company](#) proudly present Family Volunteer Day.



This annual day of service, held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, is designed to demonstrate the power of families who choose to volunteer together to support the communities in which they live and serve.

Volunteering as a family provides quality time for busy families, strengthens communication and bonds, and positively impacts local communities across the nation.

Family volunteering is a hands-on way to teach children the values of kindness, compassion, tolerance, community responsibility, and good citizenship.



It can be done by the whole family together, by one parent and one child, by siblings, or can include extended family such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

However families choose to do it, volunteering together can help mobilize thousands of new volunteers and instill in the next generation a sense of civic engagement that can last a lifetime.

**RESOURCES**

**Inspiration and Guidance for  
Family Volunteering**

Looking to strengthen family units while solving community social problems? Need a new area for broadening recruitment efforts?

Use The Resource Center to support family volunteerism and find everything you need for a successful Family Volunteer Day.

**From the [Lending Library](#):**

[Family-Friendly Volunteering](#)

Informs service coordinators about the theory and practice of family volunteering. Topics include recruitment, screening, orientation, and supervision of volunteers. Worksheets and materials provided.

[Family Serve: Volunteer Opportunities for Families](#)

Offers families the resources for locating a worthwhile project and organization. Includes tips on getting started and how families can get the most out of helping others. A casual and upbeat look at family volunteering that illustrates its benefits.

[Best Practices for Volunteer Programs](#)

Provides a comprehensive overview for recruiting, retaining, motivating, supervising, and training volunteers. Includes information on continuing trends such as family volunteering. Presented in a practical, conversational style with lists and tips for putting theory into practice.

**From the [Effective Practices Collection](#):**

[Volunteering as a family: 20 tips](#)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**International Volunteer Day:  
December 5, 2007**



International Volunteer Day provides an opportunity for volunteer organizations and individual volunteers to work together on projects and campaigns that promote contributions to economic and social development at local, national, and international levels. Visit the [IVD website](#) for more information.

**NASA Explorer School Grants  
Now Available**

NASA Explorer School Grants represent a three-year partnership between NASA and 50 selected schools or school districts, with a focus on grades 4–9, to become involved in NASA research, discoveries, and missions through learning adventures and scientific challenges. Schools representing underserved populations can receive up to \$17,500 to purchase technology tools that support science and mathematics instruction. Deadline is January 30, 2008. Visit the [NASA Explorer Schools site](#) for more information.



**Promote Safer Teen Driving  
with a Project Ignition Grant**



Project Ignition, a national service-learning grant program that promotes safe teen driving, is an important national effort to save lives. High schools, classrooms, clubs, teachers, students, and organizations can apply now for the 2008–09 school year at the [Project Ignition site](#).

Check out the [Family Volunteer Day Guidebook](#) (PDF) from Points of Light Foundation.

[Involving families in tutoring programs](#)

[Using family clubs to maintain community well being](#)

#### Featured T/TA Provider

##### [AFYA, Inc.](#)

T/TA Focus:

Conference and Meeting Planning  
*Laurel, MD*

Provides expertise in conferencing strategies and methodologies, delivery of conference services and workshops, and a wide range of logistical management.

#### Online Learning Center

##### [Online Courses](#)

Free e-courses on a wide variety of topics are designed specifically to help strengthen national service programs.

##### [My Improvement Plan](#)

This innovative online tool will help identify the resources you need most to improve your service or volunteer program.

#### Featured Resource

##### [Effective Practices Collection](#)

Find good ideas, successful strategies, and studied findings for your service program.

Search over 775 effective practices covering education, program management, human needs, environment, volunteer management, public safety, and more.

#### ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is a training and technical assistance provider funded by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) to support volunteer and service programs across the nation. Visit us today to search, browse, download, order, and borrow from among thousands of specialized resources. Click here to [subscribe](#) to this e-newsletter. To [unsubscribe](#), send an e-mail to [lyris@lists.etr.org](mailto:lyris@lists.etr.org) with ***unsubscribe nsrcnews*** in the body of the message.

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