WashU Engage: Chicago Day of Service  
Ways to be engaged on your own!

If you can’t join us at one of the WashU Engage projects on March 9th, here are some options to give back on your own to participate in the WashU Day of Service!

As you participate in service we invite you to think about how you impact your community and what type of legacy you are creating through your service.

**Incorporate Civic Action into Daily Life**
- Stop by the grocery store, buy some extra canned foods/foods on food banks' high-need lists and donate them to a food pantry near you
- Visit the American Red Cross to donate blood
- Write a letter to a military personnel through Operation Gratitude:  
  [https://www.operationgratitude.com/express-your-thanks/write-letters/](https://www.operationgratitude.com/express-your-thanks/write-letters/)
- Start a chain of kindness and pay for someone else’s meal, coffee, or groceries
- Take a walk in your neighborhood and pick up litter
- Do yard work for a neighbor
- Register to vote!
- Volunteer to help register others to vote:  
  [https://www.rockthenvote.org/action-center/volunteer/](https://www.rockthenvote.org/action-center/volunteer/)
- Contact your local representatives about an issue you care about- city council, school board, state government, etc.
- Engage in an in-depth conversation with a neighbor who has different ideologies or social identities than you

**Make a Commitment to Volunteer with a Local Organization**
- Visit a humane society and support animals who need homes
- Make “caring cards” to take to a local senior center or fire house.
- Sign up to volunteer with an organization close to your heart
- Organizations that accept volunteers, listed by issue:
  - Health care:
    - Heartland Alliance:  
    - Gilda's Club Chicago:  
      [https://www.gildasclubchicago.org/ways-give/volunteer](https://www.gildasclubchicago.org/ways-give/volunteer)
  - Youth/education
    - Chicago Youth Programs:  
      [https://chicagoyouthprograms.org/get-involved/](https://chicagoyouthprograms.org/get-involved/)
    - GirlForward:  
      [https://www.girlforward.org](https://www.girlforward.org)
    - Chicago Run:  
      [http://www.chicagorun.org](http://www.chicagorun.org)
    - Project SYNCERE:  
      [https://www.projectsyncere.org](https://www.projectsyncere.org)
- Evanston School children’s Association: https://www.escca.org/volunteer
- Environment:
  - Alliance for the Great Lakes: https://greatlakes.org
  - Friends of the Chicago River: http://www.chicagoriver.org/
- Housing/homelessness/hunger:
  - Cara Chicago: https://carachicago.org/volunteer/
  - Greater Chicago Food Depository and its affiliates: https://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/find-food/?fwp_location_category=pantry
- Refugee resettlement:
  - World Relief Chicago: https://worldreliefchicago.org/volunteer-opportunities
- Volunteer positions that require special skillsets:
  - Bridge Communities—looking for human resources professionals or hiring managers to volunteer to read resume and conduct mock interviews for homeless individuals looking for jobs: https://www.bridgecommunities.org/Support-us/Become-an-Employment-Program-Volunteer.html
  - Pro Bono Network—looking for lawyers who reside in Illinois—active, inactive, retired, and out-of-state welcome! https://www.pro-bono-network.org/join

- Do you have an organization you’d like to see on this list? Email washuengage@wustl.edu and let us know!