



MLK Day of Service 2021

Virtual & COVID-Safe Activities Ideas & Resources

From AmeriCorps, the Agency's MLK Day conference call

Check out NextDoor to help organize your neighbors for service or helping others! Nextdoor is a social app that helps you communicate with your neighbors. Download the app and add yourself to the *Help Map* to get started.

<https://blog.nextdoor.com/2020/03/18/nextdoor-launches-help-map-and-groups-to-bring-neighbors-together/>

- To organize a group of neighbors to do a service project with, start a **group**, share you mission, and then delegate and coordinate tasks, <https://nextdoor.com/login/?next=/groups/>

Volunteer Match, and similar sites have online volunteer opportunities that may give you ideas for your own projects, <https://www.volunteermatch.org/virtual-volunteering>

Front Porch Food Drive: <https://moveforhunger.org/campaigns/front-porch-food-drive>

American Red Cross: To get smoke detectors into homes that don't have them, participants suggested your local American Red Cross. An attendee, Samantha Moorevalent, also said, "feel free to email me if you are interested in the "sound the alarm program" along with our other programs for preparedness: moorevalent@redcross.org."

Virtual community garden ideas: building planter boxes for spring and summer (go through the plans, materials, and construction); educational programming on when and how to start seeds indoors, on rotational planting for harvest throughout the summer and early fall, and about creating a native plant garden.

Transcribe for the Smithsonian or help the National Archives: <https://transcription.si.edu/> and <https://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist>

Compassion Games is offering this MLK Weekend Jan. 15-18, 2021 as an opportunity for you to share the great work you are doing by making an online presentation. You can learn more at <https://www.compassiongames.org/mlk-40-days/> [Inks.gd] or reach out to peter@compassiongames.org.

If anyone is interested in recording a 15 minute video for students (middle and high school) about your professional path and sharing industry information in volunteer engagement, please email me at conroy@jagaz.org.

Zooniverse: has citizen science projects people can contribute to, <https://www.zooniverse.org/>

Points of Light Foundation Sunday Supper: Host one on MLK. Ask everyone to watch a documentary, and then come together to discuss it over a Zoom dinner date from home! <https://www.pointsoflight.org/sundaysupper/>

Global Justice: Involve youth and adults in local efforts to reduce arrest and incarceration rates of youth under 18 and in essential public services such as juvenile justice. For resources visit, <https://www.globalyouthjustice.org>

Education Resources

First Book: Books on diversity, equity and inclusion for children: <https://firstbook.org/> & <https://diversebooks.org/>

Think Big: Community conversations about diversity, equity and inclusion based on a model created by the Stark Community Foundation in Canton, Ohio. <https://www.starkcf.org/event/thinkbig>

Study Hall: free homework and study help by approved and qualified helpers, <https://studyhall.org/students/>

SAMSHA: offers many training resources for peer to peer support for mental health and recovery, <https://www.samhsa.gov/brss-tacs/recovery-support-tools/peers/core-competencies-peer-workers>

Virtual MLK Day/Service Project Ideas, as previously sent

Notes by Emily Steinberg, Director, External Affairs, America's Service Commissions (ASC)

- Collection Drives - coats, socks, blankets, food, hygiene items - ex. <https://www.onewarmcoat.org/> (but partner with a local org to deliver to)
- Letter Writing - Operation Gratitude, etc. (<https://www.operationgratitude.com/>)
- Support Health Care Workers in Your Community - send postcards, have treats & thank you cards delivered, call local hospitals to find out what is needed, etc.
- Anti-Racist Service Project ideas/resources: <https://ysa.org/antiracist/>
- Virtual Mentoring/Tutoring/Career Fairs or Trainings for Youth and Youth-Serving Organizations
- Create Project-in-a-box kits for Volunteers and/or Parents to do fun enrichment activities with their kids at home
- Host Virtual Workshops for AmeriCorps Members/Volunteers such as Civic Reflection, Direct Service, Policy Advocacy as a Pathway to Change, or other relevant topics
- Mental Health projects/initiatives
- Art contests (online), art therapy projects around a theme
- Compassion Games: https://www.compassiongames.org/mlk-40-days/?fbclid=IwAR26GmkuBLuVk-_P3G4pvPEWTRvRX49x6X3pmGYWIGQVY8FuujKae1-FaOk
- Outdoor Clean-Ups or Gardening/Beautification projects (make sure to provide PPE and safety training/protocols for volunteers though)
- Find more resources and ideas from Youth Service America at <https://leadasap.ysa.org/resources/>
- MLK Day Social Media Countdown in January (7-10 days out - follow MLK and AmeriCorps channels for details)

PLEASE post ALL service projects at WWW.MLKDAY.GOV

<https://www.nationalservice.gov/serve/mlkdaygov/resources/register-mlk-project>

(People go there looking for opportunities nationwide!)

Thank you & please contact OCS with any questions ☺ serve@mt.gov