American Red Cross Academic Service-Learning Opportunities

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Linda MacIntyre, PhD, RN, PHN
Chief Nurse, American Red Cross

Tener Veenema, PhD, MS, RN, FAAN
Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing
Objectives

• Discuss Academic Service-Learning (ASL) in-person and virtual volunteer opportunities to serve communities with the Red Cross.
• Describe ASL processes and resources for nursing students and nurses in the Red Cross.
• Appreciate the importance of engaging nursing students with national voluntary organizations in disaster response.
• Discuss American Red Cross Nursing and its efforts to build community resilience.
Mission Statement

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.
Seven Fundamental Principles
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Humanity
Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Voluntary Service
Unity
Universality
Nursing and Health Nurse Vision

Ensure a prepared, nimble and diverse workforce of engaged Red Cross nurses and other health professionals enterprise-wide that supports volunteerism across the lifespan and promotes health and resilience within our communities.
Identify ASL Virtual and In-Person Opportunities

American Red Cross
Academic Service-Learning (ASL)
Student Curriculum for American Red Cross Disaster Health Services

- This is a two-part course (3 web-based modules and an online simulation) that provides an overview of the services that American Red Cross Disaster Health Services workers provide on a local or large-scale disaster response.
- Here is a [link to the fact sheet].
- The online modules take about 3 hours and the online simulation varies – usually 2-3 hours.
Red Cross High Priority Volunteer Opportunities

Safety First!

- Interested in serving to meet essential service needs in the public? Be sure to review the CDC guidance for people who are at higher risk for severe illness, consult your health care provider, and follow local guidance. The number one priority of the American Red Cross is the health and safety of our employees, volunteers, blood donors and recipients, and the people we serve.

- Red Cross Workforce Safety Video
Red Cross High Priority Volunteer Opportunities

- Blood Donor Ambassador
- Transportation Specialist
Red Cross High Priority Volunteer Opportunities

- Shelter Service Associates and Shelter Supervisors
Red Cross High Priority Volunteer Opportunities

- Disaster Health Services Associates and Supervisors
Disaster Cycle Services

- Community preparedness education
- Pillowcase Project for 3rd-5th graders (virtual disaster education)
- Client assistance/ case management
International Services

- Measles & Rubella Initiative Awareness
- Restoring Family Links (casework)
Service to the Armed Forces

- Promote awareness of services
- Client assistance; casework
Academic Service-Learning Benefits

American Red Cross
Students and ASL

- Nursing students (Pre-licensure nursing students or RNs working on their Bachelor’s, Master’s or Doctorate degrees) often need community/public health or leadership experience for their courses
- Discuss specific course requirements
ASL Volunteer (Student) Benefits

- Engage in a mutual exchange of ideas between the Red Cross and the ASL Volunteer
- Strengthen teaching, presentation skills
- Gain course credit while serving the community
ASL Volunteer Benefits

- Support people who need Red Cross services
- Gain hands-on experience in public health
- Promote resilience in communities
Faculty Benefits

- More public/community health clinical or practicum sites (nursing programs)
- Leadership roles in local chapters
- Service on committee and boards
- Local and national recognition
Community Benefits

- Decreased morbidity & mortality due to fires
- Adequate blood supply
- More health & safety education
- Better disaster preparedness
- Strengthened community relationships
Red Cross Benefits

- Increase number of highly skilled volunteers
- Infusion of new energy, ideas & perspectives
- Help meet business line goals
- Prepare tomorrow’s civic leaders
- Strengthen community relationships
Faculty Role

- Contact Regional or Local Chapter
- Discuss learning outcomes, Red Cross opportunities & schedules
- Provide nursing/ academic perspectives
- Evaluate students
- Facilitate achievement of Red Cross Regional goals through ASL partnership
American Red Cross Regional Role

- Work with faculty on opportunities and schedules
- Facilitate ASL volunteer experience
- Recognize ASL volunteers for their service
Red Cross ASL Volunteer Coordinator

- Clarify roles with ASL Volunteers
- Facilitate training; coordinate schedules
- Ask questions about ASL Volunteer goals
- Provide opportunities for ASL Volunteers to share their knowledge
- Show appreciation for contributions
Red Cross ASL Volunteer Coordinator

- Complete training (self-study)
- Coordinate schedules
- Ask about ASL volunteer goals
- Enable ASL volunteers to share their knowledge
- Recognize ASL volunteer contributions
Student Roles

- Complete volunteer application & orientation
- Obtain faculty support for Red Cross placement
- Think broadly & share learning goals
- Reflect on experience
- Seek out opportunities
- Ask questions
- Communicate
- Log hours
Celebrate Successes!
Thank you!
Resources

- Red Cross High Priority Volunteer Opportunities
- American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org/about-us/mission
- American Red Cross International Services
- Student Curriculum for American Red Cross Disaster Health Services
- Measles & Rubella Initiative
- Restoring Family Links
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

For more information/questions, contact: RedCrossNurse@redcross.org or Linda.MacIntyre@redcross.org
Questions?