



Change yourself. Change your world. Volunteer.

In This Issue

[National Learn & Serve
Challenge Week](#)

[Curriculum, Grants,
Resources and More!](#)

[Service-Learning
Calendar](#)

[Contact VSD](#)

Quick Links

[San Diego
Service-Learning](#)

[Engaging
Students in
Service Trainings](#)

[Days of Service](#)

[Find A Project](#)

[Flex Orientations](#)

[VSD Podcast](#)

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Educator Resource Newsletter

October 2008

Share Your Service-Learning Stories!

Do you have a service-learning story to share in our newsletter - a new project, partnership, grant or award? We would love to hear about it. Please contact [Kim Lesnau](#).

[Check Out Our Webpage!](#)

If you cannot find what you're looking for, please try our Educator page and our growing Curricula Hub with links to easy-to-use project ideas and lesson plans.

An Update from your Service-Learning Regional Lead

At the end of September, I had the privilege of participating in the annual Fall CDE Service-Learning Regional Lead planning retreat. I, along with all the other leads throughout California, have agreed to focus on the most pressing need of our students: the need for students to be engaged in and out school. Service-learning does just that; service-learning engages students! School dropout, as mentioned in [The Silent Epidemic](#), is a major concern in schools throughout the country. When students are engaged in school, they are less likely to dropout. Please join me and the other leads from across the state in engaging students in service-learning and preventing dropout. To read *Engaged for Success: Service-Learning as a Tool for High School Dropout Prevention*, [please click here](#).

From a national perspective, I am pleased to announce that the service-learning professionals from around the country have new standards for High Quality Service-Learning. For the national report, [please click here](#). If you would like support in implementing these new standards, please contact me at jhamilton@volunteersandiego.org or 858-636-4137.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hamilton, CDE Service-Learning Regional Lead for San Diego and Imperial Counties

National Learn & Serve Challenge Week

National Learn & Serve Challenge Week Wrap-Up

October 6-12 marked the kickoff week to raise awareness about service-learning successes across the country with the spirit of continuing the effort throughout the year. Go to the [National Learn & Serve Challenge](#) website to learn more about the National Learn & Serve Challenge. You can also check out the [Service-Learning Blog](#) to read about projects and activities from the week and the latest news about service-learning.

During this week, more than 87,000 people participated in 41 states plus Puerto Rico and Bangladesh. There were about 190 Challenge Events and Activities and the impact of thousands of young people, educators, community partners, business leaders and policymakers speaking about the importance of service-learning.

Fall Service Event Kicks Off Fall Training Series!

As part of National Learn & Serve Challenge Week, the Fall Service Event was a huge success! **The Service-Learning Council of San Diego held a free networking event focused on the environment in hopes of generating project ideas that engage students in service and to create collaborations between educators, students, and organizations.**

Educators, students and organizations gathered and focused on how to engage students in service in their communities. Participants had the opportunity to meet and greet community organizations, student afterschool clubs, and teacher/student led service projects centered on the environment or animals. Participants also had the opportunity to hear from special guest speaker, Jan D. Wellik, founder of Eco Expressions, and to participate in a World Café discussion. During the discussion, a lot of service project ideas and problem solving techniques were generated.

The Service-Learning Council would like to thank the following participants:

[Eco Expressions](#)
[San Diego Roots](#)
[Cuyamaca Rancho State Park](#)
[Pacific Beach Middle School](#)
(Bob Mihalik and Cassidy Cousins)
[eXcel Youth Zone - Club XYZ](#)
[Volunteer San Diego - SAVY Leaders](#)

This event will be happening twice a year to kick off our Engaging Students in Service Training Series. The next event will be held on **February 5, 2009** and will focus on human/social services. [Click here for more information!](#)

Curriculum, Grants and Resources

Remember to check out the [Volunteer San Diego](#) website for all of our resources that are updated regularly:

November Grant Deadlines

[K-12 Grants for Immigration Education from the American Immigration Law Foundation](#)
[Youth Garden Grants Program](#)
[Nestle Very Best in Youth Program to Honor Young People for Academic and Community Service Achievements](#)
[Classroom Grants - American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronauts Foundation](#)
[Seeds for Education Grant Program Invites Applications](#)
[Target Field Trip Grants](#)
[California School Garden Program](#)

Kick off the Holidays and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with Service Projects!

With the holidays quickly approaching, it's the perfect time to serve the community. You can plan a service project for the holidays or Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, participate as a group/class in a service project, or just simply volunteer your individual time!

Plan your own service project using [Volunteer San Diego's Project Planning Resources](#) or find a project on our [Projects Calendar](#) and sign your group up!

[Upcoming Days of Service](#)

Make a Difference Day - October 25, 2008

Family Volunteer Day - November 22, 2008

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service - January 19, 2009

Western Growers Foundation Grants for School Garden Programs!

The Western Growers Foundation promotes sound science, food safety, nutrition and education to create healthy farms, individuals, and communities. The Western Growers Charitable Foundation is currently accepting applications for the School Garden Programs.

Schools, youth groups, community centers, clubs and any organizations that supports gardening with children (ages 0 - 18) throughout Arizona and California are eligible. Each grant recipient will receive up to \$1500 to be used for supplies needed to install a fruit and vegetable garden and additional resources that have been donated by their partners.

[Applications are due by November 15, 2008! Click here to apply!](#)

Service-Learning Calendar

Mark your calendars, here are some events you don't want to miss!

Remember to check out the [Project Calendar](#) and the [Trainings & Courses](#) page.

High School BOOST-er Conference

Wednesday and Thursday, November 5-6, 2008 San Diego, CA

Join national leaders in a retreat-like setting to learn about topics affecting today's high school programs including promotions, academic achievement, risk behavior prevention, program models, career development, and more. Set in a retreat-like atmosphere, this extraordinary event will rejuvenate your passion and boost your direction for quality programming. We invite you to experience the most invigorating blend of networking and teambuilding opportunities, exceptional workshop presenters to learn and grow with and the latest trends and research in out-of-school time programming.

Service-Learning Council Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2008 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM, San Diego, CA

Join with the members of the Volunteer San Diego Service-Learning Council in evaluating the Fall Service Event and gearing up for the next event on February 5, 2009 focusing on human/social services.

Volunteer San Diego's Engaging Students in Service: Fall Training Series!

An Introduction to Service-Learning

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 4:00 - 7:00pm

Integrate community service with academic learning in the classroom or after school all in three simple steps

On-Site Projects and Reflection

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 4:00 - 6:30pm

Create successful on-site service projects focusing on the themes of environmental education and disaster preparedness

For additional assistance and service-learning resources contact:

Jen Hamilton, Program Director

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Fax: (858) 492-2016

Web page: www.sdservicelearning.org or
www.volunteersandiego.org

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