

SPOTLIGHT

Making a Difference: Powerful Volunteer Response to California Wildfires

Devastating wildfires raged through Southern California this fall, burning more than 500,000 acres of land and forcing half a million people from their homes — the largest evacuation in the history of the region.

Firefighters, emergency response personnel, and dozens of businesses came forward to provide support.



Some companies donated products and supplies to the Red Cross, while others hosted donation stations in their stores. Employee fundraising drives were another popular way that organizations and individuals came together in the relief effort.

With more than 5,000 workers and volunteers from all 50 states, the American Red Cross was able to help evacuees and emergency service personnel by providing safe places to stay, meals, and water. More than 3,000 local volunteers lent a hand.

The Corporation for National and Community Service works closely with the American Red Cross to support their efforts with AmeriCorps members and Senior Corps volunteers. AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs respond on local and national levels when the need arises. For more information, visit the [Corporation site](#).

RESOURCES

Resources for Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Planning

Are you in search of resources and ideas for MLK Day? Is your program targeting community needs related to ending violence and conflict?

Read about the [40 Days of Nonviolence: Building the Beloved Community](#) initiative and access a wide variety of resources.

From The Resource Center's Lending Library:

[King: Man of Peace in a Time of War](#)

[Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice](#)

[Helping Kids Prevent Violence: Conflict! Think About It, Talk About It, Work It Out](#)

[Conflict Resolution Training Program](#)

From The Resource Center's Effective Practices Collection:

[Planning a Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service](#)

[Offering educational activities for children on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day](#)

[Providing college graduates with experience in victim rights and crime prevention projects](#)

[Mobilizing a community with a Neighborhood Watch program](#)

Improved Service Events Page at the Effective Practices

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nike-Changemakers Competition: Sport for a Better World



Changemakers (an initiative of Ashoka: Innovators for the Public) and Nike have teamed up on a world-wide search for projects that use the power of sport to improve and accelerate community development and drive real social change. Cash prizes of \$5000 will be awarded. Visit [Changemakers](#) for more information. Application deadline is December 12, 2007.

EPA Funding Opportunity: Improve Older Adult Mobility

The National Center on Senior Transportation is soliciting proposals from aging/human service agencies, tribal and faith-based organizations, and federal, public, and private transportation providers interested in developing and implementing innovative approaches to increasing senior transportation options and improving older adult mobility.



Successful projects will be collaborative, replicable, and consistent with senior transportation-related goals of the national United We Ride initiative of the

Learn more:

[The Resource Center's disaster response and recovery web page](#)

[Effective Practices Collection \(topic: disaster management\)](#).

Collection

Browse a month-by-month list, each with corresponding effective practices that offer ideas for supporting specific service- and volunteering-related events, including MLK Day. Now with 800 practices, the Effective Practices Collection continues to support service practitioners in a meaningful way. Visit the [Service Events page!](#)

Federal Transit Administration.

Grants range from \$50,000 to \$90,000. Proposals due December 17, 2007.

Visit the [National Center on Senior Transportation](#) (NCST) website for more details and forms.

Featured T/TA Provider

[Hands On Network](#)

T/TA Focus:
Leveraging Volunteers
Atlanta, GA
Provides innovative volunteer engagement techniques and dynamic training programs, each designed to enhance volunteer impact, leadership development, and continuous service.

Online Learning Center

[Online Courses](#)

Free e-courses on a wide variety of topics are designed specifically to help strengthen national service programs.
Example: "[Managing Spontaneous Volunteers in Times of Disaster](#)" - created by CNCS, Points of Light Foundation, Volunteer Center National Network, and ETR Associates.

Featured Resource

[Publication Materials](#)

Free CDs, DVDs, and other items are available upon request, including:

- * *Beyond the Right Answer: Effective Homework Help* (DVD)
- * The Resource Center Library Catalog and Supplement
- * The Resource Center's Greatest Hits (CD)

ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is a training and technical assistance provider funded by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) to support volunteer and service programs across the nation. Visit us today to search, browse, download, order, and borrow from among thousands of specialized resources. Click here to [subscribe](#) to this e-newsletter. To [unsubscribe](#), send an e-mail to lyris@lists.etr.org with ***unsubscribe nsrnews*** in the body of the message.

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