



THE AYLUS TIMES

Alliance of Youth Leaders in the United States

No. 12

Announcements

Congratulations to the Pearland, San Diego, Great Neck, West Essex, Syosset, Roslyn, Murrieta, Chapel Hill, Lake Washington, Frisco & Plano, and Greater Buffalo branches for winning Branch of the Month for July 2026. Congratulations to the Irvine branch for winning New Branch of the Month for July 2026.



Monthly Themed Challenge: An Everlasting Environment



Over 51 million tons of plastic waste circulate throughout the United States every year, posing a serious threat to the environment and public health. To help tackle this crisis, AYLUS branches are working tirelessly to reduce waste in their local communities.

In California, AYLUS San Diego and San Clemente branches collected and sorted recyclable cans and bottles, delivering them directly to their local recycling center. Meanwhile, volunteers from the AYLUS Bellaire and Lake Washington branches applied what they learned in an environmental education session to remove invasive plants, prune trees, and litter from their local green spaces. On the East Coast, Oyster Bay volunteers ensured that the endangered Piping Plover nests were safe during the local Independence Day airshow.

Every act of service creates a meaningful impact. In the future, AYLUS will continue to uphold their commitment to creating a cleaner, safer environment.



Written by: Chloe Wang
Revised by: Zoe Cheng



MORE THAN A MEAL

Food is usually the highlight of summer: a season of celebrating Independence Day, holding outdoor barbeques, and hosting pool parties. However, sitting down to enjoy a simple hamburger is still a luxury to the millions of Americans struggling with food insecurity.

Luckily, AYLUS branches nationwide are battling against this ongoing food crisis by supporting local organizations. The Murrieta, Auburn, and Greenville branches got involved with their local food banks to bag fresh produce and pack donated goods. Meanwhile, AYLUS RSM collaborated with Crossline Church, where volunteers managed assembly line operations, restocked inventory, and recorded recipient orders. On the distribution side, the West Essex branch helped hand out groceries directly to families in need.

While food insecurity still remains an urgent challenge, AYLUS's unwavering commitment to serving the community is empowering a strong generation of leaders who are willing to join the fight.



Written by: Rachel Zhang
Revised by: Zoe Cheng



Small Donations. Lasting Impact

As summer service projects continue nationwide, AYLUS branches are proving that even simple donations can make a meaningful impact in their communities. From essential supplies to handmade creations, volunteers are actively working together to meet a wide range of local needs.



The Morris Branch partnered with local organizations to collect food, household cleaning supplies, and summer clothing for individuals in need. In Texas, the Frisco & Plano Branch donated gently used clothing to Goodwill while continuing their Loops for Love project, crocheting handmade items for future donations and fundraisers. Meanwhile, the Chapel Hill Branch delivered donated flowers to Charles House to support creative activities for seniors, and the Riverside County Branch collected furniture, toys, and home décor items for the American Cancer Society.

Through these donation efforts, AYLUS branches continue to demonstrate that generosity comes in many forms, strengthening communities one thoughtful contribution at a time.



Written by: Audrey Kuo
Revised by: Zoe Cheng

Bridging Generations



Nearly one in four adults over 65 are socially isolated, according to the National Academies of Sciences. This summer, AYLUS branches helped battle this problem with music, technology, and conversation.

Greater Buffalo volunteers performed violin, flute, and piano at Bristol Village Assisted Living and Memory Care, then stayed for cards and games. Columbus musicians returned to Senior Star after a summer pause, and Chapel Hill continued its monthly classical performances at Carol Woods Retirement Community.

Other branches met different needs. Basking Ridge's weekly iPad Club at Fellowship Village walked residents through password managers and Zoom scheduling, and San Diego's 318th English for the Elderly session paired volunteers with learners in one-on-one breakout rooms. Farmington taught origami cranes, frogs, and crabs at a local senior center, while Irvine played balloon volleyball with residents.

Each visit turned an ordinary afternoon into company, and branches plan to continue these programs into the fall.



Written by: Max Yang
Revised by: Max Yang

A Summer of Discovery



As summer brings a break from traditional classrooms, AYLUS continues to demonstrate that education extends beyond the school year. From STEM camps to literacy initiatives, volunteers across the nation created opportunities for students to continue learning and exploring.

AYLUS Lake Washington hosted a five-day middle school physics camp, introducing students to scientific concepts through interactive lessons. Furthermore, the branch organized a 3D modeling camp, teaching students digital design and troubleshooting skills.

Expanding access to academic support, the Irvine branch provided weekly tutoring in subjects including math, English, and art. Similarly, AYLUS Great Neck offered one-on-one tutoring at the local library. The Greater Triangle branch also promoted literacy through an online read-aloud marathon, while the West Essex branch encouraged academic engagement through a summer Quiz Bowl outreach program.

From science camps to tutoring sessions, these programs highlight how AYLUS branches transformed the summer months into opportunities for exploration, learning, and growth.



Written by: Angie Feng
Revised by: Max Yang

BRANCH SPOTLIGHT: GREATER TRIANGLE BRANCH

Founded in 2021, the Greater Triangle Branch has since maintained its goal of making a meaningful impact on their community, consistently hosting projects from environmental conservation to English education classes. Throughout these efforts, members are given the opportunity to serve the community while developing their own leadership skills.

One of Greater Triangle's most prominent events is their environmental conservation program. Each month, volunteers can "adopt" a road to clean, ensuring the surrounding apartments and businesses enjoy a clean area. Another highlight is the reoccurring book club and English classes. Initially created to help members new to the United States, the event has grown to encompass children outside the branch, helping the community improve their language skills as a whole.

The Greater Triangle Branch also continues their commitment to education through volunteering at the Cary Learning Academy, where members help students with a variety of subjects. Other events include volunteering at retirements, allowing members to not only step out of their comfort zones, but also bring joy to others through performances.

Ultimately, the branch's range of activities showcase their dedication to serving the community, from environmental projects creating visible change in local areas to educational events assisting individuals within the communities. All together, these efforts reflect the goal of Greater Triangle in strengthening the community, as well as the commitment it takes.



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