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NEWS RELEASE

April 8, 2005

Contact: Morgan Lake, Office for Civic Engagement, 243-5531; Kaylan Minor, AmeriCorps member, 543-8342 x220.

YOUTH SERVICE DAY SET TO ENGAGE STUDENTS IN VOLUNTEERING MISSOULA –

If spring fever is running high, why not put it to good use and volunteer at the 2005 National Youth Service Day Saturday, April 16.

This year's event kicks off at 9:30 a.m. in Bonner Park. The day begins with a breakfast, and then volunteers will spread out around Missoula to engage in different activities. Members of the Missoula and University communities are invited to participate.

The UM Office for Civic Engagement organized National Youth Service Day, which is designed to encourage youth to become more active in their communities. Other sponsors include AmeriCorps and Missoula-area nonprofits.

This year volunteers can participate in a Food Walk-a-Thon, where volunteers go house-to-house to ask for canned food donations to benefit the Missoula Food Bank. Other activities include Youth-Read-To-Youth at the Missoula Public Library, mural painting, letter writing to overseas troops, recycling and a clean-up of the Clark Fork River.

At 1 p.m. volunteers return to Bonner Park where a pizza party will take place.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, call Morgan Lake at the Office for Civic Engagement at 243-5531.

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