

November-December 2007 Training News



Greetings National Service Partners!

This bi-monthly training newsletter provides information you will need for planning ahead to attend upcoming trainings and conferences to support your professional development. Selected training resources and grant deadlines are also listed. This issue features news of upcoming opportunities to participate in Volunteer Management trainings offered by many of Florida's Volunteer Centers.

Please note: If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any Volunteer Florida-sponsored training, please contact Dee Wilder with your request at 850-410-3452 at least 72 hours prior to the event.

Training News and Upcoming Deadlines & Events

November 12 – 14, 2007 – 14th Annual Florida Service-Learning Institute in Lake Mary/Orlando, Florida. There is no cost to participate. Visit www.fsu.edu/~flserve for more information and to register.

January 11, 2008 - Save the Date -- Mind Alert Training of Trainers to be offered! Easter Seals Recreational Club sponsors a workshop to train you to provide memory training for older adults. This workshop will include a demonstration session with older adult volunteers and is provided free of charge, lunch included. Contact [Gloria Orlando](mailto:Gloria.Orlando@easterseals.com), (305) 547-4721, e-mail gorlandi@sfl.easterseals.com.

March 5 - 7, 2008 - Save the Date! **The first 2008 AmeriCorps Program Directors Meeting is tentatively scheduled for the Holiday Inn UCF in Orlando. This meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5 and end at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 7. Mark your calendars NOW.**

April 9 - 12, 2008 -The 19th Annual National Service-Learning Conference in Minneapolis, MN, brings together an estimated 3,000 educators, state and federal officials, youth leaders, program coordinators, policy-makers, and community-based organizations from around the world. To learn more about opportunities for you to attend the conference, visit <http://www.nylc.org/conference>.

June 1 – 3, 2008 -National Conference on Service and Volunteering in Atlanta, Georgia. This year's conference will offer opportunities to enhance professional skills, explore new technologies, share best practices, and get the latest news from AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Volunteer Florida plans to offer scholarships to assist AmeriCorps Program Directors with the registration fee for this conference. If you are definitely interested in attending and plan to request a scholarship, please send an e-mail to Dee Wilder at dee@volunteerflorida.org. For more information on the conference, see <http://www.volunteeringandservice.org>.

VOLUNTEER CENTER TRAININGS: Upcoming opportunities to attend Florida Volunteer Center trainings and Florida Volunteer Administration Certification trainings are provided below. AmeriCorps programs that wish to participate in any of these trainings and need assistance with registration fees, please contact Dee Wilder at Volunteer Florida at 850-410-3452 or e-mail dee@volunteerflorida.org.

Nassau County Volunteer Center is sponsoring a three-day Volunteer Management Training series from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on consecutive Tuesdays: **November 13, 20 and 27**. Trainings will be held in the Nassau County Emergency Management Training Room on A1A in Yulee. Cost for training is \$75.00. Participants will receive certification upon completion of the series. For information call 904-261-2771 or e-mail ncvcfb@aol.com.

Service Days and Events:

Seasons of Service, sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation, are national opportunities for people to volunteer for service projects throughout the year to turn people on to service so they will become life-long volunteers. Be part of the Seasons of Service year-round action plan to illustrate how a single day of service can grow into an ongoing habit of helping communities. See the list below.

November 15, 2007 - America Recycles Day; <http://www.americarecyclesday.org/>

November 17, 2007 - **Family Volunteer Day** -. Family Volunteer Day calls families across America to work together in volunteer service to strengthen their families, communities, local businesses, and non-profit organizations. Sponsor is The Walt Disney Company. This annual day of service, held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, is designed to demonstrate the power of families who choose to volunteer together to support the communities in which they live and serve. However families choose to do it, volunteering together can help mobilize thousands of new volunteers and instill in the next generation a sense of civic engagement that can last a lifetime. Check out the [Family Volunteer Day Guidebook](#) (PDF) from Points of Light Foundation.

January (month) 2008 - National Mentoring Month; <http://www.mentoring.org/>

January 21 - Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service; <http://www.mlkday.gov>. *To help you plan the King Day of Service, please visit [mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov). This site has project tips, marketing and fundraising resources, a video, and a technology tool that will allow you to register both your project and your volunteers.*

February 11 -17 - Random Acts of Kindness Week - <http://www.actsofkindness.org/>

March 3 - Read Across America Day; <http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>

March 3-6 - Newspapers in Education Week; <http://nieonline.com/>

March 20 – Absolutely Incredible Kid Day; <http://www.campfire.org>

March 22 - World Water Day; <http://www.worldwaterday2007.org/>

March 31 - Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning; <http://www.chavezfoundation.org>

March 31 - April 6 - Act! Speak! Build! Week; http://www.habitat.org/ccyp/act_speak_build

Grant Opportunities, Contests and Announcements:

Support for Youth Engagement Projects

[Youth Service America: Youth at the Center Grants](#)

Youth Service America, in collaboration with the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, is providing Youth at the Center Grants to help organizations replicate effective youth engagement practices. Local, state, and national nonprofit organizations that are part of a broader coalition and are interested in replicating their successful youth engagement experience throughout that network are eligible to apply for these \$2,000 grants. Successful applicants should involve youth in addressing the world's most pressing social issues, such as climate change, hunger, literacy, or poverty, and plan to use Global Youth Service Day as a primary vehicle for their projects. The application deadline is November 30, 2007. Visit the website listed above for program details.

February 15, 2008. Application deadline for Funds for K-12 School-Community Projects through Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant Program, supporting schools and school parent teacher groups that develop projects to encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit. Grants of up to \$5,000 are provided to K-12 public schools or parent groups. Visit the website listed above for more information.

Ongoing - Volunteer Florida can help if you need FUNDING FOR A MEMBER WITH A DISABILITY who needs a reasonable accommodation to successfully complete his or her term of service. To discuss funding for reasonable accommodations, contact Paul Martell at paul@volunteerflorida.org.

Resources:

TIME MAGAZINE FEATURES NATIONAL SERVICE - Time Magazine recently featured a special edition on "The Case for National Service." Included is a 10-point plan for universal national service. To learn more, visit http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/article/0,28804,1657256_1657317,00.html

A NATIONAL SERVICE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT DECADE - The Center for American Progress recently released a report by Shirley Sagawa that presents a history of national service and outlines some of the most successful national service programs. The report also presents a set of recommendations to strengthen national service and address some of the most critical issues facing America. To read, visit http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/09/pdf/national_service.pdf

THE EFFECTIVE PRACTICES COLLECTION CELEBRATES SEVEN YEARS - Launched in August of 2000, the Effective Practices Collection at the Corporation for National & Community Service has over 775 effective practices to help volunteers and members improve programs and increase successful outcomes. The Effective Practices Collection shares information that is based in the experience of program practitioners, the technical assistance efforts of providers and resource specialists, and the findings of empirical researchers. To learn more and answer burning questions today to better your AmeriCorps program, visit <http://www.nationalservice.gov/resources>

Incorporating Fun into Service! It is a volunteer's experience on a project that keeps them coming back for more, and many times this is because they had a good time. You want your volunteers to leave the project with a feeling that they worked hard, made a difference, and had fun! For ideas, visit: http://nationalserviceresources.org/filemanager/download/HON/incorporating_fun.doc.

EnCorps is a set of online resources for AmeriCorps and VISTA program staff targeting member **recruitment, placement, orientation, ongoing training, and transitioning beyond their year of service**. EnCorps is a collection of The Resource Center at www.nationalservice.gov/resources. Contact EnCorps at encorps@nwrel.org or 1-877-250-1615 for more information. Funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, EnCorps is a partnership that includes the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory and AmeriCorps and VISTA programs in DC, KS, IL, MN, NY, OR, WA, and WI with support from their state service commissions and Corporation state offices.

EVALUATION RESOURCES for AmeriCorps State & National Direct programs are available at The Resource Center. These materials are designed to assist AmeriCorps programs with performance measures and conducting a program evaluation. Contact Project STAR toll-free at 1-800-548-3656.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF.....

Volunteer Florida wants your help identifying **Best Practices** in national service programs that can be shared to help other programs learn from your experiences. Please submit best practices along with articles, web sites, or other innovative resources to me or contact me at dee@volunteerflorida.org.

This training newsletter is available in alternative formats, i.e., Braille, audio formats, large print, and computerized formats. Contact Paul Martell at 850-414-0093 with your request.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!