

SPOTLIGHT

18th Annual Make a Difference Day

October 25, 2008: The national day to help others.



Created by USA Weekend Magazine, and co-sponsored by HandsOn Network,

Make a Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October.

In 2007, 3 million people cared enough about their communities to volunteer on that day, accomplishing thousands of projects in hundreds of towns. Your project can be as large or as small as you wish! Look around your community and see what needs to be done. Or visit the [Make a Difference Day site](#) for project ideas to help your community.

After participating on October 25, please send in an [entry form](#) so you will be counted among the millions of volunteers to be considered for an award. USA Weekend will feature volunteers and their projects in future articles and photos, and hundreds will be selected for honors. Ten national honorees will each receive a \$10,000 donation to the charity of their choosing.

RESOURCES

New Performance Measurement Packets from Project STAR

Two new specialized performance measurement packets by Project STAR are now available at the Resource Center.

[Measuring Performance with Baby Boomers](#) provides guidance to national service grantees and programs on measuring results achieved by and for baby boomer volunteers. The packet contains examples of service activities that might attract baby boomer participation and identifies performance measures and instruments for these activities.



[Disaster Services and Performance Measurement](#)

contains sample disaster services activities and results, along with recommendations for addressing common challenges faced by programs that want to measure performance for disaster services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scholarships Available for National Conference on Disability Inclusion and National Service

The National Service Inclusion Project has a limited number of travel and lodging scholarships (up to \$1000) available for those who could not otherwise attend the 2008 conference. Recommendations are being accepted from state commissions, national direct parent organizations, or CNCS state program directors: Forward the name, contact information, and a brief justification to NSIP@umb.edu by October 8. Also see the [National Service and Inclusion site](#).

Be a Solution ~ National Learn and Serve Challenge!

October 6-12, 2008



The Challenge is a concentrated week of special events and community outreach activities designed to raise

awareness and build support for service-learning as a way to make a difference in the lives of young people and the communities they serve. Visit the [National Learn and Serve Challenge site](#) for activity ideas, logos, fact sheets, and more.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Simple tech tip:

Change the font size on your PC monitor by holding down the **Ctrl** key and then pressing the **[+]** or **[-]** sign. The font will enlarge or shrink, respectively.

ONLINE LEARNING CENTER

Featured course: [Activating Asset Mapping](#) from the Leadership Practice. Discover why and how an asset map can be valuable to your project and community, identify examples of the assets to be mapped and who will be mapping them, and learn a step-by-step process for successful mapping.

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES COLLECTION

Effective practices define good ideas, successful strategies, and studied findings to help your program thrive. *Featured practice:* [Preventing youth from becoming victims of cyberbullying](#) [submitted by America Learns].

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 with ***unsubscribe nsrnews*** in the body of the message.