



Points of Light Organizational Overview

[Points of Light](#) believes people are at the center of change. The organization inspires, equips and mobilizes 21st century volunteers to address the pressing issues of our time. By engaging millions of volunteers each year to use their time, talent, voice and money to create meaningful change in their communities, we are transforming our world.

Our vision is that one day every person will discover their power to make a difference, creating healthy communities in vibrant, participatory societies.

When President George H. W. Bush spoke of a “thousand points of light,” he could not have fully imagined how his vision, words and actions would inspire millions of individuals and organizations to make that vision a reality. Today, 25 million more Americans are volunteering in their communities than when President Bush made his call to service in 1989.

Points of Light has emerged over two decades as the largest organization in the world dedicated to volunteering and civic engagement. We have a global focus to redefine volunteerism and civic engagement, putting people at the center of community problem solving.

We are organized into three divisions: **Action Networks**, **Programs** and the **Civic Incubator**.

- Points of Light’s **Action Networks** allow us to reach distinct groups with the tools and resources they need to engage people as change agents. These include: [HandsOn Network](#), the largest network of volunteer centers across the country and around the world with 250 local affiliates; [generationOn](#), the youth service movement that ignites the power of kids to make their mark on the world; [AmeriCorps Alums](#), the national service alumni network that activates the next generation of service leaders; and the [Corporate Institute](#), the go-to organization that supports companies engaging their employees and customers in volunteer service.
- Our **Programs** division builds and scales training, education and signature programs to address critical needs and build stronger communities. Our programs focus on the environment, education, economy, emergency preparedness, and veterans and military families. The Community Blueprint Network provides a framework for communities to support veterans and military families. Recognition programs like the Daily Points of Light Award and the Extra Mile – Points of Light Volunteer Pathway celebrate the power of individuals to create meaningful change and inspire others to serve. We offer year-round training programs and signature events like the annual National Conference on Volunteering and Service.
- The **Civic Incubator** is a locus for new forms of civic and volunteer action. The Civic Incubator identifies the best ideas from across the Action Networks and the sector to replicate or scale. The Civic Incubator supports entrepreneurs launching early stage ventures that engage people to create and drive positive change through training, seed funding and support services. Specific initiatives include the first start-up accelerator program for civic ventures, a “ventures in residence” program for new enterprises, and innovative models to expand the organization’s global network of volunteer leaders in societies from El Salvador and Rio de Janeiro to Shanghai and Milan.

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POINTS OF LIGHT

Points of Light Institute's Annual Impact

- Engage **4.3 million** volunteers, **77,052** partners in **20** countries around the globe
- **260,000** service projects a year, more than **21,000** each month
- **32 million** hours of service, producing an economic value of **\$701 million**
- **142** HandsOn Network affiliates operate at least one AmeriCorps or Senior Corps program
- **2.3 million volunteers** engaged on national days of service (e.g., MLK Day, 9/11 Day)
- **1,800 generationOn Clubs** engaging youth in service and leadership development
- **41 AmeriCorps Alums** chapters building a community of experienced volunteer leaders

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