

Global Awareness & International Service

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead

International Service and the Guiding Program

At all levels of Guiding from the Spark Program on up to the Ranger Program International service is required as part of learning about Global Guiding and giving back. You can even earn badges like the Alberta CWFF crest.



Here are just a few International Service Ideas:

- Raising money for CWFF
- Looking up the World Centres wish lists on the web and sending them items from those lists.
- Plan and do one of the WAGGGS challenges with younger girls
- Go on an international trip with your Pathfinder or Ranger unit with a service focus. EG: México or New Orleans and Build houses for Habitat for Humanity, Help with bioresearch in the jungles of Ecuador Etc.
- Find out about the many UNICEF campaigns that help children around the world and volunteer for UNICEF (run an info booth, give presentations to younger girls as part of their speakers bureau, promote their campaigns etc.)
- Put together a few boxes for Operation Shoe box for Samaritans Purse (Christmas time)
- Writing postcards/letters on behalf of Amnesty International
- Racism Projects through ROAR
- Land Mine Awareness projects
- Help out at local international themed festivals by face painting, handing out brochures, picking up garbage, cleaning, ticket taking, running kids tent activities, bag/coat check, refreshments etc. Possible events include: Calgary International Children's Festival, Folk Festival, Global Fest, Carafest, Greek fest, Afrika days, World Partnership Walk etc. Check out what cultural festivals happen in your community.
- The world partnership walk is run by the Aga Khan Foundation to help end world poverty. Every May across the county they have charity walks. In Calgary the walk committee have created a crest for Guides & Scouts to earn by helping the walk with their recycling program. Volunteer with your unit at the walk and help raise awareness of a global issue while being environmental and earn the crest.
- Volunteer at the Marda Loop Justice Film festival, Calgary (eg: concession stand, set up & take down etc.)
- Tutoring and mentoring programs for ESL students.
- Writing letters to soldiers in Afghanistan or send them Girl Guide cookies.
- Knitting Izzy dolls for children in Afghanistan - <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/youth/sub.cfm?source=activities/kidszone/colour/izzy>

- Help out with the Grandmothers for Grandmothers projects in your community (Steven Lewis foundation) - www.stephenlewisfoundation.org
- Researching a Global issue and doing a poster campaign in your school/community centre or a presentation to educate your peers.
- Check out international agencies on Volunteer Calgary (you're your local volunteer centre) website and phone them to see what help they may need from you and your group?
- Making Hygiene bags for overseas causes
- Assemble AIDS Angels for Africa
- Plan an awareness event for a Global Action Day. Eg: International Aids Day, International women's Day, World Water Day, International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination, World Health Day, World Food Day, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, UN (United Nations) Day, Human Rights Day.
- Collect or make Teddies to send to Teddies (Sparks) in South Africa
- Participate in the 30 hour famine
- Do a project for *Global Youth Service Day* (earn the crest form GGC)
- Make Red Ribbons for local AIDS society – They are always looking for more red ribbons to hand out to be worn on people's lapels. They use them through the year at all their events. To make them simply loop the ribbon and secure with a small straight pin.

- Make school kits for the Mennonite Central Committee. School kits are given to refugee and displaced children, helping students and teachers add some normalcy to disrupted lives. They are frequently requested after natural disasters. MCC sends school kits to places including Iraq, Nicaragua, North Korea and to poorly funded schools in Canada and the United States. School kits are distributed in a useful double drawstring cloth bag (28cm x 40.6cm / 11in x 16in). You may sew the bag yourself (instructions), request bags from an MCC collection center, or donate contents that we will place in a bag. Check on the Mennonite Central Committee website for drop-off locations
 - 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (about 21.5cm x 27cm / 8.5in x 10.5in and 70 sheets U.S. / 140 pages in Canada, see [below](#) for more info)
 - 4 unsharpened pencils
 - 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic; indicating both 30cm and 12in)
 - 12 colored pencils (in packaging)

 - 1 large pencil eraser

- Check the Mennonite Central Committee Website for many other kits that can be made, eg sewing, health, relief and newborn are just some of them. <http://mcc.org/kits>

- Help at a Ten Thousand Villages Festival sale. Check at your local store or on the website for more information.