

## CA DECA Civic Consciousness Organizations

The **American Cancer Society (ACS)** is the "nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service."

The **Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)** is an organization founded in 1950 which combats muscular dystrophy and diseases of the nervous system and muscular system in general by funding research, providing medical and community services, and educating health professionals and the general public.

**Habitat For Humanity International (HFHI)** (generally referred to as **Habitat for Humanity** or simply **Habitat**) is an international, ecumenical Christian, non-governmental, non-profit organization devoted to building "simple, decent, and affordable" housing. Homes are built using volunteer labor and are sold at no profit.

Invisible Children is a media-based, 501(c)3 non-profit that provides secondary education to children in northern Uganda. The organization is based out of San Diego, California and has offices in Gulu, Uganda and London, England.

The **World Wildlife Fund (WWF)** is an international non-governmental organization working on issues regarding the conservation, research and restoration of the environment.

The **Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation** (abbreviated EGPAF) is a [public charity](#) which "seeks to prevent pediatric HIV infections and to eradicate pediatric AIDS through research, advocacy, and prevention and treatment programs."

The **Make-A-Wish Foundation** is a non-profit organization that grants wishes to children (2.5 years to 18 years old) with life-threatening medical conditions.

**Sydney Cooper Senior Smiles** is a non-profit organization that trains, recruits, and educates volunteers of all ages on the needs of the elderly, and then pairs the volunteer with a lonely senior in nursing homes, hospitals, board and care, and private homes throughout California.

**Key Club International** is the oldest and largest service program for high school students. It is a student-led organization whose goal is to teach leadership through serving others. Key Club International is a part of the Kiwanis International group.

**Interact** is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill.

A **Ronald McDonald House** (named after Ronald McDonald) is a place where the parents of children that are in a nearby hospital can stay at night for reduced or no cost.

The **American Red Cross** (also known as the **American National Red Cross**) is a humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance, disaster relief and education inside the United States, and is the designated U.S. affiliate of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

**Amnesty International** (commonly known as **Amnesty** and **AI**) is an international non-governmental organization which defines its mission as "to conduct research and generate action to prevent and end grave abuses of human rights and to demand justice for those whose rights have been violated."