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CELEBRATING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Several area organizations are partnering together to celebrate **Global Youth Service Day (GYSD)**, albeit a little early. On Saturday, April 2, AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), the City of Sacramento, the Volunteer Center of Sacramento (VCS) and Keep California Beautiful (KCB) are lending manpower and resources to four different community service projects.

Each year, GYSD mobilizes millions of young Americans nationwide to identify and address the needs of their communities. Established in 1988, Global Youth Service Day is the largest service event in the world, and the only day of service dedicated to children and youth. GYSD is celebrated each year in over 100 countries.

Volunteers will be engaged in the Natomas area, as well as the south and southeast areas of Sacramento, from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Tasks for the day include assembling hygiene packets for a local homeless shelter and crafting mothers' and fathers' day greeting cards for Meals on Wheels participants. At all of the parks volunteers will be assisting with beautification efforts such as weeding, mulching, pruning and removing invasive plant species.

“We’ve been leading Global Youth Service Day events for 7 years and each year it gets bigger and better. We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with AmeriCorpsNCCC again and to join in partnership with the Volunteer Center for this day of service. The environment, the homeless as well as seniors and youth will all benefit from this project,” states Julie Mier, Volunteer Coordinator for the City of Sacramento’s Department of Parks and Recreation. “To support the volunteers as part of the 2011 Great American Cleanup™, a national campaign organized by nonprofit Keep America Beautiful, Keep California Beautiful is providing supplies and Waste Management is assisting with the disposal costs of materials collected,” said Christine Flowers, Executive Director of Keep California Beautiful. “Sacramento youth will be part of the estimated 3.5 million volunteers, nationwide, greening up their communities this spring.”

AmeriCorps NCCC, administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, provides opportunities to members to work on service projects in the areas of disaster relief, energy conservation, urban and rural development, infrastructure improvement and the environment. NCCC members must be 18-24 and complete at least 1,700 hours of service during the 10-month program. For information about applying to AmeriCorps NCCC, call 1-800-942-2677 or visit the Web site at www.americorps.gov/nccc.

The Volunteer Center of Sacramento is the Sacramento region’s largest full service volunteer center. We connect volunteers with volunteer opportunities, support all area non-profits, and offer several programs like the BirthdayMAGIC Program which provides birthday parties for children living in homeless shelters. Our vision is to enrich lives and community through leadership in volunteerism. Visit www.volunteersac.org to learn more.

The City of Sacramento offers a wide variety of short-term and on-going opportunities to volunteer with programs for all ages. Whether your interests are in serving seniors, youth, animals or the environment, there are many options. Visit: www.cityofsacramento.org/volunteers for information or visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/sacvolunteers or follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/sacvolunteers or contact Mary Lynn Perry, Volunteer Coordinator at (916) 808-8317 or by email: mperry@cityofsacramento.org To adopt a City park, visit: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/parksandrecreation/parks/volunteer.htm> or contact Julie Mier at (916) 808-2285 or email: jmier@cityofsacramento.org

Keep California Beautiful, Inc. is an environmental education non-profit 501c (3) whose mission is to work together to ignite individuals, state and local governments, communities, and corporate responsibility through strategic initiatives and volunteer action to preserve and protect California’s beautiful natural resources for generations to come. For additional information about upcoming e-waste collection, volunteer cleanups and Earth Day events visit www.keepcabeautiful.org.

