

**YBAA Day of Service:  
Strengthening Our Communities Through Access**

Hello YBAA:

Join YBAA on **May 13, 2017** as we ***Strengthen Our Communities Through Access*** for the Yale Day of Service. This is a wonderful year to jump in and give back to your local community while connecting with other alum! As Yale alumni, we are in a unique position to strengthen our communities through meaningful engagement that helps to illuminate pathways of access to education, healthcare, professional opportunities, food security and more. We have current and past YBAA board members, coordinating events and are looking forward to hearing about the ways you plan to participate.

From direct service to impactful dialogues community service can take on many forms, and we encourage you to jump in and create an event that works for you. Do you have a non-profit in your area that you already support? See how you can help them out this year. Is there an issue you are passionate about? Perhaps you can host a critical conversation about it with community partners, family and friends. Are there organizations near you who you can partner with? Connect with them to broaden your reach. A great example of this is the work of YBAA Seattle, who in past years partnered with Stanford Alumni to create a conference around college awareness and mentoring. You might choose to hold a one-day event, participate in direct service such as tutoring for a pre-existing program, or gather for a meeting and canned goods for a local food bank. Our hope is that whatever activity you choose will allow you to foster connections with those around you as you engage in meaningful ways.

Attached are a few documents to help you get started. Please see the planning guides, the list of events from last year, as well as the program from a service event to give you some examples. We are also available to help you come up with ideas and/or connect you with others in your area that are already planning events that your chapter can partner with.

As we strive to strengthen our communities no task is too big or too small. Moreover, when we serve with open minds and open hearts great things can be accomplished. We are committed to supporting you as you think about what opportunities would be meaningful for you, and hope you will join us by participating in the Yale Day of Service!

*Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve.....all you need is a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love. ~Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

Sincerely,  
Yale Black Alumni Association  
National Board of Directors

**YBAA Day of Service:  
Strengthening our Communities through Access**  
*Sample Ideas*

Below are examples of ways you can engage volunteers for the Yale Day of Service. As you plan remember it is important to ask community members/ organizations what they need and what would be helpful to their work. When possible, we encourage you to reach out to your local Yale Club or other organizations to explore ways you might partner together on this initiative.

*Direct Service Opportunities*

- Partner with a local school or after school program
  - Example: partner with a local high school – host a mock interview day for college seniors
- Visiting a Senior Center
  - Reading with Seniors or leading other activities
- Serving a meal at a local community kitchen
- Visiting with or planning an event for patients at a hospital

*Indirect Service Opportunities*

- Donate goods to a local non-profit
  - Examples: Books to an area after school program, canned goods to a local food pantry, hygiene packs to a homeless shelter
- Stocking shelves at a food bank
- Community Beautification Projects
- Raising funds to support a community partner organization/ agency
- Making cards to be sent off to veterans or active duty soldiers

*Advocacy & Awareness Opportunities*

- Hold a community conversation
  - Bring community members and community partners together for a conversation on a particular topic of interest (food security, the achievement gap, access to health care)