

# 40 Greater YEARS Cleveland News Volunteers

Connecting you with opportunities to serve

Vol. XL, No. 2

April May, June, 2012

**Volunteers: This is your invitation to come help us celebrate**

## *Greater Cleveland Volunteers 40th Anniversary Recognition Luncheon*

*On Monday, June 18, 2012      11:30—1:30 p.m.*

*Holiday Inn—Independence*

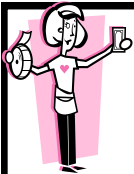
6001 Rockside Rd., Independence, 44131

*The afternoon's festivities will include  
A delicious luncheon in the elegant Grande Ballroom*

*Recognition of Volunteers      Door Prizes      50-50 Raffle*

### **Here are the Details:**

- ◆ Volunteers who have served a total of 25 hours or more between January 1, 2011 and April 30, 2012, may attend for a cost of \$5. Guests and volunteers with less than 25 hours during that period are invited to attend for \$25.
- ◆ Make your reservation with the volunteer manager at the agency where you volunteer regularly. This person has received a list of Greater Cleveland Volunteers, who according to our records, are eligible to attend the luncheon.
- ◆ Experience Corps volunteers should make their reservations with their EC Site Coordinator.
- ◆ Volunteers who only volunteer for Team events and/or Cleveland schools other than those in the EC program will be sent individual reservation letters. If you believe you fall into one of these categories or self-report your volunteer hours and have not received a letter by June 1, 2012, please call the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office and we will be glad to check for you.
- ◆ Unlimited Free parking is available at the hotel.
- ◆ Bus #35 leaves Public Square at 10:28 a.m. and arrives at the top of the hill in front of the hotel at 11:12 a.m. Hotel vans will be available to pick up guests there and bring them to the door of the ballroom. This is the only bus stop where hotel van service will be available.
- ◆ Senior center vans and buses will be permitted to drop off and pick up volunteers at the front doors of the hotel.



## DO YOU HAVE YOUR RAFFLE TICKET YET?

You could be spending a week in one of the beautiful Suites at Polo Towers, on the Strip in Las Vegas; AND receive \$800 in cash. Greater Cleveland Volunteers is holding a raffle for a seven-night stay in a two-bedroom, two-bath suite with a fully equipped kitchen and a living-dining room. Amenities include a rooftop swimming pool, a fitness center and a circular lounge on the 19<sup>th</sup> floor – which has a 180-degree view of the Strip and the picturesque Spring Mountain range. Preferred week for the use of the condominium is Saturday, September 1, 2012 through Saturday, September 8, 2012. However, an alternative week may be available in 2012 or 2013 with advanced notice of at least 60 days to the timeshare owners.

**Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Drawing will be held on June 30.**

Purchase your tickets online at [www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](http://www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org), under "Support Us" (via PayPal); or by mail by sending your check to 4614 Prospect Ave., #205, Cleveland, OH 44103; or call Sue Smith at 216-391-9500 x 115.

## We Need Your Address



Due to the ever-increasing cost of postage, we at Greater Cleveland Volunteers are trying to save a few dollars by sending you correspondence when we can by e-mail. Actually, e-mail allows us to send you information about things that occur immediately so we can keep you apprised of the latest news, volunteer opportunities and other items of interest.

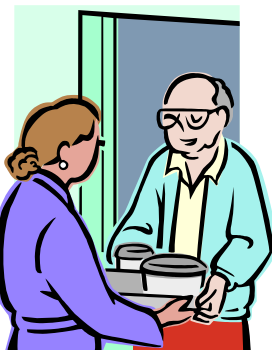
If you've already given us your e-mail address, thank you. If you would like to receive correspondence via e-mail, but have not let us know, please send us your e-mail address. And lastly, if you have previously sent us an e-mail address, but later opted out of having one of our publications (the newsletter, for example) sent to you via e-mail, we are not able to send you anything else through e-mail unless you give us a new e-mail address.

But, whichever way you choose, we will still do our best to keep you informed of all the happenings at Greater Cleveland Volunteers!

## Meals on Wheels Needs Your Help

One of the most vital ongoing jobs around is seeing that someone who is homebound gets at least one good meal each day.

This is what the various Meals on Wheels and home-delivered meals programs do. Most of the programs see that one or two hot meals are delivered, normally at lunchtime, each weekday to clients for a nominal donation. And many of the programs are largely staffed by volunteers, some of whom do the actual meal preparation at a central location and some who handle the delivery of the meals to individuals at their homes. Ideally, those who are delivering the meals go out in teams of two, a driver and a runner (or jumper) who takes the meal in an insulated carrier to the actual client.



This is where you come in. Greater Cleveland Volunteers is affiliated with a number of home-delivered meals programs throughout the community and all of them urgently need volunteers. The hours are usually in the morning – about 9 a.m. until 1p.m. and only on weekdays. You do not have to commit to every day. The specific agencies will have their own schedules. Some programs also offer mileage reimbursements.

Following are the agencies where help is needed: **Hillcrest Meals on Wheels, Meals on Wheels of Shaker Heights-Beachwood, Senior Citizen Resources, Rocky River Meals on Wheels, West Park Meals on Wheels, West Side Community House, West Rose-Mt. Carmel Senior Center and Gunning Park and Lakeshore Golden Age Centers.**

Can you spare a morning or two of your time each week? A few hours of your time is all it takes, but the feeling of helping someone who may not have had a hot meal that day but for you is very rewarding.

Call the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 for information on how you can help.

**Agency Highlight****ReStore Fills Your DIY Needs**

If you're looking for something to complete your latest DIY home project and have run short of funds, be sure to check out the ReStore.

The ReStore, operated by Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity, is one of the largest reuse and recycling centers in Cuyahoga County. ReStore volunteers help to recycle and resell donated home improvement items to the general public at a fraction of the retail cost. All types of donations, both old and new, are accepted from tools to kitchen cabinets to lighting fixtures and even furniture, so you're likely to find something you can use.

"Proceeds support Habitat's mission to end poverty and homelessness by offering access to home ownership to people who can't otherwise afford to purchase a home," according to Volunteer Manager Kim Pride.

Volunteers are essential to the operation of the ReStore, assisting with everything including the



*Volunteers Drea and Larry assist customers at Habitat for Humanity's ReStore*

intake and processing of donations, helping shoppers in the store itself and picking up donations. The ReStore is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. It is located at 2110 W. 110<sup>th</sup> St. in Cleveland.

Individuals or groups, skilled or willing to learn, are welcome to volunteer in the

ReStore or help in other Habitat for Humanity areas, such as grant writing, office assistance or special events. ReStore volunteers must be at least 14 years of age and must be accompanied by an adult when volunteering.

The ReStore would welcome your help! For information on how to get started, call Kirsten at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 x 114.



## **Change is in the Air**

As you may know, Greater Cleveland Volunteers has been the sponsor agency of the Federally-funded RSVP program since 1972. During these 40 years, we have seen the program evolve into what it is now: a program to engage older adults, aged 55 and older, in addressing community needs.

In order to better meet the needs of our volunteers and the partner agencies we work with, we have reassigned staff to work on specific programs:

**Jan Vectirelis** will be coordinating all team (special event; done in a day) and group volunteer opportunities, as well as RSVP volunteers working in the areas of food insecurity, anti-obesity, and job preparedness.

**Lynette Maistros** will now be coordinating the RSVP volunteers working in the areas of nursing home care; hospice; benefits assistance for seniors; education and mentoring for low income students; and health care for the uninsured.

**Rita Butler** will be coordinating the community volunteers program, which includes volunteers serving in the areas of arts and culture; hospitals; health care facilities; and senior centers.

**Kirsten Frei-Herrmann** will currently be coordinating RSVP volunteers serving in the areas of meals on wheels programs, housing access and construction, as well as college preparation/access for low income students. A new volunteer coordinator will be hired in the coming weeks to work in these areas.

One of the benefits that we have been able to offer our volunteers is free excess and liability insurance. Through the years, we have seen changes in the funding of this program and of our agency. Due to these funding cuts, we will now only be able to offer the excess and liability insurance to RSVP volunteers (aged 55 and older) engaged in addressing a critical community need. Critical community needs have been identified as the following areas:

- Anti-obesity
- College preparation
- Education for low-income students
- Food insecurity
- Guardianship programs
- Homelessness
- Hospice care
- Housing
- Job preparedness
- Mentoring
- Services to low-income older adults

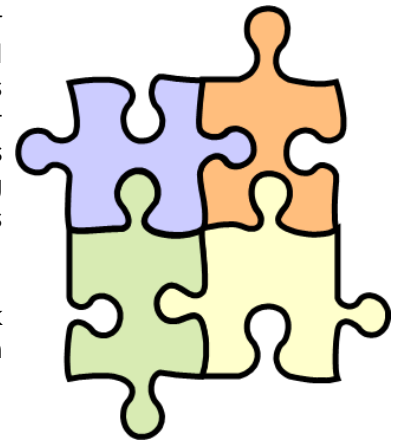
We have sent letters to all volunteers and partner agencies notifying them of this change. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Program Director, Kirsten at [contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](mailto:contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org).



# The Voice of Experience

**I cannot believe that we are nearing the end of the school year already.** We will soon be distributing the post-assessment surveys to the teachers so we can see just how much our students have improved this year!!

The program success is only as good as each of its pieces. I want to thank our dedicated Experience Corps staff for their hard work. Carol Bolden, Leonard Young, Ross Jones and Toni Whitaker work hard managing nearly 200 volunteers and keeping track of 1000 students in our 13 schools. They are an important piece of the puzzle that makes up the Experience Corps program. Sue Speizer is our Literacy Coordinator and trainer. Sue offers new and innovative training sessions meeting the needs of our many tutors and adding additional sessions for new volunteers and monthly trainings for our Literacy Boosters.



The next piece of the puzzle is a group of nearly 200 older adult tutors who work selflessly several days a week with their students. They not only serve the children but the community as a whole.

The last and most important piece of our puzzle is the group of students our volunteers work with day after day. The students light up when they see their tutor in their red vest come to get them for their special learning time. We tutor, we support and we nourish the minds of each young child by giving them the gift of reading.

I thank all of the wonderful people who give of themselves so that our children will be successful in school and in adulthood. Thank you for a great year!

*Debra Kay*  
Project Director



*Experience Corps Ambassadors with Mayor Frank Jackson at a City Council meeting on April 9.*

# Shop Talk... *from the Development office*

Alan Goldman

## What It's All About

"I have just finished my third Wednesday helping children learn to read, at Glendale School. I couldn't believe how fulfilling it could be. ... I think everyone should do this. After all these children are the future. They are the ones we will depend on as we grow older. I want to thank you for this opportunity to help in such a meaningful way."

What a great message. This was sent to us recently by one of our volunteers, and it reminded me of what our work is all about.

We love to get these stories or reflections from our volunteers. If you have something to share, please send it to us. As we move further into our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we want to hear from you.

As part of our special Anniversary year, we held an Open House during National Volunteer Week in April to say thank you to our volunteers. Here are some photos from the event.



You can also be a part of this milestone year by giving a gift to support our work.

Send your gift to:                    Greater Cleveland Volunteers  
   40th Anniversary Campaign  
   4614 Prospect Ave., #205  
   Cleveland OH 44103

We want to thank several supporters for their gifts so far this year -

The Stocker Foundation • RPM, Inc. • Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust • Harvard Business School Club of N.E. Ohio • Charter One Bank • Helen Chamberjian • KeyBank Foundation • Harry K. & Emma R. Fox Charitable Foundation • Fairhill Partners • Cleveland Teachers Union • Edward McKinney, Ph.D. • Dorothy Hokenstad • Edward A. & Catherine L. Lozick Foundation

# Events & Opportunities

**Mark your calendars! Here are some events you won't want to miss:**

The **City Club of Cleveland** is hosting a program entitled "**The Future of Volunteerism**" on May 22, 2012. Greater Cleveland Volunteers Executive Director Joy Banish will be speaking as part of a panel of local experts on volunteerism.



Business Volunteers Unlimited and HandsOn Northeast Ohio will be part of this event as well and noted volunteerism researcher, Dr. Jeffrey

Brudney will moderate the conversation.

Please join us by making your reservation on the City Club website, [www.cityclub.org](http://www.cityclub.org) Or by calling the City Club at 216-621-0082.

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How would you like to experience the excitement of the Olympics? – the **Senior Olympics**, that is. The two-day festivities, will be **Tuesday, May 22** and **Wednesday, May 23** at Senior Citizen Resources, 3100 Devonshire, and Brooklyn Memorial Park, respectively. Volunteers are needed to supervise the basketball throw, the bean bag toss and the corn hole games. Call Jan at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 x 124.



## Mentoring Notes:



As we are coming to the end of our fourth year serving Cleveland schools, I want to send a big *thank you* to all the "My Mentor My Friend" volunteers who have been spending lunch time once a week or more with students referred by their teachers to our program!

They've had fun playing games together and sharing conversations and getting to know one another. And comments from the students at the end of last school year like: "She shows me love, has faith in me"; "He helped me not be afraid to stand up for myself"; and "I have one lunch to look forward to each week" all hint at the benefit of having such a caring, adult friend.

Do you enjoy spending time with a child? Do you have one day a week free around lunch time? Would you be willing to be a friend to a child, providing support and encouragement throughout the school year?

If you are interested in knowing more call me at 216-391-9500, ext. 125.

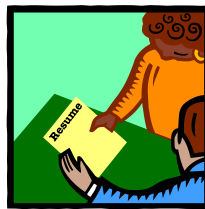
*Carol Hasek*  
Program Coordinator

Assist the **Friends of the Cleveland Public Library** with their fundraising efforts through their Used Book Sales. Volunteers are needed to assist in set up, day of sales, and tear down of the sales. May sales will be held at the MLK Branch. There will be additional sales through November 5 at various times at the Rockport, Memorial-Nottingham, Rice, Carnegie West and Main Libraries in the summer and fall. Please contact Jan at the Greater Cleveland Volunteers office, 216-391-9500 x 124 for these opportunities.



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**Resume Building Project:** Help high school students create their first resumes, to aid in finding summer employment. Training provided to all volunteers. Must have basic computer literacy, and an eye for detail. Program will be offered at the Division of Water in Newburgh Heights, on Fridays mornings, June 22nd-August 3rd. Contact Jan at Greater Cleveland Volunteers, 216-391-9500 x 124 to learn more about this opportunity.



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



If you are interested in any of the following opportunities, contact the Volunteer Coordinator listed above each section.

**Call Rita at 216-391-9500 x 122 or e-mail: [rbutler@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](mailto:rbutler@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org)**

DINING ROOM AIDE – Help serve coffee during congregate meals and clean up afterward at St. Martin de Porres Family Center. Needed weekdays. Flexible schedule.

GROUP VOLUNTEERS - You as an individual or as part of your group can help plan and execute activities such as a potluck meal, arts & crafts projects, scrapbooking, bingo, music performances and more for the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge. Your special talents will be greatly appreciated.

COMFORT RUNNER - Do you enjoy being in a hospital setting? Volunteers are needed at Euclid Hospital to assist the nurses by answering lights; distributing water and ice to patients and filling linen carts. Volunteers are needed Mondays-Saturdays between 8 am and 8 pm; 4 hour shifts. Background check and TB testing required.

**Call Kirsten at 216-391-9500 x 114 or e-mail: [kfrei-herrmann@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](mailto:kfrei-herrmann@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org)**

SAT TUTOR – Work one-on-one with students at Minds Matter of Cleveland youth agency to help them improve their SAT scores in either Math or Verbal categories; review questions they have missed on practice exams and teach the concept and solution to each problem. Area young professionals who have a four-year college degree are eligible for this position. Needed on various Saturdays from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Background check required.

**Call Lynette at 216-391-9500 x 123 or e-mail: [lmaistros@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](mailto:lmaistros@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org)**

EXERCISE LEADER—Supervise simple chair exercises for elderly participants at Ernes J. Bohn Golden Age Center. No standing is required. Time is from 10:30-11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

FRIENDLY VISITOR – Provide companionship as a member of Adult Guardianship Services to a senior facility resident and information to resident's guardian through monthly visits. Talk, share stories, take walks, play games or enjoy other interests with resident; write brief summaries of visits and other activities to be shared with guardian. Must have own transportation. Training provided.

**Call Jan at 216-391-9500 x 124 or e-mail: [jvectirelis@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org](mailto:jvectirelis@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org)**

GARDEN LEADER – Oversee planting and weekly maintenance of 2100 Lakeside men's shelter vegetable garden. Coordinate the work of shelter residents and outside volunteers on planting, mulching, watering, weeding and harvesting from late April through September. Must have knowledge of vegetable gardening. Flexible schedule.

OFFICE ASSISTANT – Greet and assist clients of University Settlement; answer phones, make copies and assist staff, as needed. Must be able to handle stressful situations, be proficient in Microsoft Office software, be familiar with basic office equipment and be able to manage several tasks at once. Needed Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; flexible schedule.

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**PLEASE POST THIS LIST OR GIVE TO OTHERS THAT MAY BE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING**

**Greater Cleveland Volunteers**

**4614 Prospect Avenue,  
Suite 205  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103**

**(216) 391-9500  
Fax: (216) 391-9010  
contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org  
www.greaterclevelandvolunteers.org**

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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**WELCOME OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEERS**

**The following are volunteers who have joined Greater Cleveland Volunteers between 1/1/12 and 3/31/12**

- |                       |                          |                        |                    |                    |                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Imran R Abuhamdeh     | Randoph DeWeaver         | Marilyn E Hammond      | Monica Madej       | Barbara A Ragland  | Juliana A Siqueira   |
| Marci M Atkins        | Brittney Douglas         | Joyce L Harrell        | Mary A Malone      | Corina A Ralston   | Sharon Skora         |
| Jessica M Barlock     | James A Dunkle           | Taira R Harris         | Tejas B Maniar     | Gail Rapps         | Brenda A Slover      |
| Stephanie L Barnes    | Marsha L Dunn            | JuJuan K Hays          | Darell W Mason     | Janetta Rematt     | Don Slover           |
| Judy E Bateman        | Tonya E Edwards-Camel    | Abby H Helfand         | Tamara D Mason     | Ariel M Rhea       | Janett Smith         |
| Thomas P Beardslee    | Latasha N Edwards        | Elaine S Henderson     | Sara Massey        | Coury R Richards   | Ronnita S Smith      |
| Dave J Beckman        | Chanell R Elstin         | Terria Hines           | Adahm A McCane     | Mary E Rihm        | Sandra Smith         |
| Debra J Blair         | China B Ervin            | Brittany N Holmes      | Erin M McCardle    | Joseph P Roberts   | Anthony O Stenger    |
| Toni M Blunt          | Katherine L Evans        | Venessa Hunter         | Kelly McCrone      | Angela A Robinson  | Simone E Swanson     |
| Russell Brown Jr      | Natalie M Farinacci      | Muhammad O Iqbal       | James R McKenzie   | Antonio M Robinson | Earnest I Taylor     |
| Vrere D Bunkley       | Lawrence R Fill          | Mark J Jackman         | Nate A Miller      | Tyler J Rolfes     | Cynthia Tsien        |
| Rae Elizabeth A Burke | Selena L Fluker          | Bonnie R Jakub         | Tyler J Moore      | Renee M Rosenbaum  | Raymond Turner       |
| Christopher J Cabot   | Sandra J Fogel           | Elizabeth A Jelepiz    | Laka M Negassa     | Shannon M Ross     | Rebecca a Turner     |
| Tina A Calhoun        | Shelia A Foster          | Mary E Jernigan-Miller | Kathy Nieberding   | Connor D Rosselo   | Elizabeth Villanueva |
| Thomas F Camp         | Hanna A Friess           | Alane R Johnson        | Lukas M Nieves     | Muriel D Sadler    | Kenny P Voskuhl      |
| Michael P Cannavino   | Rachel L Frizzell        | Gregory T Johnson      | Kerry B Nikutta    | Nada s Salem       | Erina A Wade         |
| Andrew J Carroll      | Susan A Gaidelis         | Jessica R Johnson      | Christina A Norman | Brenton E Sample   | Madison N Walker     |
| Kella a Carroll       | Danni A Gannon           | Nanetta Kelley         | Rickelle Norton    | Andrew M Sauer     | Scott M Warren       |
| Vanessa D Carter      | Ronnie J Gay             | Cheryl A Kendis        | Liz M Nowel        | Phil E Scals       | Eunice White         |
| Bernice Celebucki     | Katie M Gonzalez         | Salma J Khan           | Michael R Odum     | Sue A Schlessman   | LaMarr Wilkerson     |
| Victoria L Cogar      | Lynn E Goodman           | Solomon Y Kim          | Kevin J Peacock    | Diane J Schnall    | Patricia A Williams  |
| Carrie L Condon       | Jacqueline M Graham      | Stephan K Kim          | Melvin Pearl       | Jared A Schnall    | Elaine P Wren        |
| Paula J Conrad        | Cheryl A Gray            | Renita C King          | Renee Peek-Young   | Frances L Scott    | Sarah M Yeager       |
| Carrie Crosby         | Deborah L Green-Shepherd | Vernica Kirkland       | Elizabeth A Perez  | Sachin Sharma      | Tammy S Young        |
| Kristen J Daniels     | Judi K Greenspan         | Brent S Kiss           | William T Phelps   | Amber N Shelby     | Ann E Zellmer        |
| Jacqueline Davis      | Anna I Gulan             | Debbie L Kvame         | Jeremy R Poe       | Matthew F Sievers  |                      |
| Jerome Davis          | Joyce Hairston           | Carol A Lamalfa        | Bonnie A Polomsky  | Barbara J Simmons  |                      |
| Daria C Dawson        |                          | Beverly D Lewis        | Jodi A Quiroz      | Daniel H Simon     |                      |