

UNIVERSAL NEIGHBOURHOOD STUDENT ACTION

Universal Neighbourhood Student Action (UNSA) is a movement designed to generate aid at the community level for people in need. The movement began in the United States by a group of educators known as Educators Totally Committed (E.T.C.) but aspires by its very nature to become international.

It is based largely on the extracurricular participation of local educators in both primary and secondary schools.

In order to call attention to its existence and promote its work, UNSA holds an annual sleepout event in which teachers, students, and other community volunteers are invited to spend a night sleeping outdoors in large cardboard boxes and receiving contributions in the form of food, clothing, personal care items, small furniture items, and money. These gifts are turned over to local groups that are familiar with the immediate needs of community residents.

The UNSA movement has been active in western New York State for the last 19 years during which we collected and distributed some \$600,000. There are no overhead costs and no management fees charged. All action is voluntary and non-profit. Every penny collected is given out directly to local agencies that help those in need.

The aim of UNSC is to see its activity become universal, with educators and students in every country organizing their own participation by involving themselves in any activity of their choice on the first Friday in the month of February. They would be united world-wide in their commitment expressed around the world on that day. For this reason and to further this purpose, it is our request that UNESCO agree to proclaim the first Friday in February as Universal Neighbourhood Student Action Day. Our petition is submitted in the following form.