

THE EXECUTIVE'S

Directions

The Benefits of Volunteering



Many people don't realize the impact of volunteering. They think it is just a nice thing to do - which it most definitely is - but it also has a wide impact. Volunteerism instills a sense of community and promotes civic engagement; volunteers provide great benefit to the agencies where they serve; and volunteerism also directly benefits the volunteer. Each year we conduct a variety of surveys to gather information from our partner agencies and volunteers. A few pieces of data from some recent surveys indicate the following impact:

96% of our partner agencies stated that Greater Cleveland Volunteers' members help their agency accomplish their mission and serve the community.

98% of tutors in our AARP Experience Corps program said that volunteering increased their sense of purpose in life and 99% reported that volunteering helped them stay physically and mentally active.

Read more about the survey results in this newsletter.

If you ask any of our current volunteers how their service has impacted them I am sure you will hear wonderful stories. If you are not volunteering now, please get in touch with us and we will connect you to a rewarding opportunity that will impact the community and you personally!

Joy Banish

Executive Director

216-391-9500 x 112

jbanish@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org



We welcome Keith Anderle to our staff. Keith fills the role as our Program Evaluation Specialist. He will analyze and interpret program data we collect. This information helps us remain current on trends and review program results.

After earning his bachelors degree from the University of Dayton, Keith has performed IT and Program Analysis work for multiple non-profit organizations in Baltimore, Syracuse and now Cleveland.

Keith is an avid runner who's completed multiple marathons and can be often found in the Cleveland Metroparks on the weekends.



We're pleased that **Stephanie McNeal** has joined us as a summer intern. Stephanie is a rising senior at Cleveland State University, where she is studying Political Science.

She is also a recent transplant to Cleveland, having lived most of her life in central Texas.

Stephanie has been very involved in campus life at CSU. She is on the Board of the Student Alumni Association and is also a Presidential Student Ambassador.

She will be involved in a variety of fundraising and communications projects and will help us prepare for our annual benefit, Viva Volunteers in October.

Shop Talk... *from the Development office*

Recently, I attended a local performance of Shakespeare's play *Timon of Athens*. In Act IV, one of the characters says, "Wherever we shall meet...let's shake our heads, and say...'We have seen better days.'"

I hadn't realized that this phrase was in use so long ago. It's a phrase that often has been applied to our city and our region. But perhaps we should acknowledge that those 'better days' are now. True, the Cavs didn't win the NBA championship...however, you'd have to be a real pessimist not to see all the good things that are happening in town. Recognition as a travel destination, a more beautiful and more vibrant downtown, the arrival of a major political convention – these are some of the more visible changes.

There are others that don't get publicity, such as the progress being made in improving the Cleveland schools and the continued investments in social change by companies and foundations. We see these changes up close and we are proud to be involved in making them happen.

We are so grateful to be working with over 2,000 volunteers and to the hundreds of donors who make sure that our work gets accomplished.



We thank the following donors who generously made gifts between May 1st and June 30th:

\$5,000 and above The Cleveland Foundation • Himan Brown Charitable Trust

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• S.K. Wellman Foundation • Milton A. & Charlotte R. Kramer Foundation • John Reynolds

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shed Partnership • Stephanie FallCreek, DSW • Lee & Maria Parks • Tom Barnard •
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Other Gifts St. Basil's Widows & Widowers • Young at Heart (Olmsted Falls) • C-Jam Foundation
Anonymous • Mark Carden • Amazon Smile • Association of Afro-American Cultural Gardens

In-Kind Donors Target Store-University Heights

Alan Goldman
Development Director
216-391-9500 x 113
agoldman@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We provide a brief description with the Greater Cleveland Volunteers' contact person listed. Phone numbers and emails are below

After School Programs: Become a Tutor, Reading Buddy or Homework Helper. East and West Locations available. Lynette.

Beauty Salon Assistant: Transport senior living facility residents to and from salon in the building, visit with residents while waiting for their appointment, sweep and perform other tasks as requested. Tuesdays and /or Wednesdays between 9:15 a.m.to 4:15 p.m. Background Check mandatory. Lynette.

Boutique Helper: East side agency for homeless families in transition needs a volunteer to help in its boutique once or twice a week. Assist customers, maintain displays and help with purchases. Sue.

Breast Cancer Survivor Mentor: Must have completed last breast cancer treatment at least one year ago. Mentor newly diagnosed patients with information and resource referrals in person, over the phone or by email. Training provided. Nadine.

Disaster Services: Serve as a member of a team that responds to local disasters; such as dwelling fires, weather related emergencies and others to determine the immediate needs of individuals and families such as; shelter, food, clothing and other necessary items. Volunteers choose their shifts in advance as it suits their schedule. Sue.

Food Pantry: Volunteers are needed at Westside food pantry Mondays or Fridays from 10:00 a.m.until 2:00 p.m. to assist with packing and delivery of food bags. Jan.

Information Desk: A downtown science center is looking for volunteers to staff the information desk for a 4-5 hour shift once a week. For month of **August only, Tues-Sun from 11-5.** September to October weekends only from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A background check is required. Free parking and discount in café and gift shop. Nadine.

Mentor College Students: Volunteers are needed to work with high achieving, low income students in 10th-12th grades, who are the first members of their families to attend college. Volunteers are paired with a student and provide one-on-one ACT tutoring in math, verbal or both. May also help student complete applications, essays, find financial aid, etc. All volunteers must have a 4-year college degree. Sue.

Mentor Youth: Become a big brother or big sister to a child 6 to 18 years of age. East and West side opportunities available. Valid Ohio Driver's License, reliable car, and background check all mandatory. Lynette.

Resume Writing: Assist students ages 15-18 in creating resumes using a template. No resume building experience necessary and training is provided. Times and days are flexible. Locations will vary with training sites. Jan.

ONE TIME EVENTS:

Take to the Lake

Saturday, August 22nd. 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Assist with registration and boat rental area checking in boating (kayaking) participants. Located approximately ¼ mile west of Shaker Nature Center at Lower Shaker Lake. Jan.

Reap the Benefits: A Night on the Farm

Saturday, August 29th. 6:00 to 10:30 p.m.

This is a fast-paced exciting volunteer opportunity. Helps as auction assistants, bar attendants, food assistants, greeters and general runners. The event will be held at the co-op farm located adjacent to the Westside Market at Bridge and W 24th Street in Cleveland. Jan.

Please call 216-391-9500 then extension or email the staff listed below about the volunteer needs listed.

Sue	x 120	ssmith@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org
Nadine	x 122	ngamble@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org
Lynette	x 123	Imaistros@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org
Jan	x 124	jvectirelis@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

You might recall our satisfaction survey that we sent out in early 2015. We thank those volunteers and partner agency staff that completed and submitted the document. We truly appreciate your feedback. The information is shared with staff and Board members so that our programs can continue to improve and meet the needs of the community.

We are pleased to be able to report that:

96% of volunteers started **they are satisfied** with the services provided by Greater Cleveland Volunteers

Over 65% of volunteers stated **they are interested in done in a day** volunteer activities, to improve their satisfaction as a volunteer

Volunteer Comments:

"It gives me a reason to get moving in the morning. If I had no reason I might not get up till noon and that would not be good."

"I feel that volunteering in the community as a tutor and mentor helps Cleveland become a better place. It's because I care."

"I moved here from NY in 2007, and I continue to be both amazed and proud about the level of volunteerism in Cleveland. The people I have worked with take their jobs seriously, and the constituents that we assist are openly grateful. I thank God for the opportunity to serve."

"Greater Cleveland Volunteers have provided me with very enjoyable excursions into worlds I never knew existed. In each activity I have learned a great deal and have formed friendships that lasted. There is a lot going on in Cleveland within the communities and I can only hope that this organization keeps growing."

For the second year in a row, **100% of our partner agencies** state they are satisfied with the services provided by Greater Cleveland Volunteers

89% of agencies stated they were **satisfied** with the quantity of referrals they are receiving for their ongoing opportunities

96% of agency staff stated that Greater Cleveland Volunteers members have a positive impact on their programs and agency and **help them accomplish** their agency mission and better serve the needs in the community

Partner Agency Comments:

"We have gotten a few great volunteers. One of them is now an employee!"

"You have sent us some excellent volunteers!"

"Our program is entirely dependent on volunteers to function, and we value our Greater Cleveland Volunteers"

"Gail (a volunteer) helps to prep or cook food for up to 40 Scholars and staff each day she comes. This gives our staff an extra 3 hours they didn't have before to work with our Scholars."

REFER A FRIEND

Did you know that the MOST successful recruitment tool we have is YOU- the volunteer? Help us spread the word about the need for volunteers in Cuyahoga County. We are specifically seeking additional volunteers, aged 50+ , to serve in key impact areas. **Form deadlines are September 30th and December 30th. Submit before the deadline and if your form is pulled you receive \$25.00!** The form is on our website home page. (greaterclevelandvolunteers.org) Contact our office at 216-391-9500 or email contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org, with any questions.

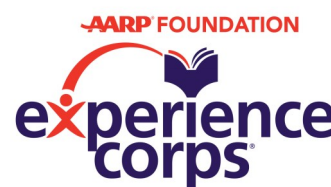
If you enjoy seeing our area youth succeed in school, consider becoming a tutor or mentor.

Literacy Tutors:

- * Must possess a high school diploma or GED
- * Serve 5 hours a week during the school year with students grades K-3 during the school day
- * Training and support provided
- * 50+ years of age

Contact: Ross at 216-391-9500 x 119

rjones@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org



Mentors:

- * Meet at lunchtime at the school once a week
- * Work with students in grades 4-6
- * Training and support provided
- * 18+ years of age

Contact Carol at 216-391-950 x 125

chasek@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

SAVE THE DATE

VIVA VOLUNTEERS

Join us at our annual benefit on Friday, October 23 6:30-10:00 p.m.

Acacia Reservation Banquet Center
26899 Cedar Road, Lyndhurst 44122

Appetizers, Cocktails, Buffet Dinner, Auction, Photo Booth, Side Boards and Wine Pull

Ticket reservations and sponsorships at : http://www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/whats_new/events.php
216-391-9500 x 113

We are still accepting themed baskets, gift cards and bottles of wine for the event.
216-391-9500 x 115.



Connecting you with opportunities to serve

4415 Euclid Ave. Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44103-3758
216-391-9500
Fax: 216-391-9010
contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Greater Cleveland Volunteers is funded in part by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the U.S. Department of Justice, the State of Ohio and United Way. Greater Cleveland Volunteers gratefully acknowledges the support of the Cleveland Clinic and RICOH for printing this newsletter.

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We welcome the following partner agencies:

Doan Brook Watershed Partnership is a collective of interested citizens, whose mission is to protect and restore the health of the Doan Brook watershed, as well as engage the community in stewardship and conservation of the Brook.

Boys Hope Girls Hope helps academically capable and motivated children-in-need to meet their full potential and become men and women for other by providing value-centered, family-like homes, opportunities and education through college. Volunteers help prepare and cook meals, drivers and landscaping.

Rainey Institute is dedicated to positive growth for Cleveland's youth through education and participation in the performing and visual arts.

The Refugee Response was formed to help refugees adjust to life in Northeast Ohio. They work to empower area's growing newcomer population, particularly those here between three months and five years, by providing opportunities to acquire the skills they need to succeed in their new communities. Volunteers are needed for in-home tutoring.

Contact Nadine with any questions. 216-391-9500 x 122.

Editor: dkall@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org