

ΑΣΑ

D.O.T.DAYS

Donating Our Time



DOT DAYS

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Inspired by the Alpha Sigma Alpha service & giving statement, D.O.T. Days takes place the first week of October annually. Standing for Donating Our Time, this week is set aside for all Alpha Sigma Alpha members across the country to focus on making an impact in their local communities through hands-on service.

ALPHA SIGMA ALPHA PHILANTHROPIC STATEMENT

Alpha Sigma Alpha encourages its members to support the Alpha Sigma Alpha Foundation, and to participate in our national philanthropic efforts as well as those in their local communities.

Our ritual states, "Life is not taking in only; it is giving out too. It is giving ourselves – freely – to other people, giving ourselves in comradeship, in understanding, in joy, in love."

This belief is demonstrated in the many ways Alpha Sigma Alpha women express their care and concern for others through the support of the sorority's philanthropic endeavors.

WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE?

As members of Alpha Sigma Alpha, we are encouraged to express our care and concern for others through support of national philanthropic partners and local communities. D.O.T. Days unites Alpha Sigma Alpha members across the world in the shared value of generosity.

HANDS-ON SERVICE

D.O.T. Days are about donating our time to the community through service. Alpha Sigma Alpha defines service as the hands-on interaction with a cause. Charitable giving is the term that Alpha Sigma Alpha uses to describe the collection of goods or money to donate.

While Alpha Sigma Alpha members are encouraged to impact communities through both charitable giving and hands-on service, D.O.T. Days activities should be hands-on service. Use the list of examples below to determine if an event is service or charitable giving.

Service	vs.	Charitable giving
Raking leaves for elder neighbor	vs.	Donating rakes to local school
Working concessions for free	vs.	Working concessions collecting proceeds
Visiting humane society	vs.	Selling cupcakes on campus collecting proceeds for humane society
Cleaning up trash in local park	vs.	Having a food drive on campus
Stuffing coach's boxes for GOTR	vs.	Donating coach box supplies to local GOTR council
Create, host and chaperone a fall ball for a local senior home	vs.	Donating dresses to local school for dances
Make and serve soup at local soup kitchen	vs.	Donating soup to local soup kitchen
Work with local parks department to build playground equipment	vs.	Donating playground equipment to parks dept.
Work with local parks department to plant trees in community	vs.	Hosting a fundraiser to buy trees for local parks department
Coach a youth sports team	vs.	Hosting a sports equipment drive on campus
Work with local parks department to paint park benches	vs.	Hosting penny wars on campus

SAMPLE WEEK FOR CHAPTERS

Plan at least 1-2 service opportunities for each day of the week and allow members to choose which activities best fit their schedules. Here is what a week of planned D.O.T. Days activities may look like:

Monday

Volunteer for local after school program
Mentor local high school seniors/ help prepare for college

Tuesday

Work concessions for campus athletic event

Wednesday

Clean up a local park or highway
Work concessions for campus athletic event

Thursday

Visit local animal shelter to clean cages, walk with animals or organize supplies
Rake leaves for community neighbors who are unable to do it themselves

Friday

Visit a local nursing home to play games and talk with residents

Saturday

Volunteer at local Special Olympics competition or tournament

Sunday

Volunteer for the local library by helping with reading programs, office assistance or organizing books

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media has proven to be an effective way to raise awareness about D.O.T. Days:

Instagram

Post a photo each day during the week showing what you or your chapter is doing to participate in D.O.T. Days. Use the official hashtag #DOTDays2018 and tag @alphasigmaalpha in all posts.

Twitter

Spread the word about D.O.T. Days by following @asaHQ to see what others are doing in support of D.O.T. Days. Retweet and use the official hashtag #DOTDays2018

Facebook

Post a status with a picture or video each day during the week about what you are doing to participate in D.O.T. Days. Include a caption that mentions D.O.T. Days and make sure to tag Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority.

CHAPTER CHECKLIST

- Send photos of your chapter doing service to asa@AlphaSigmaAlpha.org so they can be shared on Alpha Sigma Alpha's social media or used in the *Phoenix of Alpha Sigma Alpha* magazine
 - ◇ See *Guidelines for Picture Taking* under the "Public Relations & Communications" folder in the Officer Portal Document Library

- Assign a committee members to send a "thank you note" to the location where you conducted service.

- Conduct a post-service reflection activity with your chapter at the end of the week. This will provide members the opportunity to reflect on participation in hands-on service impacted the community and them personally.
 - ◇ See *Pre and Post Service Event Activity* under the "Service & Charitable Giving Resources" folder in the Officer Portal Document Library

- Plan more opportunities for service with organizations or activities that chapter members enjoyed.

- Start making plans for next year's D.O.T. Days.