



Making volunteerism a part of everyday life! November / December 2009

IN THIS ISSUE

[TRAINING INFORMATION](#)

[SEND VOLUNTEERS TO DISNEY](#)

[MEMBERSHIP](#)

[COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS](#)

[FREE WEB SITE OPPORTUNITY](#)

[DONATED GOODS WAREHOUSE
EVENT](#)

[VCNT UPDATES](#)

QUESTIONS?

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QUICK LINKS

Holiday Time in Collin County!

Dear Volunteer Center Staff,

With the stress of the current economic climate and the need to provide more services to more clients, we recognize an even greater need for volunteers during the holiday season. The Volunteer Center is happy to announce agency members were contacted to develop a list of holiday needs. A special Holiday Link can be found on our web site to take volunteers directly to those holiday opportunities.

Donated Goods Warehouse will have its traditional Holiday Shopping Day for Partner Members from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Dec. 4. Additionally, Basic Members will have a chance to experience the Donated Goods Sale from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Nov. 20.

If you have never shopped at the Volunteer Center's Donated Goods Warehouse, this is certainly a great time of year to bring joy to your agency, your clients and your families by stretching dollars! See article below for more detailed information.

See you next year!

[REGISTER FOR TRAINING](#)

[RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP](#)

[SUBMIT NEW VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

Cathy Hurst

Support Services Coordinator

Educating, Engaging and Enhancing North Texas Volunteers in 2010!

Educating, engaging and enhancing volunteers are three key components VCNT's Training Department will use to enrich the professional development experience for the North Texas Community.

Training and educational seminars are offered throughout the year for our Corporate Partners, Non-profit agencies, Core Agency Members, Agency Partners, School Systems, Faith Based and Community Citizens.

Want to be a part of the excitement in 2010?

Click on the link below to learn more about VCNT's Training Outreach or contact Kim Smith, VCNT's Training Manager, directly at 214-826-6767, ext. 242 ksmith@vcnt.org

We are excited to help you help our community!

[Click here for training information.](#)

Disney Give a Day, Get a Day

We are excited to announce our partnership with the Disney Give a Day, Get a Day promotion! Starting January 1, 2010, volunteers who volunteer with the HandsOn Program and our *Partner or Basic Members, will be eligible to claim a free one-day pass to Walt Disneyland in California or Disneyworld in Florida. (Tickets will be available through December 1, 2010 or once all tickets have been distributed.)

There have been a lot of questions about how you can get involved and how we will be working with Disney to make sure that volunteer projects count. We wanted to provide information that will help your organization decide if you want to be involved in this great opportunity for volunteer engagement.

First, referral projects (*projects you send into us) will not be counted as Give a Day, Get a Day projects unless you take the following steps.

1. You will need to register your organization at vop.handsonnetwork.org.

2. After you have received your verification, you will be given instructions on how to post your opportunity to their web site. This is a separate posting from your normal Volunteer Opportunity Posting. You will still need to submit your volunteer opportunity to us as well to appear on HandsOn web site for volunteers to view.

The following organizations qualify for the promotion:

- HandsOn Network Affiliates.
- Customers of HON's 1-800-Volunteer and HandsOn Technology (HOT) technologies.
- Referral partners of 1-800 and HOT customers.
- 501(c)(3) organizations with a valid tax ID/EIN.
- Subordinates and local chapters of large nonprofit organizations: with submission of their parent organization's EIN and a letter from your parent organization confirming your charter as a chapter or program.
- Accredited Schools: with registration on state or national dept of education web site OR letter from an accredited agency licensed with the US Dept of Education OR Articles of incorporation. Required to submit a letter on official letterhead explaining the type of volunteer opportunities you will make available to the community.
- Healthcare Organizations (hospitals, senior centers, assisted living, etc.): registered on state department of public health web site or upon submission of a copy of license.
- Government Park and Recreation Organizations (national, state or local): upon presentation of statement of incorporation on official letterhead.
- Faith-based organizations: must appear in a national directory of religion or denomination OR submit a charter letter from your religious governing body and a letter on your organization's letterhead that specifically states that your volunteer opportunities will be open to anyone, will not be part of a religious service or ceremony, and will not include the act of evangelism.

In order for volunteers to receive their ticket you must record the total number of volunteer hours completed. Hours are recorded using the vop.handsonnetwork.org web site, NOT www.vcnt.org or www.handsonnorthtexas.org. We cannot record this information for you unless it is a HandsOn or VCNT managed project.

Feel free to direct volunteers to www.disney Parks.com. They can find information related to the promotion there, including restrictions and volunteer requirements. We hope this clarifies some of your questions related to this promotion. If you have additional question, visit the FAQ located at

<http://www.handsonnetwork.org/disney/faq>.

Membership

Reminder to members . . .

To ensure all our member agencies are receiving their volunteers we are tracking complaints and will advise agencies under the following guidelines:

If one or more volunteers indicate to VCNT that they have not received a response after submitting their information to a nonprofit through a VCNT outlet, VCNT will contact the agency via phone or email to resolve the issue.

If the agency updates VCNT with their correct information, the volunteer opportunity will remain active.

If the agency does not respond to VCNT within a reasonable amount of time, their opportunities will be made inactive until the problem can be resolved. The appropriate Program Services staff will be notified that a problem exists.

If the agency requests that the opportunities be removed from VCNT's systems, the opportunities will be made inactive. Inactive opportunities can be reactivated at a later date with a written request from the nonprofit agency that has been signed by the Executive Director.

If VCNT continues to receive complaints from volunteers, the agency's opportunities will be made inactive and an email will be sent to the Executive Director and the Volunteer Coordinator informing them of this action in hopes that the issue can be resolved. Only the Executive Director may request reactivation of the agency's privileges. Such requests must be in writing.

Renew or upgrade your VCNT membership

Two of the major changes we have made this year for your membership include:

1. Your renewal date will be based on when the membership fee is actually paid rather than on a calendar year. When you renew or upgrade to the Partner Level, you do not have to pay again for 12 months (**Reminders will be sent 60-days in advance of invoicing**).
2. Membership levels have been renamed: Volunteer Source Plus is now Partner Member and Volunteer Source is now Basic Member.
3. As a Partner, you will have your volunteer opportunities publicized in the *Collin County Business Press* along with other media sources. Your membership includes one free

Essentials of Volunteer Management training for one staff member, discount on all other training, access to the Donated Goods Center and other benefits.

Click here for the membership form: [Membership](#).

Please contact me at churst@vcnt.org or call 214-826-6767, ext. 238.

Community Connections

Community College Districts Provide Job Postings

Are you looking for the perfect candidate for a recently vacated position? Are you looking for the perfect position? If so, look no further than your local University or Community College District. Their free services can assist in your job search.

Dallas County Community College job board: Nacelink.

Website: <https://dccc-d-csm.symplicity.com/employers>

To register go to https://dccc-d-csm.symplicity.com/employers/index.php?signin_tab=2

Texas Christian University Career Services

Phone: (817) 257-4141

Website: www.careers.tcu.edu/employers.htm

Email: frogjobs@tcu.edu

To register go to www.myinterfase.com/tcu/employer

University of Texas at Arlington Career Services: Hire A Maverick

Phone: (817) 272-2932

Website: <http://careers.uta.edu/>

Email: careers@uta.edu

To register go to www.myinterfase.com/uta/employer/

Texas Wesleyan University Career Services

Phone: (817) 531-6595

Website: www.txwes.edu/careerservices

Email: careerservices@txwes.edu

Tarrant County College Career and Employment Services

Phone: (817) 515-6692

Website: www.tccd.edu/Student_Services/Career/Job_Search.html

Email: careercenter.council@tccd.edu

To register go to www.tccd.edu/Student_Services/Career/Job_Search.html

Collin County Community College District Career Services

Phone: (972) 881-5790, ext.6747

Website: www.cccd.experience.com

Email: estewart@cccdd.com

To register go to www.ccccd.edu/studentresources/career/studentemployment/employer_info.html

Apply Now - Only Two Days Left!



Does your organization web site or database need improvements? Would you like to see that work completed over a weekend by high-level technology professionals FREE of charge? If so, don't miss this opportunity!

Up to 20 nonprofit organizations throughout the North Texas region will be selected as beneficiaries of the 2010 We are Microsoft Charity Challenge weekend, taking place January 15-17, 2010.

This 3-day event matches developers with charities to develop new web sites and applications for those charities. At the end of the 3-day time period, all of the participants will vote and the winners will be proclaimed champion coders.

The deadline to submit project proposals is **THIS Friday, November 20, 2009**. Visit <http://www.wearemicrosoft.com/WAM/FAQ.aspx> to read about the initiative and see the list of information to be included in your proposal.

Remember, the **deadline is THIS Friday, November 20!** If you have additional questions about the initiative and how your organization can get involved, please contact Event Organizer, Toi Wright, at toi@wearemicrosoft.com

Volunteer Center Donated Goods Warehouse Pre-Holiday Events

November 20, 2009, 8 a.m. -1 p.m.

- Non-partner member agencies (2 employees per agency; no one under 12 admitted)
- Must have a copy of the email announcing the sale to be admitted
- Shop-R-Tunity only happens once or twice per year
- Kids Bean Bag Chairs...just in time for Christmas -- 3/\$25
- Men's Neckties -- 2/\$1
- Ladies Purses -- \$5.25
- Area Rugs -- \$30
- Payment Methods - Cash, VISA, MC, Discover (sales taxes apply on all purchases)
- Don't want to shop? No problem, join us for coffee, cider, and cookies

December 4, 2009, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Partner member agency employees + 1 guest each (no one under 12 admitted)
- Must have a pass to gain admission, passes available in Donated Goods Nov 23-25 or on will-call basis
- DG will be closed Nov 26-Dec 3 for Thanksgiving and to prepare for the Fundraiser.
- Kids Bean Bag Chairs ... just in time for Christmas - 3/\$25
- Men's Neckties - 2/\$1
- Ladies Purses -- \$5.25
- Ladies Slacks -- \$0.50
- Area Rugs -- \$30
- Payment Methods - Cash, VISA, MC, Discover (sales taxes apply on all purchases)
- Come help us celebrate the upcoming holidays and enjoy coffee, cider, and cookies

Want more information? Call Julie Saldana, 214-826-6767, ext. 261, option 4, or send email to jsaldana@vcnt.org.

VCNT UPDATES

Online Volunteer Opportunities Form

Remember to send your volunteer opportunities using the online submission form **three weeks prior** to the occurrence or need. Click here for the [Promote Your Volunteer Opportunities Form](#).

Reminder: Ongoing opportunities are automatically deleted after 12 months.

The Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT) offers programs and services to more than 1,655 nonprofit agencies across North Texas. In addition, we provide customized services to nonprofit and government agencies and schools throughout Collin, Dallas, and Tarrant counties. Basic & Partner Member Agencies are the foundation of VCNT.

The Volunteer Center will continue to help *make volunteerism a part of everyday life!*