
101 WAYS TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT



In Your Community

- 1 Evaluate alternative accessibility routes** such as ramps, stairs and elevators in your community and invite speakers into your school and community groups to talk about such initiatives.
- 2** Go to the [Arts & Culture | Colorado.com](https://www.artsandculturecolorado.com) website to find Colorado cultural events and festivals to attend. For cultural events and festivals in Wyoming visit the website [Events - Wyoming Travel and Tourism](https://www.events-wyomingtravelandtourism.com). Visit the City of Denver's website to find local events, festivals, parades and cultural events to attend: [City and County of Denver Official Site](https://www.cityandcountydenver.com).
- 3 Collect traditional family recipes** from local residents for a community cookbook. Solicit ads to support the cost of reproducing and distributing the book as part of a "welcome wagon" program for new residents.
- 4 Call or write your state and U.S. senators and representatives** and ask them to support and promote anti-prejudice and pro-diversity themes in public policies.
- 5** Think globally. Act locally! Visit the [Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action](https://www.coloradocoalition.org) website and become involved.
- 6 Participate!** Attend your local city council, homeowner's association and local school board meetings – ask them to support and promote pro-diversity themes.
- 7 VOTE!**
- 8** Attend ADL's Mountain States Regional Office's Annual **Governor's Holocaust Remembrance Program** held in Denver each April. Free tickets can be ordered via the website: [ADL: Mountain States](https://www.adlmountainstates.org)
- 9** Distribute **Positive Impact!** calendars in your neighborhood, or to your homeowner's association. Contact [ADL: Mountain States](https://www.adlmountainstates.org) for information on how to obtain copies of this calendar/resource.
- 10** Encourage local law enforcement to hold anti-bias, extremism and hate crime trainings. Visit [ADL/LEARN: Law Enforcement Training](https://www.adllearn.org) for information and resources.
- 11** Meet with community librarians and local bookstores to discuss ways to **highlight different types of literature** that is representative of all cultural groups.
- 12** Organize a "**Get to Know Your Neighbors**" night, BBQ or potluck in your neighborhood.
- 13** Research your town or community's **involvement in struggles for civil and human rights throughout history** (e.g., abolition, the civil rights movement, the women's rights and gay rights movements) and create an exhibit for the local library or town hall.
- 14** Sign up for a docent-led tour to **learn about history, nature and the environment at Babi Yar Park** located at Yale and Havana Streets in southeast Denver. Contact the **Mizel Museum** at [Mizel Museum](https://www.mizelmuseum.org)
- 15** Encourage local and state governments to pass a "**Resolution of Respect**", see calendar.
- 16** Visit Amache, Colorado, the site of the Granada Relocation Center Site, an important landmark in the **United States' history of the internment of the Japanese American** during WWII.
- 17** Held in January, **participate in Denver's Martin Luther King Jr. Parade** which begins in City Park.
- 18 Take a field trip to [History Colorado](https://www.historycolorado.org)** and learn about the indigenous and immigrant communities that make up the state of Colorado. Go to www.historycolorado.org to learn more.

- 19** When anti-Semitic or racist graffiti appears, organize a **community response effort promptly** after the police have concluded their investigation. Showing your support to rid the community of hateful vandalism is deeply appreciated by the targeted groups.
- 20** **Start a social issues book club** with your friends and neighbors, choosing diverse authors and topics that will create conversations on current issues.

In Your School

- 21** **Initiate classroom discussions** about forms of bias, discrimination and prejudice. Utilize [ADL: A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE™ Institute](#) workshops to further these dialogues. Consult Mountain States Region ADL (303.830.7177) to plan a program.
- 22** Invite a recognized **civil or human rights leader to address an all-school assembly**. Videotape the speech and publish an interview with the speaker in the school and local newspapers.
- 23** **Research the Sand Creek Massacre**, which occurred in Kiowa County, Colorado, and visit the site.
- 24** Investigate insightful tools for combating cyberbullying by referencing [ADL: Responding to Cyberbullying](#).
- 25** Learn more about the First Amendment, civil rights and the legal aspects of the **fight against hate crimes**. One valuable website to visit is the [Matthew Shepard Foundation](#).
- 26** **Recite the Resolution of Respect** (in the calendar) or a similar pledge against prejudice created by your student body at a school-wide assembly. Display a poster-size version of the pledge in a prominent area of your school and encourage people to sign it.
- 27** Participate in a foreign exchange program.
- 28** Survey the colleges in your area about diversity and affinity clubs at their schools. Invite a panel of representatives to speak to the senior class about **“Prejudice on the College Campus: What to Look For, What To Do.”**
- 29** Contact ADL Mountain States Region (303.830.7177) to learn more about hate on the Internet, including hate group web sites and recruitment.
- 30** Support the diverse representation of students on every school committee, group, publication, and team.
- 31** **Talk to fellow students and adults** about their ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds and their experiences with prejudice.
- 32** **Learn about the history and current occurrence of genocide throughout the world.**
- 33** Publish a newsletter **specifically devoted to promoting respect for diversity** and publicizing multicultural events. Convince your local newspaper or community Internet home page to do the same.
- 34** **Report cyberbullying** to a teacher, parent or other adult. Say no to name-calling, gossip, offensive forwarded emails or other forms of bullying over the Internet (cyberbullying).
- 35** Create a respectful environment during physical education classes and after-school sports for all students regardless of body type, ability, gender and sexual orientation.
- 36** Encourage the yearbook staff and editors to devote a section or to **incorporate pro-diversity and anti-prejudice themes** throughout by using appropriate quotes, headlines and photos.
- 37** Create a student-run Speakers Bureau where **students speak about their heritage or social activism**. Ask local community leaders, civil rights advocates, Holocaust survivors, and others to partner with students in this effort.
- 38** Participate in ADL’s student essay contest – [A Tribute to Moral Courage: Standing Up Against Injustice](#). Review official rules and guidelines at [Denver.adl.org](#).
- 39** **Set up a school exchange** that matches students from different schools to bring youth of differing backgrounds closer together.

- 40** Start an **annual film festival** which highlights films and documentaries from around the world. Invite community groups and local theaters to be co-sponsors.
- 41** Visit Colorado School Safety Resource Center Website: <https://www.colorado.gov/cssrc> for **consultation, resources, upcoming trainings and technical assistance** to help create a safe, positive, and successful school.
- 42** Connect with [Facing History & Ourselves](#), attend a workshop and utilize their classroom resources, which assist classrooms in linking the past to moral choices today.
- 43** **Create a buddy system that assists new students** of all backgrounds to feel welcome when joining the student body.
- 44** **Analyze your textbooks to determine the inclusiveness** of diverse leaders, pioneers and authors and diverse perspectives. Present your findings to your classmates, teachers and principal.
- 45** Work with your school librarian to create a display of historical and contemporary publications, including books, newspapers, magazines, films, music, and videos in order to **expose the continued effort to defame people** from different cultural and religious groups.
- 46** Research pro-diversity Web sites, then build a Web page for your school on a social networking site and link it to others on the Internet.
- 47** **MIX IT UP.** Organize a “Mix It Up at Lunch Day”. Visit [Mix It Up](#) for ideas.
- 48** Learn to understand other cultures through literature, the arts and other media by participating in traveling exhibitions featured at the **Mizel Museum**. ([Mizel Museum](#) 303.394.9993)
- 49** Construct a multimedia display that **examines how today’s media perpetuates stereotypes**. Consider current films, television sitcoms, music, and advertising campaigns, in addition to newspapers, magazines and books.
- 50** **Host a school wide dance party** and play music from a variety of cultural groups and genres of music.
- 51** **Create a STAND chapter.** Visit [Standnow.org](#), the student led division of the Genocide Intervention Network. STAND is building a movement to end genocide.
- 52** **Invite a speaker from the local lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) center** to visit your school.
- 53** **Participate in No Name-Calling Week held in January**, which focuses attention on the problem of name-calling in schools and provides students and educators with the tools and inspiration to continue an on-going dialogue about ways to eliminate name-calling in their communities. ([No Name-Calling Week](#))
- 54** Connect the lessons of the Holocaust with contemporary issues of bias, hate and genocide *with* [Echoes and Reflections: A Teacher’s Resource Guide](#). Visit [echoesandreflections.org](#).
- 55** **Learn about current immigration issues** and then compare current-day debates with historical debates and immigration policies. Invite a speaker who recently went through the immigration process to speak about his or her experience.
- 56** **Participate in the National Day of Silence® held each April**, a student-led day of action where those who support making anti-LGBT bullying and harassment unacceptable in schools, participate in events to recognize and protest the discrimination and harassment-in effect, the silencing-experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students and their allies. ([Day of Silence](#))
- 57** Ask your librarian to **collect samples of popular teen magazines or comic books** from around the world and request a special corner be set aside for them in the periodical room.
- 58** Ensure that musical selections by school bands and choirs are culturally and religiously diverse.
- 59** Assess your school’s accessibility for people with physical disabilities. Report your findings to school administrators and advocate for any necessary improvements.
- 60** Advocate for the production of school plays that are sensitive to multiculturalism and **incorporate a variety of roles and perspectives** representing a diverse cast and story.
- 61** Organize a group to attend and participate in the Annual **Cherry Creek Diversity Conference** held at the beginning of the year. Check [Cherry Creek Diversity Conference](#) for more information.

- 62** Access the free cyberbullying toolkit for educators offering resources to create a school culture where students know how to stand up to cyberbullying, not stand by. commonsensemedia.org
- 63** Become a **No Place for Hate® School**. Complete all five steps of the No Place for Hate® campaign; create a coalition, complete at least 3 inclusive activities participate in one of ADL's A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® training programs, sign the Resolution of Respect, and document your school's involvement. For more information, visit www.adl.org/noplaceforhatedenver.

In Your Workplace

- 64** Generate a lunchtime **"brown-bag" dialogue** that discusses current issues, interesting articles or books, and/or invite speakers to present on issues of diversity.
- 65** Offer **professional development workshops** that help all employees understand and respect individual work and communication styles.
- 66** Be understanding and supportive of co-workers when they are observing religious and/or cultural holidays.
- 67** If a co-worker makes an insensitive racial, ethnic or religious comment, **respond by respectfully pointing out** that he or she made a remark that perpetuates stereotypes.
- 68** Publish and distribute to all staff a list of ethnic and religious holidays and the meaning of the customs associated with celebrating them.
- 69** Set a **"not in my work space"** rule. Prohibit offensive jokes or other forms of bigotry in your cubicle, office or whatever other boundaries define your work space.
- 70** Once a week, **eat lunch with a different co-worker**, until you have met everyone.
- 71** Make respect for diversity a core value in your organization and articulate it as such in your handbook or employee manual.
- 72** Encourage your organization to offer brochures, advertisements, services and other forms of communication in two or more languages.
- 73** Provide the opportunity for employees to attend local cultural events and exhibits.
- 74** Conduct an audit of your workplace to ensure it is easily accessible to all people with disabilities.

In Your Place of Worship

- 75** Urge your leaders to use the pulpit to condemn all forms of bigotry.
- 76** Plan a monthly community service project which would expose your religious community to a different religious, ethnic, or social community or issue.
- 77** Be respectful and welcoming to anyone who attends your religious services.
- 78** Organize an interfaith retreat for youth to increase understanding of each other's beliefs and build lasting friendships.
- 79** Explore texts, teachings and basic themes of a religion different from your own religion.
- 80** Reach out to diverse religious communities to co-sponsor festivals and holiday observances that highlight and celebrate our common humanity.
- 81** Identify common ethical problems such as poverty, "just war vs. unjust war" and medical treatments; compare how different faith groups respond to these challenges.
- 82** Ensure that all faiths are represented accurately in existing library materials and religious school curricula.
- 83** Attend faith services different from your own and visit different houses of worship. Obtain permission where and when needed.

- 84** Turn a bulletin board into display space (newspaper articles, cartoon, etc.) depicting current events related to different forms of **religious persecution or human rights violations**, which could be posted for all to read.
- 85** Invite representatives from religions different from your own **to deliver a presentation about their faith** and answer questions.

In Your Home

- 86** **Travel to a new part of your city** or state to learn more about communities different from your own.
- 87** **Take advantage of the free programs** and speakers offered by your local public library, college and university.
- 88** **Act an ally – speak out against jokes** and slurs that target people or groups.
- 89** **Explore holidays from different cultures that are not your own.** Research their meanings and celebrate the traditions and rituals that occur during the holiday. Consult the back of the Positive Impact! Calendar.
- 90** Visit ADL’s Question Corner ([The Miller Early Childhood Initiative of A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute](#)) for ideas on how to support young children’s curiosity about diversity in our world.
- 91** **Create a regular family movie night** and pick films or documentaries that are about diverse cultures and issues that provoke discussion.
- 92** Be knowledgeable; **educate yourself** on current domestic and international issues.
- 93** Stop email bigotry at your computer. **Forward no more.** Don’t forward unwanted and derogatory “joke” emails. Either break the chain and delete it or reply to sender and explain why you found the email offensive.
- 94** Be mindful of your language – **avoid stereotypical remarks.**
- 95** Take small steps to solve big problems. **What You Can Do 365** ([What You Can Do](#)) illuminates a pressing social issue and then shows what viewers can do about it, even if they only have one minute of time to give.
- 96** **Be proactive.** Before house guests arrive, ask if they have any dietary restrictions or other needs and share any household traditions or practices you have that may affect them.
- 97** **Encourage your children to read books that promote understanding** of different cultures and abilities as well as books written by authors of diverse backgrounds. Visit ADL’s [Books Matter](#) website for recommendations.
- 98** **Take a conversation course in a language different from your own** that is spoken in your community.
- 99** **Volunteer for a community organization.** Teach members of your family the value of donating skills, time and money to organizations that can benefit from such generosity.
- 100** **Document your family’s history.** Write or record relatives’ stories to share with future generations.
- 101** **YOU – Brainstorm 101 more ways to make a Positive Impact! in your community!**