

# THE VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

News for Volunteer Managers from **HandsOn NWC**



## Connection OPPORTUNITIES

July/ August 2009- Vol 2, Issue 6

We're happy to share these items of interest from around our local network. Please e-mail us any opportunities you would like to be featured in future editions!

## Training OPPORTUNITIES

✦ **The North Carolina Association of Volunteer Administration (NCAVA) is pleased to offer the Basics in Volunteer Management course online.** The course covers volunteer recruitment, retention, risk management, recognition, and more. **The class will run from Sept. 7th to Nov. 9th. (10 weeks).** After enrollment, there is no set time to "log on" each day and you can access the course from any computer with Internet access. Graduates of the class will receive 12 hours toward NCAVA certification as a Certified Administrator of Volunteers in North Carolina. **The tuition cost of the course is \$65. A registration form must be completed and received by Sept. 1st, 2009!** Due to state auditing standards, please mail the form with your original signature, NOT a copy. Tuition payment must accompany form. For more information, or to enroll in the course, contact Dr. [Melody Prevatte](#) at Southeastern Community College.

## Funding OPPORTUNITIES

✦ **Back Your Block with Nike!** Nike has announced that its retail division has launched a U.S. based national grant program known as Back

Dear Amy,

I hope this finds you all staying cool as we head into the dog days of summer! It's been as busy as ever here at HandsOn, as we continue to expand our network, our programming offerings, and the number of volunteers that we engage. I recently returned from the [National Conference on Volunteering and Service](#) in San Francisco, and got to see **First Lady Michelle Obama** kick-off the [United We Serve](#) campaign in person! That same plenary also featured **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Arianna Huffington, Jon Bon Jovi** (who actually played!), and **Matthew McConaughey!** It was an exciting time, and I came back with a full plate of new initiatives, many of which I'll be sharing with you in the coming months. (Check out the "News You Can Use" section below for more on [United We Serve](#).)

Some of these new initiatives will involve the assistance of **two new VISTA members** here at HandsOn! Members of HandsOn Corps, a program of our national network, you'll begin seeing their faces starting in mid-November. One will be working to expand our network, increase our capacity, and provide training to volunteer coordinators. The other will be reaching out to all of you as we make plans for the **Martin Luther King Day of Service**, for which we'll be partnering with Winston-Salem State University and Wake Forest University. These VISTAs will double the size of our staff and we're excited by the possibilities they present. We'll begin recruiting for these full-time members soon, and I hope that you'll be able to help us find members with strong ties to our nonprofit and volunteer community. Let us know if you can recommend any likely candidates for these full-time positions!



I hope you've all taken the chance this summer to recharge with family and friends, to take a step back from our important work and find the perspective that makes us all more effective. Now just a few weeks away from students returning

Your Block to support community and school groups which aim to unlock the potential of young people through programs that focus on sport. The \$650,000 grant program is now accepting applications through **August 24th**. Each of Nike's 175 U.S. retail locations will participate in this year's program as part of the Company's commitment to giving back to local communities. If your volunteer program involves youth and sports, this could be a fantastic opportunity--even the *applicants* are highlighted on their website! To learn more, check out their [website](#).

## Employment OPPORTUNITIES

**+ REI Greensboro has a great employment opportunity!** They currently have an opening for a **part-time, in-store Outreach Specialist**. The primary function of the Outreach Specialist is to act as the lead for building community relationships and fostering volunteerism both within the local community as well as internally within the store for REI employees. They are specifically recruiting within the local nonprofit community to fill the position! The best way to apply is to email or fax a CV and resume directly to [Stacy Davis](#), REI Store Manager, Greensboro #108, phone 323-3117, fax 323-3124. Act fast, because **the position will close July 31st!** You can find a more detailed description [here](#).

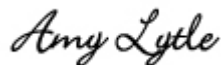
## Other OPPORTUNITIES

**+ Got a great tech firm? Let us know!** In the next month, we'll be launching a new technology resources page on our website. We want to help nonprofits find reputable technology vendors that have experience working with the unique needs, budget and decision-making processes of nonprofits! Especially for small nonprofits that cannot afford in-house IT help, this list can be a starting place for finding quality help, fast. E-mail your recommendations to [Amy](#) and thank you for helping out your fellow nonprofits!

**+ Learn more about WSSU's Project GIVE!** You're invited to send a representative to their **annual information meeting on Tuesday, August 4th, at 10 am in the Main Dining Room of the Anderson Center**. (Classes will not have started yet, so there should be ample parking.) Project GIVE is

to school, and our busy Fall schedules, it's important to know that you can always reach out to us and we'll assist you any way we can! We really do want to make it easy to make a difference!

Stay cool,



Executive Director

*Have a Great Volunteer Referred By HandsOn NWNC? We Want to Know!*

HandsOn NWNC is working with the Winston-Salem Journal to highlight our volunteer matching portal. The reporter is interested in doing a story sometime this summer, but we need your help!

Was your organization the beneficiary of our one of our 1,200 volunteer referrals last year? **Have a great volunteer that connected to you through our website?** Please let us know! The reporter will want to talk to both the volunteer and to you, and it will be another great way that we can highlight an inspirational story of service in our community.

Please [e-mail](#) to let me know if you have any volunteers that you think would make good examples of how our website has benefitted your organization!

**Deadline for submissions: Monday, August 3rd!**

*Quarterly Best Practice Breakfast:  
Social Media With a Cause*

**Monday, August 31st, 8 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Location:** Salemtowne Community Center

Please plan to attend the first of our NEW "Best Practice Breakfasts!" These breakfasts, held quarterly, will feature a speaker addressing a "best practice" on a topic of interest to nonprofits. Our first breakfast will feature Stephanie Skordas, a former TV news anchor and producer, who also has extensive experience in marketing within the nonprofit sector and private firms. She'll be discussing how to leverage the impact and connectivity of social networks to engage your audience. You'll learn how to use social media, explain it to your staff and board and further your organization's mission!

The event is free, but there is a \$10 charge for those who would like to purchase breakfast. (Supporting Partner organizations receive breakfast for free.) If you are unsure whether your organization is a Supporting Partner, please see [the list](#) on our website.

Cost: **Free!**  
**(\$10 for breakfast)**

WSSU's main student volunteer program, and this session will inform you of significant changes that will happen in the 2009-2010 academic year, including changes to the volunteer service requirement for students, how they'll be accessing opportunities, and revised forms for service hours. In addition to this session, please note that their **annual Volunteer Service Fair is scheduled for Sept. 3rd in front of the Thompson Center.** Registration for the fair will be available at the meeting on the 4th. For more information, please contact [Arthur Hardin](#), 750-2129.

**+ Show off your knowledge about Winston-Salem by helping out with the Southern Legislative Conference!** Winston-Salem will be welcoming legislators and their families from 16 states from **August 14th-19th**, with estimated attendance at 600 people. Volunteers are needed to staff information desks and serve as representatives and "hosts" from Winston-Salem. We thought that you or some of your volunteers might have the right level of knowledge, and surely the friendliness, needed for this opportunity. Visit Winston-Salem will provide training. For more details, and to sign up, please go to our [website](#). Thank you for any help you may be able to provide!

## HandsOn JOIN / GIVE NOW

HandsOn NWNC invites nonprofits to financially support our mission to build the capacity of local nonprofits and increase volunteerism. In exchange, our supporting organizations receive a variety of special benefits and opportunities. [Join HandsOn and Become a Supporter](#)

We welcome financial contributions from businesses and individuals at any level. [Give to HandsOn](#)

(Not a Supporting Organization of HandsOn? Click [here](#) to become one today!)

## [Register Now!](#)

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

*Volunteering in America Report Released!*

The **Corporation for National and Community Service** released *Volunteering in America* on Tuesday, July 28th. *Volunteering in America* is a detailed, multi-year report on volunteering trends and demographics in all 50 states, U.S. regions and multiple cities. It contains the most comprehensive data on volunteering in the U.S. ever assembled and provides rankings of volunteer rates in states, large and mid-size cities. This report has been released through [an interactive Web site](#) that allows visitors to inspect local data and create customizable reports. Trust me, it's an impressive site, and definitely worth checking out!

The research, based on surveys of thousands individuals collected by the U.S. Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, examines volunteering from many angles, including age, gender, economic status, education level and geography. The report shows that even with the economic crisis, volunteering levels remained relatively stable with **61.8 million adults donating approximately 8 billion hours of service in the U.S. in 2008.** Less-formal ways of serving in communities has also increased:

- 31% more Americans worked with their neighbor in 2008 than 2007.
- Over 441,000 more young adults (age 16-24) volunteered in 2008 than 2007, up 5.7% from about 7.8 million to over 8.2 million.
- In 2008, 78.2% of the nation's volunteers made a charitable contribution or non-monetary donation of \$25 or more in value compared with 38.5 percent of non-volunteers.

In **North Carolina, 23.9% of adults volunteered** in 2008, contributing **216.6 million hours of service.**

In addition to the 1.7 million adults in North Carolina volunteering in 2008, an extra 200,893 individuals worked with their neighbors to fix a problem or improve a condition in their community but did not serve through an organization. **In Winston-Salem, there were 91,700 volunteers in 2008, representing 29.9% of residents- 6% better than the level of volunteering in the state as a whole!** These numbers are clearly a testament to the hard work we all do every day to share the message of service and to mobilize our neighbors to help each other. Clearly, we have lots of room for improvement--wouldn't you like to see Winston-Salem ranked as one of the top ten cities for volunteerism?--but we should also take the time to recognize our successes, as well.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

*President Obama Highlights United We Serve at All-Star Game!*

President Obama's "**United We Serve**" campaign has produced the highest national profile for service that I have seen since I entered the field in 1998. Not since the creation of AmeriCorps has service been given this kind of national attention! The campaign will continue throughout the summer, highlighting the fact that ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things when given the proper tools and the opportunity to serve. At this year's **Major League Baseball All-Star game**, President Obama used his appearance to highlight the importance of community service and asked all Americans to find a way to get involved in making positive changes in their communities. Before the game, President Obama appeared in an inspiring video with former Presidents Bush, Clinton, Bush, and Carter celebrating '**All-Stars Among Us**,' exceptional men and women who are dedicated to service in their communities. You can view the video [here](#).

**United We Serve** is powered through [serve.gov](#), which is an aggregator site of numerous national volunteer opportunity databases. Every night, the HandsOn Network uploads their entire 1-800 volunteer.org database into serve.gov. This means that if your organization is listed in [our database](#), your opportunities are automatically included in the serve.org database. The search engine used by serve.org, though, is highly keyword-based, so make sure your opportunities are appropriately tagged. Now is the perfect time to double-check that your organization is listed on our site, and that all of your opportunities are updated. [Log on](#) today!

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

*Keep Congress Focused on Serve America Act!*

The incredible momentum of the **Edward M. Kennedy Act Serve America Act** is now dependent on the decisions Congress makes before the August recess concerning funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service. HandsOn Network is working together with a coalition of organizations to ensure that the President's budget request is fully funded and emphasizes the importance of the Act's new Volunteer Generation Fund and Capacity-Building provisions. The House Appropriations Subcommittee met earlier in July to determine the budget for the Corporation, and their recommendation was **\$90 million less** than the figure President Obama had proposed. Use this [simple tool](#) to write your members of Congress and urge them to fully fund the President's fiscal year 2010 budget request for the Corporation for National and Community Service. These funds will be vital to continuing the strong growth in volunteerism and service our community has seen in the past years!

***We Make it Easy to Make a Difference!***

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