Here’s what’s happening with Serve DC

Note from the Director
Greetings Service Ambassadors, Happy Spring!

I am excited to share with you the May, 2022 edition of the Serve DC Newsletter. My name is Alexis L. Squire and I have the privilege of serving under the leadership of Mayor Muriel Bowser as our city’s Chief Service Officer and Director of the Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism and Partnerships, also known as Serve DC. My team and I are dedicated to finding inclusive and innovative ways to connect people to purpose—through volunteerism, service, and multi-sector partnerships. Whether it’s hosting youth emergency preparedness academies, meeting and greeting residents, cleaning up our community with public and private partners, or celebrating Emancipation Day, we are committed to working alongside our neighbors and partners alike, to support our communities’ most urgent needs, through service and collaboration. And my hope is you will be inspired to join in our service journey!

We were honored to celebrate #GlobalVolunteerMonth this April and harnessed our efforts by recognizing the many volunteers who selflessly give of their time and resources to create brighter outcomes on behalf of fellow neighbors and our #DCValues. We participated in many volunteer appreciation events and enjoyed expressing our shared gratitude for the amazing impact of committed volunteers across our city.

The highlight of our month was launching Mayor Bowser’s 2022 Spirit of Service Awards nomination process. Another opportunity to share just how dedicated District residents, organizations, and businesses are to their community.

#DCisOpen! Be on the lookout for in-person events, festivals, and gatherings and continue to connect and engage with us as we continue to work together to create new, better, and different ways to serve DC.

In service and collaboration,
Alexis L. Squire
Director and Chief Service Officer

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District Updates
New Intelligence-led Policing Unit Focusing On Violent Crime

After a weekend of separate shootings across our District, Mayor Bowser and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Chief Robert J. Contee III announced the Violent Crime Impact Team (VCIT), a collaborative effort between local and federal partners to proactively remove illegal firearms from the community and apprehend armed criminals to keep our communities safe.

The focus of VCIT is to reduce violent crime by using more intelligence-driven operations and enhance our investigative abilities through federal agency partnerships.

If you have information about any act of violence in our city, you can report it anonymously by calling (202) 727-9099 or texting 50411.
We Can Prevent Tragedy by Reporting an Illegal Gun

Call (202) 727-9099 or anonymously text 50411 if you know someone who has an illegal gun or where illegal guns are being hidden. You’ll do the right thing and help keep our community safe by taking another illegal gun off the street.
Private Camera Private Security Camera Incentive Program

The Private Security Camera Rebate Program, administered by the Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG), creates a rebate for residents, businesses, nonprofits, and religious institutions to purchase and install security camera systems on their property and register them with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). This program is intended to deter crime and assist law enforcement with investigations. Visit ovsjg.dc.gov
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Serve DC in the Community
16th St. Heights Civic Association Budget Presentation

On April 12th, Director Squire shared Mayor Bowser’s FY23 budget priorities and objectives for Ward 4 residents and businesses with the 16th Street Heights Civic Association.

Among the many exciting priority investments shared, Director Squire highlighted many that inspire equitable access to services and resources including a $10 million fund to support Black home ownership, a historic investment in the Housing Production Trust Fund to keep Washington affordable, and increased investments in all aspects of our public safety network.

An Active Spring Break: Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy

For three days, Serve DC staff connected with high school youth during Spring Break to host emergency preparedness learn & serve civic engagement bootcamps where the students:

- Received Bystander Intervention Training
- Received an intro to Emergency Preparedness
- Learned how to perform Hands-Only CPR/AED
- Received a NARCAN Awareness Training

Students also participated in Adopt-a-Block Clean Ups cohosted by The Mayor’s Office on the Clean City.
Helping Youth Find a Career

On April 14, Serve DC staff engaged with youth across DC at the Marion Barry Summer Youth Employment Program Career Expo! Youth learned of various emergency preparedness career opportunities as well as AmeriCorps opportunities to serve DC full time. We plan to have follow up activities to engage the 50+ youth we met.

Emancipation Day Parade

Thanks for joining us on April 16th at Mayor Bowser’s DC Emancipation Day Parade!

Mayor Muriel Bowser kicked off the celebration of the 160th Anniversary of DC Emancipation Day. DC Emancipation Day honors the day President Abraham Lincoln signed the Compensated Emancipation Act of 1862, which freed over 3,100 enslaved persons in the District of Columbia.

Serve DC and MOCA staff enjoyed meeting and greeting residents and celebrating the history of Emancipation in DC together with friends and family.
Sharing Grants, Funding Opportunities with the DC Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community

The Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs held their Community Meeting on April 19. Director Squire shared grants and resources for nonprofits and small business owners in the AAPI Community. She encouraged nonprofits to engage with agencies early and often, and to sign up for capacity building programs offered by Serve DC and other area organizations.

Sharing Resources with Seniors

Each month, Department of Aging and Community Living holds an ambassador roundtable with current senior ambassadors where DC agencies share resources relevant to the seniors in their communities. This space also allows for ambassadors to share some of their own best practices with each other.

In honor of Global Volunteer Month, on April 22, Director Squire spoke with seniors about volunteerism in the District. She thanked them for serving our community over the past year and shared new opportunities to engage this spring.
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner with Food & Friends

On April 18, Serve DC Staff and Commissioners joined Wegmans and other individuals and organizations for a celebratory dinner & awards event. Food & Friend’s mission relies on volunteer service, and many volunteers who serve with dedication and compassion were recognized and celebrated. Volunteers were also recognized who received Presidential service awards through AmeriCorps.

Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy Spring Career Panel

On April 27, Serve DC and partners hosted a YEPA Career Panel for DC youth to learn more about careers in Emergency Preparedness.

Experts from HSEMA, DC FEMS, AmeriCorps, and more gathered to share their experience and tips, and students walked away feeling even more motivated to serve their community!
Design, Build, Scale: Nonprofit Capacity Building Town Hall
Creating Effective, Efficient & Sustainable Organizations

On April 27, Serve DC and the Center for Nonprofit Advancement hosted a townhall dedicated to provide nonprofits and grantees with capacity building resources. Attendees learned best practices in fundraising, data analysis, and building collaboration. Watch Session 1 Here Watch Session 2 Here

Global Youth Service Day

Global Youth Service Day is the largest youth service and civic action event in the world and the only one that celebrates, builds, and sustains the capacity of all youth ages 5-25, our communities, and our democracy to thrive by working together for the common good. This year, Serve DC partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation Roving Leaders and DC Public Schools to host Global Youth Service Day to build two Little Free Libraries filled with children’s anti-stress and anti-violence books.
Ward 4 Meet and Greet

Serve DC and MOCA staff gathered at the Raymond Recreation Center on Saturday for a day of fun-filled family activities and opportunities for the community to meet and greet staff as well as learn about resources that are offered!

Mayor Bowser's 2022 Spirit of Service Awards
This April, Serve DC is calling on all District residents to nominate their neighbors, organizations, and fellow residents who live a life of service for one of Mayor Bowser's Spirit of Service Awards. This hallmark event of Serve DC is designed to highlight the achievements and work of volunteerism and service in the District, from national nonprofits to the network of neighbors who make our city a place of compassion.

**Mark your calendars: An in person celebration will occur on Thursday, July 21st!**

Read more about the various awards and nominate your neighbor today:

**Mayor Muriel Bowser's 2022 Spirit of Service Awards!**
Global Volunteer Month
WASHINGTON, DC
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

GLOBAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

APRIL 29, 2022

WHEREAS, throughout our history, volunteerism has allowed ordinary people to create lasting in their communities by stepping up to meet the most pressing challenges of the day; and

WHEREAS, Global Volunteer Month was established by Points of Light as a time to honor the millions of individuals who volunteer throughout the year and change the world, one act of kindness at a time; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism and Partnerships (Serve DC) and its staff are tasked with creating meaningful public and private partnerships and opportunities for all District of Columbia residents to give back to their communities and the organizations that work to improve it; and

WHEREAS, Washingtonians are encouraged this season to nominate those in their community who are models of service and make a positive impact through the DC Spirit of Service Awards; and

WHEREAS, Global Volunteer Month provides an opportunity to celebrate the impact people have when they use their voices, time, and talents for causes they care about;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim the month of April as “GLOBAL VOLUNTEER MONTH” in Washington, DC.

[Signature]
Did you know? 87% of people will make time for a worthwhile volunteer opportunity!

Started by the **Points of Light Foundation**, Global Volunteer Month celebrates the power of people who tackle society’s greatest challenges, and build stronger, more vibrant communities through volunteerism and everyday actions. Serve DC took time this month to recognize the DC residents who have stepped up to volunteer in the past year. From packaging and delivering nearly 5,000 pounds of food to, assembling over 75k testing kits, Washingtonians know how step up to the challenge and meet their neighbor’s most immediate needs.

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**Serve DC Job Openings**
**Board Position: 3 year Term on Serve DC’s Commission:**
Serve DC is looking for engaged residents to join the Commission for National and Community Service. The Commission’s purpose is to encourage community service and volunteer participation as a means of community and state problem-solving; to promote and support voluntary citizen involvement in government and private programs throughout the District of Columbia; to develop a comprehensive vision and strategic plan for community service initiatives in the District of Columbia; and to serve as the District's liaison between national and other state organizations in concert with the District of Columbia strategic plan.

Residents engaged in the nonprofit, youth, philanthropic, business, and labor communities are particularly encouraged to apply.

Apply Now

**Grants Management Specialist Position:**
Consider joining the Serve DC team and supporting the overall management and coordination of grants and programmatic activities! In cooperation with the Director and Deputy Director, you'll have the opportunity to design and maintain a financial and grants management system including writing policies and procedures and a fiscal manual for use by programs.

Apply Now
Monthly Partner Highlight

This month, we’re featuring The Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) of DC. Since their founding in the late 1960s, LAYC has grown from a small grassroots recreation center into a nationally recognized agency serving all low-income youth. Each year LAYC serves over 4,000 youth and families through youth centers, school-based sites, and public charter schools in the District of Columbia and Maryland’s Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties as the Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers (MMYC). Their mission is to empower a diverse population of youth to achieve a successful transition to adulthood through multi-cultural, comprehensive, and innovative programs that address youths’ social, academic, and career needs.

Serve DC supports LAYC through AmeriCorps funding as well as programming and partnership events.

Interested in Volunteering? Join us:

Serve DC Volunteer Portal

Upcoming Events

Summer Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy

Are you a young resident of DC interested in emergency preparedness careers? Are you passionate about keeping your family and community safe and building resilience? Apply to join Serve DC’s Summer Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy as part of the Marion Barry Summer Youth Employment Program.
Already signed up for the MBSYEP?
Interested in emergency management?
Sign up for the Summer Youth Employment Preparedness Academy (SYEPA):

summerjobs.dc.gov/page/youth

14-15 yr olds Job # 30251
16-21 yr olds Job # 30252

Youth will walk away with the following FREE certifications:
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), CPR/AED & First Aid, NARCAN Training, Until Help Arrives (Stop the Bleed), COVID-19 Contact Tracing

Questions? Contact Us