

The “Passion into Action” Challenge

Students Leading Through Service

What is the “Passion into Action” Challenge?

There is great value in any service to others.

The “Passion into Action” Challenge is an opportunity for students, Kindergarten through 12th grade, to not only serve, but to lead through service.

The “Passion into Action” Challenge aims to:

1. Create a meaningful way that children and youth can increase awareness of the needs of our community
2. Offer a tangible opportunity for children and youth to volunteer and become educated ambassadors for our local nonprofit organizations
3. Offer local nonprofit partners a clear and easy way to connect children, youth and families with their mission.

Who can participate in the “Passion into Action” Challenge?

Students who are in Kindergarten through 12th grade may participate in the “Passion into Action” Challenge.

Which Volunteer Arlington Partners recognize the “Passion into Action” Challenge?

At this point, the following organizations (which are linked to their websites) are participating in the “Passion into Action” Challenge:

- [AHC, Inc.](#)
Point of Contact: Laura Jackson, laura.jackson@ahcinc.org
Needs: Cash/Advocacy
- [Animal Welfare League of Arlington](#)
Point of Contact: Jennifer Katac, jkatac@awla.org
Needs: Fundraisers, advocacy, making enrichment items for the animals, in-kind donation drives
- [Arlington Thrive](#)
Point of Contact: Shandra Niswander, niswander@arlingtonthrive.org
Needs: Cash/Advocacy
- [Best Kids, Inc.](#)
Point of Contact: Lizette Villarreal, lizette@bestkids.org
Needs: Donations and participation for the 7th Annual Superhero 5K and Fun Run on April 20, cash donations are always welcome

- [Doorways for Women and Families](#)
Point of Contact: Veronica Floyd, Veronica Floyd, vfloyd323@gmail.com
Needs: Cash/Advocacy
- [Just Neighbors](#)
Point of Contact: Genesis Lazo, Genesis Lazo, Genesis@justneighbors.org
Needs: Cash/Advocacy
- [R.E.A.D](#)
Point of Contact: Jennifer Sauter Price, jsauterprice@readearlyandddaily.org
Needs: Cash/Advocacy

What are the steps to the “Passion into Action Challenge”?

Step 1: **Pick your cause.**

What issues do you care about helping?

Which Volunteer Arlington organizations have a mission you would like to serve?

Step 2: **Research and pick your organization.**

What is their mission? Who do they serve? What are their biggest needs? Is it money? Is it particular supplies? Do they need you to share their mission with others? As a servant leader, it is important to listen to what they need, not what you want to give them.

VolunteerArlington.org is a great place to start your search!

Step 3: **Define and develop your plan.**

If your organization needs money, how are you going to work to raise money? Here are some ideas, but feel free to create your own!

(Organize a bake sale or lemon-aid stand. Invite friends and family to donate supplies. Create flyers and posters which talk about your organization’s mission and how donations will have a direct impact with their organization.)

(Create a challenge around a passion you have. For example, if you love to read, have people sponsor you for every book you read within one month. Have your friends join the challenge!)

If your organization needs supplies, how can you organize a drive which shares the mission of the organization while also collecting the items needed? Here are some ideas, but feel free to create your own!

(Instead of gifts for a birthday party, perhaps guests could bring a donation for your favorite organization?)

(Create a competition in your grade for the class which brings the most supplies for your favorite organization.)

If your organization needs to educate people about their mission, how will you get the word out? Here is an idea, but feel free to create your own!

(You could participate in a local community event where you'd have a table to talk about what the organization does and how others can get involved.)

Step 4: Fill out the "Passion into Action" Challenge form.

The "Passion into Action" Challenge form can be found [here](#).

(Please email Lisa Fikes, Executive Director of Volunteer Arlington, at lfikes@leadercenter.org with your completed form by Friday, April 6 for the Global Youth Service Day Delivery and by Wednesday, September 4, 2019 for the 9/11 Day of Service Delivery.)

Step 5: Deliver the "Passion into Action" Challenge form and any donations.

Deliver your "Passion into Action" Challenge form and any donations (if applicable) to the participating Volunteer Arlington organizations on one of the following designated dates:

- Global Youth Service Day: Friday, April 12, 2019, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- 9/11 Day of Service: Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

(Volunteer Arlington partners have reserved these times to greet you, but if you would like to schedule an alternative delivery date time, please contact the Volunteer Arlington Partner Organization's Point of Contact to schedule an alternative time.)

You will meet with a staff person from the organization and be awarded a certificate of completion.