

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Washington's youth make important contributions to the state's welfare everyday, and Washington depends on youth as vital community assets; and

WHEREAS, service-learning, an effective teaching method that combines service to the community with curriculum-based learning, is a hands-on approach to mastering subject material while fostering civic responsibility; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that service-learning has an enduring positive impact on student achievement, personal and social development, and civic engagement, particularly among those from disadvantaged backgrounds, and that the historically high level of volunteerism is due, in part, to the growth of service-learning in our nation's schools; and

WHEREAS, through service-learning, young people build character and learn valuable skills including time management, teamwork, needs-assessment, and leadership—abilities that are sought by employers; and

WHEREAS, young people should be viewed as the hope not only of the future, but also of today, and should be valued for the idealism, energy, creativity, and commitment they bring our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2008, as

Learn and Serve Challenge Week

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 12th day of September, 2008

Christine O. Gregoire
Governor Christine O. Gregoire

