

March - April 2010

Training News

Greetings National Service Partners!

This bi-monthly training newsletter provides information you will need for planning ahead to attend upcoming trainings to support your professional development. Selected training resources and grant deadlines are also listed.

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

Training News and Upcoming Deadlines & Events

March 16, 2010 – *Keep On Keepin' On* Workshop will engage leaders of community and faith-based organizations in preparing their organizations to survive a disaster and serve the post-disaster community. *Keep On Keepin' On* will address continuity of operations planning (COOP), identifying the community's disaster related needs, and collaboration to help survivors begin their journey to recovery. This free training is appropriate for national service program directors and is limited to organizations in Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. **Registration at the following website by March 8 is required:** https://www.regonline.com/keep_on_keepin_on_escambia_santa_rosa_counties

March 22 - 23, 2010 – Florida Learn & Serve hosts the 3rd Annual Raise Your Voice for Service Learning Conference at the Doubletree Hotel Tallahassee, FL. This conference will include workshops, trainings, student displays in the Capitol, student visits with legislators, and a rally and press conference to celebrate the upcoming Florida Service-Learning Month. There is no conference registration fee. To see the conference flyer, visit www.fsu.edu/~flserve/resources/ryvsl.html. Contact Joe Follman for more information at jfollman@hhp.ufl.edu or 850-922-7545.

April 7 - 9, 2010 - AmeriCorps Program Directors Meeting at the Marriott Courtyard Coconut Grove in Miami, FL. All national service and volunteerism programs are welcome to participate. The theme for this meeting is "AmeriCorps, Time for Some R & R!" Trainings on member recruitment and retention will be provided, along with financial trainings for program financial officers on Thursday, April 8. Join fellow national service program directors and staff for a Member Benefits EXPO and special mini-trainings on "Best Practices in Recruitment & Retention" from a group of your peers! AmeriCorps program directors should arrive on Wednesday, April 7th, by 12:00 Noon, and attend the entire meeting through lunch on Friday. Contact Anitra Thomas, AmeriCorps Program Assistant, at Anitra@volunteerflorida.org to obtain a registration form. REGISTRATION deadline is **Friday, March 12, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. EST.**

April is Florida Volunteer Month! The Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Volunteer Florida, is proud to sponsor the 6th Annual Florida Volunteer Month! Each April, Florida celebrates volunteers who improve lives and communities across the state, and encourages Floridians who have not discovered the joys of volunteering to *join the volunteer movement!* To participate in this movement and request a 2010 Florida Volunteer Month poster, visit the Volunteer Florida website, www.volunteerflorida.org.

Florida AmeriCorps State & National programs celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service on January 18, 2010! Volunteer Florida congratulates the service projects listed below that commemorated *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day to MAKE IT A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF:*

1. **AmeriCorps Serving Suncoast Seniors** joined RSVP Sarasota and RSVP Manatee for a *Green Living Expo* for Sarasota/ Manatee Counties.
2. **AmeriCorps Community Resource Navigators**, at Osceola County on Aging, joined Osceola County Volunteer Center and the City of St. Cloud Parks & Recreation for neighborhood beautification.
3. **Teach for America Miami-Dade** joined Teach for America Jacksonville to conduct canned food drives at 32 schools and donations to shelters/food pantries on MLK Day.

4. **AmeriCorps Polk Reads** partnered with AmeriCorps Mentoring Solutions to conduct a *Serve to Preserve* park clean-up at Lake Parker Park in Lakeland.
5. **Legacy Corps**, Easter Seals South Florida, joined the Urban Paradise Guild at Oleta River State Park where 100 volunteers came together to do invasive plant removal, habitat planting, nursery work and coastal cleanup.
6. **AmeriCorps Great Explorations** at Great Explorations Children's Museum and Florida H.I.P.P.Y. Corps stuffed backpacks with fun activities and books for children, then gave the backpacks to the St. Petersburg Free Clinic to be handed out to families whose children come to the clinic.
7. **AmeriCorps Goodwill GoodWorks!** and AmeriCorps Gadsden Reads provided outdoor clean-up at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Recreation Center in Panama City.
8. **AmeriCorps Trinity Church** and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami completed ten partially built homes with Habitat for Humanity.
9. **AmeriCorps Community Stepping Stones** and AmeriCorps Hillsborough Reads provided neighborhood clean-up with University of South Florida student volunteers in Sulphur Springs.
10. **Literacy AmeriCorps Palm Beach** partnered with Bridges Beacon Program to conduct a cross-cultural literacy event based on Dr. King's work for immigrant families.
11. **AmeriCorps Red Cross Lee County** partnered with Lee County AmeriCorps members at RSVP, Senior Friendship Centers, and Lee County Literacy VISTA members to prepare and feed homeless persons from three organizations.
12. **AmeriCorps Red Cross Greater Miami** joined with HOPE Worldwide to conduct Fire Safety and prevention.
13. **JumpStart Tallahassee** at Florida State University partnered with VolunteerLEON to provide safe and engaging activities on MLK day for children living in a subsidized housing community.

Florida Volunteer Center trainings and 2010 Volunteer Management Training Series (VMTS):

If you manage volunteers for your nonprofit agency, you may want to obtain a Volunteer Management Certificate by participating in the Volunteer Management Training Series in 2010 offered by Florida's Volunteer Centers. Interested AmeriCorps Program Directors are encouraged to participate in the VMTS trainings and other trainings listed below to build essential skills and knowledge. Contact Dee Wilder at 850-410-3452 if you need assistance with registration fees.

- **April 17 – Volunteer Services of Manatee County** will conduct First Aid & CPR training on Global Youth Service Day from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 5131 Manatee Avenue West in Bradenton. Open to volunteers of all ages, the course cost is \$40, including ARC certification cards. To register, call 941-761-3207 – space is limited!
- **May 12 - HandsOn Jacksonville, Inc.** will conduct a 3-hour training on "Roles and Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards," on May 12, August 11, and November 10, 2010, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the HandsOn Jacksonville office, 6817-1902 Southpoint Parkway, Jacksonville. To register, contact Nancy Davis Knight at nancy@handsonjacksonville.org.

Disaster Training News!

COOP Tip #18 – GET READY!

It's 10 p.m. Hurricane force winds have returned to balmy breezes. Do you know where your members are? To be sure, ask all members to bring in their individual or family disaster plans to your next corps meeting. Review them together to be sure all members have a clear plan for what they will do in advance of and immediately after a disaster. Teach them to *survive* and make a plan now for how your corps will serve the post-disaster community. Visit www.floridadisaster.org NOW to "Get a Plan!"

VOLUNTEER FLORIDA Training Vouchers are still available for CPR/First Aid Trainings!

Volunteer Florida continues to provide AmeriCorps programs with CPR/First Aid Training Vouchers to help with the cost of American Red Cross required trainings for AmeriCorps members. To request a \$25 credit toward the training fee for AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps program directors should schedule their member training with the nearby Red Cross Chapter and complete a Voucher Request Form available from Erin Pantoja at Volunteer Florida at erin@volunteerflorida.org, or see the Volunteer Florida website at www.volunteerflorida.org.

Other Service and Training Events:

Seasons of Service and Upcoming Training Dates

March

March 19, 2010 – Deadline for submission of 6 Days 6 Ramps applications. AmeriCorps programs will want to watch for potential opportunities to partner with applicants or apply to become a 6 Days 6 Ramps site during National AmeriCorps Week at <http://www.volunteerflorida.org/VFsites/6d6r/become.html>.

March 24 - 27, 2010 - The 21st Annual National Service-Learning Conference; San Jose, California. <http://nslc.nylc.org/>

April

Florida Volunteer Month. Watch the Volunteer Florida website, www.volunteerflorida.org for posters and other resources.

April 2010 – Florida Learn & Serve Application workshops around the state www.fsu.edu/~flserve/apply/apply.html

April 23 - 25, 2010 - Global Youth Service Day - visit www.YSA.org/

May

May 8 – 15, 2010 – National AmeriCorps Week. Participate in 6 Days 6 Ramps and download a presentation kit for National AmeriCorps Week at: <http://www.americorpsweek.gov/kit.asp>

May 14, 2010 – Florida Learn & Serve Proposals and Applications due. Go to: www.fsu.edu/~flserve/apply/apply.html

Save the Date:

May 3 - 4, 2010 – Tallahassee, FL -- The 11th Annual Conference for Excellence in Nonprofit Management & Leadership is a comprehensive 2-day event for nonprofit leaders, employees, and board members. The conference presents diverse topics with very talented presenters—an incredible resource for nonprofits! Visit - <http://uphs.ourdemo.net/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=3>

August 16 – 18, 2010 – 2010 Florida Conference on Aging in Orlando, Florida. For information, see <http://www.fcoa.org>.

Grant Opportunities, Contests and Announcements:

Ongoing - Do Something Seed Grants - Are you working to start a community action project or program? Do you need money to put your ideas into action? If you answered, "YES!" you are eligible to apply for a Do Something Seed Grant. \$500 in Do Something Seed Grant funding is given out every week to help young people just like YOU! Do Something Seed Grants are targeted to project ideas and programs that are just getting started. Grants can be used to jump-start your program or to realize your ideas for the first time for all types of community action projects around causes that are important in your community! Deadlines are rolling- Apply now! You will be notified whether or not you have won within two to three months after submission. Go to www.dosomething.org/grants/seedgrants.

March 31, 2010 – Sustainable Community Development Award letter of interest due -- The [Home Depot Foundation](http://www.homedepotfoundation.org)'s Awards of Excellence for Sustainable Community Development recognizes public-private partnerships that have successfully developed projects and/or initiatives that promote a more sustainable community. The program recognizes sustainable projects that take a holistic, integrated approach, whereby sustainability planning, affordable housing and the creation of green spaces and planting of trees are linked. Projects should have been completed between January 1, 2006, and December 31, 2009. For more information see www.homedepotfoundation.org/aoe_community.html.

Bring YOUR BIG Idea To Life! Enter now to see your little idea turned into a BIG Idea! Clifford The Big Red Dog® is looking for individuals and/or community groups doing great things to make a difference in their community. The BE BIG!™ Campaign is designed to communicate that **small, simple actions can make a BIG difference**. The campaign invites everyone, big and small, to take action and raise awareness for how Clifford The Big Red Dog's BIG IDEAS (*Share, Play Fair, Have Respect, Work Together, Be Responsible, Be Truthful, Be Kind, Believe in Yourself, Be a Good Friend, Help Others*) can make the world a better place. Clifford welcomes volunteers, schools or community partners to enter for a chance to see their BIG idea win **\$75,000** in community grants! Scholastic's "**Be Big in Your**

Community" Contest launched on February 1, 2010 and will continue accepting entries until June 30, 2010. For details, visit www.scholastic.com/cliffordbebig/contest/

Ongoing – Applications accepted through July 15, 2010, for Volunteer Florida Disaster Relief Social Services Block Grant funding opportunity for community and faith-based organizations, counties and local governments that provided social services resulting from presidentially-declared disasters in 2008. Eligible reimbursements include costs for services such as case management, housing assistance, and congregate meals. Check out the Notice of Funding Availability at www.volunteerflorida.org.

Ongoing - Volunteer Florida can help national service programs who need FUNDING FOR MEMBERS WITH DISABILITIES who need reasonable accommodations to successfully complete terms of service. Contact Paul Martell at 850-414-0093 or paul@volunteerflorida.org.

RESOURCES:

Mapping Your Next Adventure: Engaging Baby Boomers and Seniors in Volunteerism, is a resource guide for volunteers and volunteer leaders seeking to chart a successful course toward engaging these generations in service to make communities stronger, safer, and healthier and, in the end, leaving the world a better place. The guide includes promising practices, programs, links and opportunities for recruiting, training, recognizing and retaining volunteers age 50 and older. To learn more or to obtain a copy of this resource, contact Mary Register, Volunteer Services Consultant at Volunteer Florida, at maryregister@volunteerflorida.org.

Finding the Right Social Networking Site – See the latest issue of “On-the-Go” from Campaign Consultation at <http://www.onthegoeta.net/blog1/archives/585> to read about selecting the right social networking site to meet your needs.

ANNOUNCING AMERICORPS CONNECT! -- CNCS announces the launch of a ONE-STOP SHOP for accessing online materials you use the most to get things done. AmeriCorps Connect is designed to help you find items that can be difficult to locate because they are housed on multiple web sites. AmeriCorps Connect is not designed to replace other Corporation websites such as www.nationalservice.gov, www.americorps.gov, and the Resource Center, www.nationalservice.gov/resources. The resources you use the most are now at your fingertips at AmeriCorps Connect - click here: www.americorpsconnect.org.

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**. To view this collection of The Resource Center, www.nationalservice.gov/resources, contact EnCorps at encorps@nwrel.org or 1-877-250-1615 for more information. Also see the new Resource Center presentation packet to help you understand the potential of using the Resource Center at <http://nationalserviceresources.org/packet>.

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 innovative resources to Dee Wilder at 850-410-3452 or dee@volunteerflorida.org.

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