

IOWA's Days of Service

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (3rd Monday of January)

The third Monday in January was designated as an annual federal holiday and national day of service by Congress in 1994. This day is to bring attention to real needs affecting our local communities. The slogan is a %Day ON- Not a day Off+.

www.mlkday.gov

Aaron Eilerts Day of Service (February 24)

The annual Aaron Eilerts Day of Service takes place each February 24 (Aaron's Birthday) in honor of a talented and compassionate young man, who tragically lost his life in the devastating tornado at Camp Little Sioux on June 11, 2008. Aaron, an eighth grader at Robert Blue Middle School in Eagle Grove, truly lived with a %Spirit of Service.+ Countless lowansqlives were made better because of Aaron's understanding of one simple truth: service to family, community and friends is something which links us all.

www.volunteeriowa.org

National Volunteer Week (2nd or 3rd Full Week in April)

A nationwide initiative to recognize and celebrate the tremendous efforts of volunteers.

www.handsonnetwork.org/events/nvw2010

Global Youth Service Day (3 day period during National Volunteer Week in April)

Global Youth Service Day is an annual campaign, sponsored by Youth Service America, which celebrates and mobilizes the millions of children and youth who improve their communities each day of the year through service and service-learning. Global Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world and is now celebrated in over 100 countries. On Global Youth Service Day, children and youth address the world's most critical issues in partnership with families, schools, community and faith-based groups, businesses and governments.

www.gysd.org/

Iowa Shelter Awareness Day (The Saturday at the end of National Volunteer Week in April)

A day to raise awareness of organizations that provide shelter and other critical support services to Iowa's at-risk youth and domestic violence victims.

www.volunteeriowa.org

Join Hands Day (1st Saturday in May)

This national event unites young people and adults in an effort to make their neighborhoods better. The day brings youth and adults together as equal partners in planning an activity that fixes or improves a local problem.

www.joinhandsday.org/

AmeriCorps Week (Mid May)

AmeriCorps Week provides the perfect opportunity for AmeriCorps members, alums, grantees, program partners, and friends to shine a spotlight on AmeriCorps and to motivate more Americans to serve. Individuals and organizations with a special interest in AmeriCorps- especially members, programs, and alums- are encouraged to use their creativity to mark the week in any way they see fit.

www.americorpsweek.gov/

September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance (September 11)

A national movement launched in 2003 to establish 9/11 as a national day of kindness, service and reflection by volunteering, helping others in need, or doing something good for your community.

www.911dayofservice.org

Senior Corps Week (Late September)

Held for the 1st time in 2010, Senior Corps Week is an opportunity to highlight the impact of Seniors Corps volunteers in Iowa, celebrate their service, and invite others to join. Senior Corps connects today's over 55⁺ with the people and organizations that need them most; they volunteer as mentors, coaches, companions to people in need, and contribute valuable experience and job skills.

www.seniorcorps.gov/

Make A Difference Day (4th Saturday in October)

Make A Difference Day, the largest national day of helping others, is sponsored annually by USA WEEKEND Magazine and its 700 carrier newspapers. Make A Difference Day is a national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors.

www.handsonnetwork.org/MakeADifferenceDay