



"Making Volunteerism a Part of Everyday Life!" June/July 2010

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QUESTIONS?

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# Activities and events scale up for summer

Dear Volunteer Center Staff,

Our programs and services are expanding and bringing our member agencies new opportunities for volunteer recruitment and awareness. We are excited about each of the following options including:

- *Lone Star Salute!*
- North Texas Volunteer Challenge
- HandsOn Projects
- New Training Opportunities

For more information on each of these programs, click on the links provided throughout the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Hurst  
Collin County Coordinator

## 2010 Collin County Lone Star Salute!

On Thursday, April 22, 2010, more than 500 guests were in attendance for the Collin County *Lone Star Salute!*, to honor more than 50 individual and group volunteers for their service in the community. The *Lone Star Salute!* is a signature



event for the Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT), where volunteerism is celebrated in a festive and lively environment. This event is co-organized by the VCNT and the Junior League of Plano.

The annual Andre Spirit of Volunteerism honor went to Sandy Simpson of Frisco for her work with Frisco Family Services Center, Collin County Community College, Frisco Chamber of Commerce, Frisco Association for the Arts, and Frisco ISD among many others.

Visit the following link for pictures from the event. [http://www.vcnt.org/special\\_events\\_LSS\\_CC.html](http://www.vcnt.org/special_events_LSS_CC.html)



## 2010 North Texas Volunteer Challenge

### Deadline extended for agency applications!

Agencies now have until Wednesday, June 30, to apply for the 2010 North Texas Volunteer Challenge. Submit your applications now! This is a great way to introduce your agency to new volunteers, potential donors, community groups, and corporations.

As you know, the NTVC is a four-hour day of service where the entire North Texas region is encouraged to lend a helping hand to nonprofit organizations in Collin, Dallas and Tarrant counties. The event will take place on Saturday, October 23, 2010, nationally recognized as Make a Difference Day.

Visit [http://www.vcnt.org/special\\_events\\_NTVC.html](http://www.vcnt.org/special_events_NTVC.html) for more information about the event and to apply to participate.

## Summer Schedule Training Dates

### Professional development opportunities

You are cordially invited to attend VCNT Professional Workshops & Trainings!

- Thursday, June 3 - Dallas - Youth Volunteer Corps & Ameri-Corps Team Leader Training
- Wednesday, June 9 - Irving - Volunteer Impact for North Texas Presentation
- Tuesday, June 22 - Dallas Agency Disaster Preparedness & Awareness Training
- Tuesday, June 29 - Plano - Agency Disaster Preparedness and Awareness Training

For more information contact Kim Smith, VCNT Training Manager at [ksmith@vcnt.org](mailto:ksmith@vcnt.org)

To register for any training, contact Cathy Hurst at [churst@vcnt.org](mailto:churst@vcnt.org).

## Volunteer Opportunities

### They won't come if you don't promote!

Submit your opportunities today!

Visit [http://www.vcnt.org/nonprofits\\_submit\\_opp.html](http://www.vcnt.org/nonprofits_submit_opp.html), complete the form and start receiving great people today! In order to receive optimal responses from volunteers, we require opportunities to be submitted three weeks prior to the event date.

Contact Ashley E. Hyder, manager of public relations & communications, via phone at (214) 826-6767, ext. 236 or [ahyder@vcnt.org](mailto:ahyder@vcnt.org) for specific questions related to Partner Member benefits for promoting volunteer opportunities.

## Student Engagement

### 2010 Summer Serve-A-Thon needs agencies

VCNT is hosting the 2010 Summer Serve-A-Thon for middle and high school students across North Texas. We are looking for agencies to host 3-4 hour service projects that engage a group of students. We will provide a trained, adult Team Leader to oversee the project.

We are looking for projects for the following times:

- June 14 - 18, Tarrant County
- June 21 - 25, Tarrant County
- June 28 - July, Collin County

To sign up to host a project, please contact Jonathan Wallace at [jwallace@vcnt.org](mailto:jwallace@vcnt.org) or 1.866.797.VCNT, ext. 248.

## Days of Service & Awareness Months

To give you some ideas for promotions in your volunteer programs, we have provided a list of upcoming special days and months:

### June

- National Candy Month
- Gay and Lesbian Pride Month
- Potty Training Awareness Month
- National Safety Month

### July

- Cell Phone Courtesy Month
- National Hot Dog Month
- Women's Motorcycle Month

## OneStar Foundation



## Free assessment tool offers strategic insight

The Texas Center for Social Impact is currently offering eligible organizations the opportunity to take the Core Capacity Assessment Tool (CCAT) at no charge. The CCAT is an online survey tool developed by the [TCC Group](#) that measures a nonprofit organization's effectiveness in relation to four core capacities: leadership, adaptability, management, and technical capacities.

This tool allows for a confidential self-assessment of an organization's core capacities based on the input of board leaders, key staff and senior volunteers. It also offers specific activities and strategies to empower organizational growth based on your results. This survey is a \$300 value to an organization.

To get started, click on [Eligibility](#). Once you have completed the eligibility forms, OneStar will contact you about an agreement letter & discuss respondent selection rationale/next steps .

## Interpretation Webinars provide insight on CCAT results

Questions about the CCAT report can be addressed during CCAT Report Interpretation Webinars, also sponsored by OneStar. You will hear from OneStar Foundation once the CCAT is complete on how to register for one of these free webinars.

OneStar is currently planning to schedule one interpretation webinar every two weeks, beginning with the following dates:

- June 10th
- June 24th
- July 8th
- July 22nd

Calls will be open to all organizations as they complete the CCAT. These webinars will not offer customized conversations based on individual organizations' results but rather will offer assistance in how best to utilize the results and ways to present the results to key stakeholders. VCNT Trainer Kim Smith and Kay Dillard, senior director for program services are trained to provide the interpretive webinar.

## Membership

## Renew or upgrade your VCNT Partner Membership

We have begun issuing renewal notices for 2010 memberships. The Partner Member fee will remain at \$150. Please contact Cathy Hurst at [churst@vcnt.org](mailto:churst@vcnt.org) if you have any questions about your membership. Partners who fail to renew will no longer be eligible to shop at Donated Goods, use verIFYI or receive free training benefits.

Any agency interested in upgrading from Basic Member to Partner Member may contact Cathy Hurst at [churst@vcnt.org](mailto:churst@vcnt.org).

## About the Volunteer Center of North Texas

The Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT), founded in 1971, is one of the largest and most active volunteer centers in the country. A primary purpose of VCNT is to recruit volunteers, including individuals, corporations and civic and faith-based groups, to serve nonprofits and their clients throughout the North Texas area. For more information, visit [www.vcnt.org](http://www.vcnt.org).

The mission of the Volunteer Center is to *make volunteerism a part of everyday life!*

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