

Be the Change 2014 Summary



Stand Together Serve Together

15th annual national day of service

October 4, 2014

Coordinated by
South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT)

Highlights

- Over 2,400 people gathered in 10 cities and over 30 campuses across the U.S. to participate in *Be the Change 2014* and answer Mahatma Gandhi's challenge to "be the change you wish to see in the world"
- Coordinated by South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT), the fifteenth annual national day of service brought together youth, students, activists, advocates, community members, and allies to build community through service
- Participants committed over 7,500 volunteer hours at more than 100 service sites focused on:
 - Food and hunger
 - Poverty, homelessness, and housing
 - Youth
 - Health
 - Seniors
 - Community spaces and environment



Be the Change 2014 locations

Participating cities

Austin, TX
Atlanta, GA
Boston, MA
Chicago, IL
Jacksonville, FL

Los Angeles, CA
New Brunswick, NJ
San Francisco, CA
Tampa, FL
Washington, DC

Participating campuses

Baylor University
Binghamton University
Boston University
City College of New York

Drexel University
East Carolina University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
George Washington University



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Georgia Institute of Technology
Lamar University
Michigan State University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Pennsylvania State University
Rutgers University
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The Ohio State University
University of Alabama at Birmingham

University of Central Florida
University of Connecticut
University of Connecticut School of Law
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Texas
University of Oklahoma at Norman
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Tennessee at Knoxville
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at Dallas
University of Virginia
Vanderbilt University
Wayne State University



Service Sites

Be the Change 2014 participants volunteered at over 100 service sites, including:

Food and Hunger

Binghamton Food Pantry
Capital Area Food Bank
Capitol Hill Group Ministry
DC Central Soup Kitchen
Detroit Rescue Mission
Feeding American Tampa Bay

Genesee Valley Park
Gleaners
GLIDE
Martha's Table
Meals on Wheels
Southeast Texas Food Bank

Poverty, Homelessness, and Housing

Albemarle Housing Improvement Program
Austin Homeless Shelter
Habitat for Humanity (multiple locations)
My Sister's Place

New Hope Baptist Church
Orlando Union Rescue Mission
Ronald McDonald House (multiple locations)
St. Francis House

“If we stand together, we will serve our community better with better solutions and coordination.”

-Tom Servatka, Jacksonville



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Youth

American Tobacco Duck Race
Boys and Girls Club
Center of Life
Covenant House Michigan
Hands on Birmingham Kaboom Playground Build
Heinzerling Foundation
Make Therapy Dolls for Dell Children's
Miracle Foundation
Miracle League
Newark YMCA
Pursuing a Dream
Sasha Bruce Youthwork
Science Spectrum

St. Joseph's Children's Hospital
Sunset Valley Elementary School
YWCA



“It was a great opportunity to give back, to do good together, to rise above our own needs and busy schedules and dedicate a few hours in the service of others. I did this with my kids who also learn the value of ‘giving’ through these events...To know that our effort, however small, would maybe impact a little life in some way was a humbling experience.”

-Tara Grogan, Austin

Seniors

Cypress Glenn Retirement Community
Newark Extended Health & Care Facility
White Oaks Senior Living Community

Health



American Diabetes Walk
Breast Cancer Awareness Walk- Boston, MA
Dell Children's Hospital
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
South Asian Marrow Association of Recruiters
Stony Brook University Cancer Center
Straub Clinic and Hospital



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“BTC opened my eyes to how many things we simply take for granted on a day to day basis. For example, by working with School Tools, I saw how hard teachers work to provide their students with the materials they need. BTC motivated me to work with more organizations to better our community.”

-Sowmiya Muthuraju, Wayne State University

Community Spaces and Environment

Austin Community Trees
Botanical Gardens
Bridge of Lubbock
Camp Holiday Trails
Capuchin Gardening
Charlottesville Parks & Trails
Columbus Recreation and Parks Adams Community Garden Help
Columbus Recreation and Parks Cleanup
D-Town Farm
Edinburgh International Coastal Cleanup
Fall Dig-Ins Green Corn Project
Festival Beach Community Garden
Friends of Park
Glen Hazel Urban Garden Project
Hazelwood YMCA Urban Garden Project
Intergenerational Garden Bed Raising
Keep Nashville Beautiful
Keeping Alachua County Beautiful
Landscaping and Beautification
National Parks
Nature Center
Onion Creek beautification



Pease Park Conservancy
Pennsylvania State University
Piedmont Valley Community College Garden
Revitalize Dove Springs
The Heritage Preservation Trust
TXU Urban Tree Farm
Urban Patchwork
Vulcan State Park
Walnut Creek beautification
Wilmot Garden

Other

Alachua County Pet Rescue
Austin Pets Alive
Black and Pink
Blegen Hall
Gainesville Recreation and Culture
Greenworks Goodwill
Indo American Center
Islamic Community of Bryan-College Station
Metro Area Animal Adoption

Mitchell's Place
Rebuild Together Pittsburgh Project
Salvation Army (multiple locations)
South Asian American Policy & Research Institute
The Animal Haven
Volunteers of America Thrift
Voter Education and Deputy Training
World Medical Relief



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Media

Media Hits

- Be The Change Austin – Austin-area volunteers and Amy Johnston Harper on KVUE (September 29, 2014) <http://www.kvue.com/story/news/local/2014/09/28/day-of-service-around-austin/16340841/>
- Be the Change Day of Seva – IndiaAbroad (October 17, 2014) <http://www.indiaabroad-digital.com/indiaabroad/20141017#pg56>

Social Media

- 2,995 Twitter followers
- SAALT posted 23 *Be the Change* 2014 tweets
- 2,972 Facebook likes

National Sponsors & National Partners

Be the Change 2014 was generously supported by national sponsors and national partners:

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