



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Thursday, April 1, 2010

**GOOD NEWS!
FROM THE VALLEY OF THE SUN YMCA**

**YMCA to Coordinate the Metropolitan Phoenix
Global Youth Service Day**

Over 600 area youth will volunteer during a weekend of service to their community

PHOENIX, AZ: ---The Valley of the Sun YMCA is pleased to announce their selection by Youth Service America to be the lead agency for the Metropolitan Phoenix's participation in the 2010 Global Youth Service Day (GYSD)—to be held across the world April 23 - 25, 2010.

The YMCA received a GYSD grant and through the leadership of Community Initiatives YMCA will coordinate the local projects that will engage over 600 young people 12 years and older. From planting and landscaping a community green space—to spring cleaning at a social service agency—and even creating a beautiful mural to inspire inner city youth—these projects and more will promote the idea that children and youth can be important assets and resources in their community. (See attachment for partial list of area projects) The Valley of the Sun YMCA is proud to be a part of this annual campaign teaching young people the importance of giving back to their community.

Established in 1988, the Global Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world and is now celebrated in over 100 countries. On GYSD, children and youth address the world's most critical issues in partnership with families, schools, community and faith-based organizations, business, and governments. Global Youth Service Day is made possible through funding provided by the State Farm Foundation.

**The Valley of the Sun YMCA is holding a GYSD rally at Phoenix Civic Space Park
on Saturday, April 24 from 9:30am-10:00am to galvanize the youth volunteers.
There will be speakers, music, food and fun!**

The Valley of the Sun YMCA encourages kids, adults, and families to mark their calendars, check out the website gysd.org (click on the 2010 Events at top of page, then United States and finally Arizona), pick out a project, and join in on a day of meaningful community service.

MEDIA:

**For more information about the Global Youth Service Day projects ---
or to arrange for an interview/photo op with a Community Initiatives Representative for the Valley of the Sun YMCA,
PLEASE NOTE ATTACHMENTS FOR PHOTO OPS
please contact: Manda Hurdelbrink • 513.324.8610**

The Community Initiatives YMCA is a strategic priority for youth development from the Valley of the Sun YMCA. This "branch without walls" operates youth development programming in YMCA service areas throughout Maricopa County and the State of Arizona. The youth development programs offered concentrate in four primary domains of service: High School Dropout Intervention, Work or College Readiness, Youth Leadership, and Youth delinquency prevention and intervention.

About the YMCA:

Over 2600 YMCAs serve 21 million people each year, including nearly 10 million children under the age of 18. YMCAs respond to critical social needs by drawing on their collective strength as one of America's largest not-for-profit community service organizations. Through a variety of programs and services focused on the holistic development of children and youth, family strengthening, and health and well being for all, YMCAs unite men, women and children of all ages, faiths, backgrounds, abilities and income levels. From urban areas to small towns, YMCAs have proudly served America's communities for nearly 160 years by building healthy spirit, mind and body for all. Visit valleyymca.org to find your local YMCA



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YMCA to Coordinate the Metropolitan Phoenix Global Youth Service Day

Partial Projects List*

Project: St. Vincent de Paul Project

Location: St. Vincent de Paul
402 W. Watkins Road
Phoenix, AZ 85003

When: Saturday, April 24 ---10:30am-1:00pm

Activity:

- Spring Cleaning facility (painting, pulling weeds, etc)
- Sorting donations for Thrift Store
- Refilling toiletry kits for clients
- Creating and building cardboard mini-city to display in family dining room
- Repairing and fixing bicycles

Registration required.

Contact Beth at bhaugen@vosymca.org or call 602.212.5114

Project: Cleaning Up Cricket Pavilion

Location: Cricket Pavilion
2121 N. 83rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85035

When: Friday, April 23 ---8:00am-Noon
4:00pm -7:00pm

Activity: Beautifying landscape at outdoor concert venue

Registration required.

Contact Jenna at jschaefer@vosymca.org or call 602.212.6158



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Partial Projects List continued

Project: Youth for Garfield
Location: Garfield Historical District
901 N. 5th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

When: Friday, April 23 ---9:30am-Noon
(Volunteers to meet at 9:30am at the
Conspire Art Cooperative)

Activity: Clean-up projects in the Garfield Historical District

Project: Planting for our Future
Location: Garden of Tomorrow
2454 E. Broadway Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85040

When: Saturday, April 24 ---8:00am-Noon

Activity: Clean-up and landscape of community green space

Project: Helping Dreams Come True
Location: Phoenix Dream Center
3210 NW Grand Avenue



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Phoenix, AZ 85017

When: Friday, April 23 ---9:30am-11:30am

Activity: Variety of projects from clean up at facility, to painting, and organizing donations

Partial Projects List continued

Project: “Dreams: Reaching One’s Potential for Success”

Location: Phoenix Collegiate Academy
5610 S. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85040

When: Friday, April 23 ---9:00am-1:00pm

Activity: Students at Las Artes de Maricopa will partner with Phoenix Collegiate Academy to create mural intended to provide inspiration for inner city youth in achieving their dreams.

Open to more volunteers. Contact Project Director, Mike Graser.
at mgraser@vosymca.org or call 602.212.6177



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• An updated list will be sent April 15, 2010