



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

IN THIS ISSUE

[UPDATE ON DONATED GOODS](#)

[LONE STAR SALUTE!](#)

[NORTH TEXAS VOLUNTEER CHALLENGE](#)

[TRAINING](#)

[VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[STUDENT ENGAGEMENT](#)

[DAYS OF SERVICE](#)

[ONESTAR FOUNDATION FREE TOOL](#)

[RENEW MEMBERSHIPS](#)

QUESTIONS?

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QUICK LINKS

- [REGISTER FOR TRAINING](#)
- [RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP](#)
- [SUBMIT NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#)
- [CONTACT US](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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

We are especially excited about the potential to offer a Tarrant County Donated Goods Warehouse for the first time!

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

Sincerely,

Kay Dillard
Senior Director of Program Services

Donated Goods

Tarrant County to open new warehouse

The Volunteer Center of North Texas (VCNT) is proud to announce that we have leased a warehouse in Fort Worth!

The purpose of the acquisition is to open a Donated Goods facility to increase our support of Tarrant County clients. The exact date of opening is still unknown, but we anticipate a grand opening sometime in late-July.

VCNT Partner Agencies and their employees may shop in Donated Goods without additional fees. Shoppers will find tremendous savings on new furniture, area rugs, home decor, and clothing. Basic Member Agencies and their employees may shop, but will have a \$5 surcharge per customer, per visit.

In June, Donated Goods plans to hire two part-time employees to staff the warehouse. Resumes and inquiries about Donated Goods should be emailed to cbuttram@vcnt.org or call 214-826-6767, ext. 241 for more information.

New categories added

Time to submit honorees for September *Lone Star Salute!*



Come celebrate volunteerism in Tarrant County at the famous Stockyard's Station on Thursday, September 23. This year we will be introducing both a youth and corporate category along with our individual and group submissions.

Doors will open at 7:45 a.m. Breakfast and registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the program starting at 8:30 a.m.

Please be sure to wear your western gear and bring your cameras so you can take pictures of your honorees.

Save the date for September 23 as invitations will be mailed in August. For more information about the Tarrant County *Lone Star Salute!*, contact Judy Paris at 214-826-6767, ext. 266 or jparis@vcnt.org.

See y'all soon!



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 for more information about the event and to apply to participate.

Training Dates

Professional development opportunities

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

- Friday June 11 - Volunteer & Staff Relations presentation

Tuesday June 15 - Agency Disaster Preparedness & Awareness Training

• Wednesday June 16 - Team Leader & Volunteer Mgmt Training

All trainings will be held at the American Cancer Society in Fort Worth, 3300 West Freeway, Fort Worth, TX 76104.

For more information contact Kim Smith, VCNT Training Manager at ksmith@vcnt.org.

To register for any training, contact Cathy Hurst at churst@vcnt.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Submit your opportunities today!

Visit 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 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 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 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 Kay Dillard at kdillard@vcnt.org or Rochelle Luna at rluna@vcnt.org or call (817) 927-7172.

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.

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

Please forward this email to 5 contacts to help spread the word!

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