What You Can Do

Students have a number of available options for getting involved in helping the global mine action community. Below are some examples of programs that you can participate in:

Adopt-A-Minefield and Landmine Survivors Network have joined forces to create “That Landmine Thing.” This campaign was created for and by students and young people from across North America interested in mine action. It works to help clear mines and raise awareness about the mine problem. Since it began, the campaign has involved over 1,000 schools and raised over $300,000.

To register your school, e-mail info@thatlandminething.org.

This year, Clear Path International has two Grassroots Fundraising Appeals you can support:

**AbilityTrek**

An amputee cyclist from North Carolina is going to ride his bike around the world to raise funds and awareness of the landmine and unexploded ordnance problem. This grassroots effort will involve pledging money per mile for the rider—a student or student group interested in a penny per mile, it would total $130 at the end of his race. Students can learn about the issue, geography, and the human toll of landmines and UXO while raising funds for this cause.

Matching Grant: CPI currently has a matching grant from the U.S. Department of State to raise civil society support for mine action. It is encouraging groups to raise funds and can be matched to assist landmine and UXO victims.

For more information, contact info@cp.org.

Freedom Fields USA has designed the Landmine Awareness Education Program for Students. The idea is to create a national landmine problem and ways to help solve it. They are challenged to think beyond their own funds and begin to find local, responsible, active global citizens.

This informative packet is for teachers in elementary, middle, and high schools. It includes an educational DVD, a world landmine map, classroom activities and a list of resources. For those interested, we also have “Change For Children,” an in-school fundraising program.

Contact the group at catherine@freedomsfieldsusa.org or (831) 644-6154 to request materials.

Landmine survivors in Cambodia are among the poorest in a very poor country. For many, access to basic human needs like shelter, food, water, health and education are blocked by the presence of landmines. Because of this, Landmines Blow! has the project Safe Water. Here’s how you can get involved in this project:

- Organize a fundraising event, such as a car wash, rummage sale, raffle, bake sale, concert or benefit concert.
- Have us speak at your school, park district, local club, or church.
- Join the Landmines Blow! Volunteer Task Force.
- Start a letter-writing campaign.
- Think outside the box!

Contact us via www.landminesblow.org for more information.

U.K. charity Mines Advisory Group and its partner, MAG America, clear landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other weapons that threaten millions worldwide. It costs MAG an average of $1,000 per year to clear one square meter of land. This clearance allows people to return to their homes, grow food, go to school, and rebuild their lives in safety.

The Challenge: Clear Your Classroom!

Find out how many square feet of your classroom is and raise enough money to clear it. Last year, Maret Middle School in Washington, D.C., held a talent show to benefit MAG. They raised an impressive $1,000, which can help clear over 330 square meters of land.

For more information, contact Jennifer Lachman at (202) 250-3914 or jennifer.lachman@maga.org.

CHAMPS (Children Against Mines)

Landmine clearing is a project of the Marshall Legacy Institute. This educational outreach program teaches students and communities about how landmines affect people and animals in war-torn nations.

The project highlights the work of mine action NGOs, who are trained to “sniff out” landmines. This program allows students to:

- Help children in another country affected by landmines
- Gain a greater understanding of their role in the global community
- Take part in a unique project to meet community service requirements
- Develop leadership skills
- Increase their awareness about an important international issue
- Close the “gap” in their community awareness

For more information, contact Kimberly McCasland at kmccasland@marshall-legacy.org.

The Global Landmine Initiative is one of several programs under the Macrointernational’s high priorities. Recently, its efforts have focused on Sri Lanka. PTPI assistance supports a demining team, plus education and aftercare for mine survivors. Following the tsunami of December 2004, efforts expanded to build three schools. PTPI Student and Adult Chapters have embraced this effort through fundraisers to raise awareness and donations, as well as a Landmine Awareness Festival. Here’s how you can help:

- Join or create a PTPI Student Chapter to enhance educational, cultural and humanitarian activities.
- Coordinate special events at your school to raise awareness and funds.
- Join PTPI educational and humanitarian forums to raise awareness for this and other global humanitarian needs.
- Donate to PTPI’s International Friendship Fund—to return to their homes, grow food, go to school, and rebuild their lives.

Matching Grant: $1,000, which can help clear over 330 square meters of land.

For more information, contact Jennifer Lachman at (202) 250-3914 or jennifer.lachman@maga.org.

The Roots of Peace Penny Campaign inspires students to raise awareness and funds for mine action. Students collect pennies to change minefields into safe schools and playgrounds for kids in Afghanistan and Africa. ABC 7/KGO news anchor Cheryl Jennings, Roots of Peace Founder Heidi Kuhn, and her daughter Abigail Kuhn co-founded the program. The Campaign has raised an amazing 10 million pennies since it began! Every penny counts as 100% of funds raised go directly to programs to help kids in Afghanistan and other mine-affected countries.

For more information, visit www.pypi.org or write pypi@pypi.org.

The Mine Action Program is the largest program of its kind in the world. These illustrated annual reports provide short descriptions of the landmines and explosive remnants of war in each country receiving U.S. mine action assistance. They also detail the precise nature of that assistance and the number of people and societies and how landmines affect them.

The goal of mine action is to deal with victims’ needs and reduce the risk posed by landmines. Mine clearance helps people live safely and lets economic and social development occur more freely. Mine action is a central part of any broad effort to rebuild and heal the wounds of war.

Between 1992 and 2002 alone, governments contributed over $1.7 billion to the cause of mine action. The total U.S. contribution surpassed $1 billion in 2005. These official efforts have resulted in significant reductions in casualties and a substantial return of mined land to safe, productive use. Yet governments alone cannot solve the numerous complex challenges presented by the landmine problem. So, as there are many challenges to be met, there are many ways to support landmine action.

Our nation’s youth has a huge capacity for contributing to mine action. Thus, one of the greatest ways to make a difference on this issue is to educate young people. Help them start programs in local schools, churches or neighborhoods. Students can carry out projects that raise awareness in their community and persuade others to become involved. Such projects encourage them to develop organizational and leadership skills, creativity, teamwork, and community service. They can work with local civic groups to raise money or other contributions that are vitally needed. Raising funds for others is true service learning because it requires students learn about the issue and make a real difference in the form of financial support.

This packet outlines just a few of the many ways you may choose to help make a difference. Whatever your course of action, we applaud you for deciding to inform yourself and get involved! Please keep reading for further information to help you learn more about the landmine issue and how students can employ service learning to make a difference in the world of mine action.

The U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program is the largest program of its kind in the world. These illustrated annual reports provide short descriptions of the landmines and explosive remnants of war in each country receiving U.S. mine action assistance. They also detail the precise nature of that assistance and the number of people and societies and how landmines affect them.

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Did you know?

The UN General Assembly declared April 4, 2006 the first annual International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. This day is commemorated around the world to raise awareness about landmines and progress toward their eradication. Last year, people and organizations in at least 30 countries held events to observe it, according to the United Nations. This day is a great opportunity for students to host a mine action activity in their school, church or community. Even just to take time to learn more about the landmine issue.

If you decide to host an event for International Mine Action Day, please e-mail us the details at maic@mja.edu.
The HALO Trust is a non-profit organization that alleviates landmine and survivor assistance and by raising awareness about the landmine problem.

**Canadian Landmine Foundation**
www.canadianlandmine.org

The Canadian Landmine Foundation was formed as a registered charity with a mission: to raise awareness & funds to the end the human and economic suffering caused by anti-personnel landmines.

**Center for International Rehabilitation**
www.cirnetwork.org

The Center for International Rehabilitation is a not-for-profit organization that develops technologies and programs to help people with disabilities worldwide reach their full potential.

**Children of Armenia Fund**
www.coafkids.org

COAF seeks to reverse the impoverished conditions affecting significant numbers of Armenia’s children by revitalizing Armenia’s villages and implementing projects that provide immediate and sustainable benefits to children and youth.

**Clear Path International**
www.clearpathinternational.org

CPI provides medical and social services to landmine survivors, their families and their communities in Southeast Asia.

**Danish Church Aid**
www.dca.dk

DanChurchAid is involved in mine action programs in several countries, with activities that focus on mine awareness, mine clearance, building and advocacy activities.

**Freedom Fields USA**
www.freedomfieldsusa.org

Freedom Fields USA is a non-profit organization that removes landmines in war torn countries.

**Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**
www.gichc.com

The GICHD works toward a world free of anti-personnel landmines. It coordinates international relief activities in conflict situations and strives to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and related principles.

**Health Volunteers Overseas**
www.hvo.org

Health Volunteers Overseas is a private non-profit organization dedicated to improving the availability and quality of health-care services in developing countries through the training and education of local healthcare providers.

**Help Handicapped International**
www.hhi.org

HHI organizes free Jaipur foot and Calipers fitment camps and free distribution of wheelchairs, tricycles and crutches.

**Humanity & Inclusion**
www.humptydumpty.net

HDHI puts private sector tools to work in the public sector by turning goods into hope and providing unique technical expertise, business and economic capacity.

**International Committee of the Red Cross**
www.icrc.org

The ICRC is an impartial and independent organization that protects the lives and dignity of victims of war and provides them assistance. It coordinates international relief activities in conflict situations and strives to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and related principles.

**International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance**
www.itffund.org

ITF’s mission is to raise funds for demining and mine victim assistance in the region of southeastern Europe, thus contributing to the political stabilization of that region.

**Julia Burke Foundation**
www.juliarburkewebsite.com

The Julia Burke Foundation sponsors projects to eradicate landmines and unexploded ordnance and to assist survivors of landmine accidents in countries emerging from conflict.

**Kids First Vietnam**
www.kidsfirstvietnam.org

Kids First Vietnam has created educational opportunities for disadvantaged young people in Quang Tri province so they may mature into adults with equal opportunities, full community inclusion, self-reliance and economic independence.

**Landmines Survivors Network**
www.landminesurvivors.org

Created by landmine survivors, LSN empowers individuals, families and communities affected by landmines to recover from trauma, fulfill their rights and reclaim their lives.

**Landmines Blow!**
www.landminesblow.org

Landmines Blow! helps in assisting survivors and rebuilding communities, offering a grassroot outreach campaign to teach people about the global landmine and unsafe water crises.

**Lipscomb University**
www.lipscomb.edu

Lipscomb University and its Center for International Peace and Justice promote awareness and understanding of international issues, particularly as they relate to peace, security, justice, and human suffering.

**Marshall Legacy Institute**
www.marshalllegacy.org

MLI applies skills and resources to building indigenous capacity in the developing world to alleviate suffering, restore hope and create conditions that nurture stability.

**Medical Care Development International**
http://mcdi.mccd.edu

The MCADI is to enhance the well-being of peoples and communities in developing nations through technically sound, sustainable health care projects.

**Mine Action Information Center**
http://maic.jmu.edu

The MAIC manages information and conducts training on landmines and unexploded ordnance. It provides a mine action journal, maintains a content-rich website, and conducts studies to facilitate and improve global landmine action.

**Mines Advisory Group—America**
www.maggamerica.org

MAG America implements a range of activities including mine survey, mine clearance, explosive ordnance disposal, mine risk education, stockpile destruction, and research and development for new demining technologies.

**Missouri State University**
www.missouristate.edu/polisci/landmines

Landmine Studies at Missouri State’s Department of Political Science is comprehensive, hands-on training for students to learn about the global landmine crisis.

**One Sri Lanka Foundation**
www.onesrilanka.org

One Sri Lanka strives to raise funds from individuals and organizations across the world to completely eliminate the landmine menace in Sri Lanka and convert minefields to rice fields.

**Organization of American States**
http://oas.org

The OAS is an integrated effort to assist its Member States in addressing the problems caused by anti-personnel landmines.

**PeaceTrees Vietnam**
www.peacetreesvietnam.org

PeaceTrees Vietnam’s mission is to provide landmine and UXO clearance alongside the Vietnamese people to transform the destructive legacy of war into a safe and healthy future for the children of Quang Tri province.

**People to People International**
www.ttfil.org

PTPI enhances international understanding and friendship through travel exchanges among youth and young adults worldwide to amputees and other disadvantaged persons.

**The Polus Center for Social and Economic Development**
www.puloscenter.org

The Polus Center creates opportunities for disabled people and other excluded groups to become successful members within their communities. Activities include prosthetic outreach, employment opportunities, and disability training, education and advocacy.

**Predators and Prey Foundation**
www.pofsea.org

POF’s mission is to restore mobility and independence worldwide for disabled people and other disadvantaged persons suffering from orthopedic disabilities.

**Roots of Peace**
www.roots4peace.org

Roots of Peace strives to rid the world of landmines by transforming minefields into thriving farmlands. By turning “Mined” land into “Rooted” land, it seeks to make the promise of hope and prosperity to afflicted communities.

**ROSE Charities**
www.rosecharities.net/rose-canada.htm

ROSE Charities directly supports rehabilitation projects in developing countries, with specific historic focus on Cambodia.

**Veterans for America**
http://www.veteransforamerica.org/

The Veterans for America Foundation, is uniting veterans to address the causes, conduct and consequences of war. VFA’s Information Management and Mine Action Program is literally charting a course to safety and peace through former battlefields and minefields in numerous countries.

**Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund**
www.vvmf.org

Project RENEW is VVMF’s humanitarian program designed to remove landmines and unexploded ordnance in Vietnam.

**World Rehabilitation Fund**
www.wrf.org

The World Rehabilitation Fund is the pioneer organization devoted to the development and implementation of rehabilitation programs for people with disabilities throughout the world.