



### SPOTLIGHT

#### The Time Is Now: Make Your Personal Commitment to Civic Engagement!

President Obama has made service a central cause of his administration and recently signed the most sweeping expansion of service programs in 75 years — the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. This summer, he is calling on all Americans to participate in our nation's recovery and renewal by serving in our communities.



From June 22 to September 11, **UNITED WE SERVE** will engage citizens from coast to coast in addressing community needs in education, health, energy and the environment, and community and economic renewal. Instilled with energy and enthusiasm from this year's successful National Conference on Volunteering and Service, citizens nationwide are renewing their commitment to service — or trying their hands at it for the first time!

Civic engagement can take many forms — from individual volunteerism, to organizational involvement, to electoral participation. And when service is directly connected to civic issues, knowledge, and skills, it helps individuals build a commitment to civic action, a concern for the common good, and a sense of effectiveness as a citizen.

Visit [Serve.gov](http://Serve.gov) — your online resource for not only finding volunteer opportunities in your community, but also creating your own.

### RESOURCES

#### Building a Better World

How can Americans make a larger impact on the unmet needs in our society? How can you rebuild the spirit of community, not just locally but all across the country? Use these resources to help citizens reflect on civic engagement and their role in creating positive change.



#### Lending Library

- [Voluntarism, Community Life, and the American Ethic](#)
- [Civically Engaged Reader: A Diverse Collection of Short Provocative Readings on Civic Activity](#)
- [Better Together: Restoring the American Community](#)
- [Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community](#)

#### Effective Practices

- [Deepening the connection between service activities and civic involvement](#)
- [Generating discussions about service, justice, and civic engagement](#)
- [Delivering civic engagement training to national service programs](#)

#### Online Course

- [Moving Volunteers from Service to](#)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Sixth Annual National Urban Service-Learning Institute

This annual two-day event focuses on applying the principles of service-learning in urban environments. The event brings together community members, young people, and school leaders to discuss service-learning outreach and application techniques that help urban students achieve academic excellence and become strong community leaders. *Details:* [nationalserviceresources.org/node/21041](http://nationalserviceresources.org/node/21041)

Event sponsored by:



#### NCD Quarterly Meeting: Issues Affecting People with Disabilities



The [National Council on Disability](#) will hold its next quarterly meeting at the Minneapolis

Marriott City Center, July 20 – July 22. NCD is an independent federal agency composed of 15 members appointed by the president; they consider it vital to hear from communities around the country on what works and what does not for people with disabilities.

This meeting is open to the public and will include sessions on emergency preparedness, housing, workforce infrastructure, access to outdoor recreation, international development, the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act, strategic planning, and NCD's 2010 National Summit on Disability Policy. Specific times are designated to receive public comments, supported by a toll-free call-in line.

Individuals or organizations can also provide written comments by e-mail, fax, or mail.

*Details:* [www.ncd.gov/newsroom/quarterly/jul20-22-09.htm](http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/quarterly/jul20-22-09.htm) or contact NCD Director of External Affairs, Mark S. Quigley at [mquigley@ncd.gov](mailto:mquigley@ncd.gov) or 202-272-2008.

## TECHNOLOGY CORNER

*Simple tech tip:*

Press **F10** to activate the menu bar for any application window. This is a great trick if your mouse stops working, or if you prefer to use the keyboard.

## RESOURCE CENTER



[RC Presentation Packet](#)

We've made it easier than ever to discover what the Resource Center has to offer, and to share it with others during any training or event!

## LENDING LIBRARY

Know of a resource that would benefit others using the lending library? Let us know with our new [suggest a resource](#) form!

## 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 nsrnews* in the body of the message.