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# YOUTHWIRE

— *Impact Starts Here* —



**American  
Red Cross**

Youth & Young Adults

THE IMPACT OF BLOOD

JANUARY 2024

Latest from Youth Leaders

# Resolve to Volunteer

*New Year, New You!*



## Get Involved this New Year!

Happy New Year! As we are all starting to set resolutions, now is the perfect moment to reflect on how you plan to volunteer throughout the year, all while encouraging people around you that volunteering is an amazing initiative! The Resolve to Volunteer recruitment initiative, taking place this January, will promote engagement among new and current Red Cross volunteers, encouraging them to engage in person, virtually or through social media!

In addition, the [Leaders Save Lives Scholarship Program](#) for the winter season will end on January 15, 2024. Now is a great time to [sign up](#) to host a blood drive, as it is National Blood Donor Month. Doing this could help you earn extra volunteer hours, leadership skills, a gift card and a chance to be entered to win a scholarship!

The National Youth Council wishes you a very happy New Year! We encourage you to continue to seek volunteer opportunities within your region!

## Volunteer Spotlight: Jinhan Li



*Jinhan Li, high school volunteer*

Jin has been volunteering with the Red Cross for four years! Since middle school, he has been actively involved with the American Red Cross – a journey that began after initially receiving support as a new immigrant to the country. Over time, Jinhan has paid it forward by giving back to the American Red Cross and his community. His most significant role involves his position as the president and founder of his school's Red Cross Club. In his leisure time, he finds fulfillment in volunteering and running, viewing community service as a profound way to discover his true self and connect with his heart.

Jin's commitment to community service echoes in his words: "He found himself in community service," a sentiment frequently heard while he dedicates himself to making a difference.

Jinhan is an enthusiastic volunteer, earning him the Varsity Letter in Community Service and the US President's Volunteer Service Gold Award. Let's join

## February Facebook Challenge Series



Dive into the February Facebook Challenge Series – a dynamic opportunity to collaborate with a motivated group of Red Cross supporters bringing help and hope to those in need. This virtual event series hosted on Facebook brings people together so they can engage and interact with others in the group, create a fundraiser, track towards their physical goals, and earn Red Cross merchandise in recognition of their support.

To join the challenge:

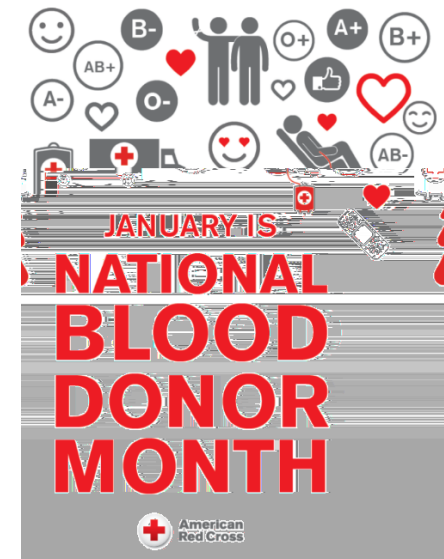
- 1 Join the group: Connect with participants, share photos and provide encouragement in our Challenge Group!
- 2 Track your miles: Utilize our free printable calendar or your preferred mobile app to monitor your daily progress.
- 3 Start a fundraiser: Launch a fundraiser while conquering this physical feat. Share it on Facebook to aid those affected by disasters. 🌍💙

For more information on how to take part in this fun and exhilarating opportunity, click [here](#).

Jinhan in his passion for service and continue making a positive impact together!

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

## January Monthly Focus: National Blood Donor Month



## Expand Your Knowledge



In honor of Mental Wellness Month this January, you can aim to better understand how disaster impacts the mental well-being of the individuals affected. The Red Cross encourages you to explore ways to contribute to the mental wellness of disaster survivors, whether through volunteer initiatives, awareness campaigns or support networks. By acknowledging and addressing the psychological aspects of recovery, we can collectively foster resilience and aid in the well-being of our communities.

## 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 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](mailto:YouthInvolvement@redcross.org).

January is National Blood Donor Month – a perfect opportunity to acknowledge the vital significance of blood and blood-related products in the Red Cross' mission. Biomedical Services supplies hospitals and transfusion centers with diverse blood products crucial for life-saving efforts.

Whether you're keen on directly contributing through blood donation or exploring alternative avenues of participating, explore [this page](#) for comprehensive information. Discover local blood drives in your region and conveniently schedule an appointment.

Ways to make a positive impact:

- Raise awareness for the significance of blood donation.
- Contribute by donating blood
- Organize and host a blood drive

## National Youth Council Advisor Application



National Youth Council Advisor applications are open until **January 31, 2024**. Check out info to apply [here!](#)

This volunteer position is open to experienced field youth coordinators, Red Cross Unit Executives, and skilled employees in a specific line of service delivery,

## Get Social and Share!

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

## Log Your Hours on Volunteer Connection!

The time you spend volunteering is critical to the American Red Cross. It is important that volunteer hours are submitted through Volunteer Connection so that they can be tracked as part of the overall mission.

Help us tell the story of youth & young adults' incredible impact by logging your hours and filling out the [spotlight form](#) today. Use these helpful [guides and video tutorials](#) to aid you in the process of logging volunteer hours on [Volunteer Connection](#) (desktop version and mobile app version)!



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with a commitment to advance youth and young adult engagement. The term will be from February 2024 – January 2026, with opportunity for extension.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to National Youth Council Vice-Chair, Hamid Torabzadeh, at [hamid.torabzadeh2@redcross.org](mailto:hamid.torabzadeh2@redcross.org).