



Supporting volunteers in *your* community since 1946.

April 2009 Newsletter

Number 25

Karen Baker Addresses the BACVC

By: Katie Painter

The Bay Area Corporate Volunteer Council was excited to welcome Karen Baker, California State Secretary of Service and Volunteering, as guest speaker at the March BACVC General Meeting, hosted by Synopsys, Inc. Secretary Baker addressed the BACVC on timely matters facing the volunteer community in this economic climate. She discussed how the President's call to service has created a unique opportunity to reach a whole new generation of volunteers, but that with tightening budgets, many nonprofits haven't the capacity to accept the influx of volunteers at their doorstep.

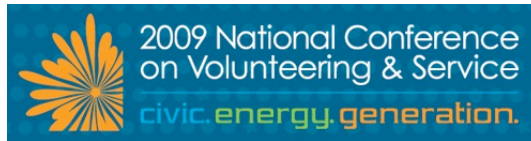


Secretary Baker's appointment to the California State Cabinet signals a new understanding of the powerful impact that volunteerism can have in addressing many community obstacles. By sharing best practices, businesses and employee volunteer professionals can work in collaboration with nonprofit professionals to successfully use this "human capital" to help meet pressing challenges in our communities.

The Volunteer Center is proud to be a part of this intersection of talents and needs, where new partnerships formed between the private and nonprofit sector will affect positive change in the community. Many thanks to Secretary Karen Baker for sharing her message on how the nonprofit community and the services they provide can survive and thrive in the current climate!

The 2009 National Conference is Coming!

By: Jill Blackburn



**June 22-24
Moscone Center - West**

The annual National Conference on Volunteering and Service is the world's largest gathering of volunteer and service leaders - and this year the Conference will be in San Francisco!

"Civic. Energy. Generation."--the Conference theme this year--reflects the tremendous excitement in our nation today as people of all ages and backgrounds unify in a powerful movement to bring about social change. Over 3,000 people will attend from around the country and around the world. Registration for the 2009 National Conference on Volunteering and Service is now open.

This year's program features more than 170 workshops, forums and Immersion Learning sessions during six workshop blocks throughout two days. The action-packed program is designed to stimulate discussion on key areas of interest and provide opportunities to network and hear from experts from the nonprofit, corporate, education and government sectors. At the conference, you will participate in an interactive learning environment that introduces new skills while connecting valuable tools and resources.

Get involved! Be a part of the team that makes it happen!

The Corporation for National & Community Service and Points of Light Institute recognize that the success of this event is dependent upon the support of volunteers like YOU!

There are many ways to get involved, and there are benefits to your service as well. Not only will you feel good, but you may

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Fun and Useful Fact:

Studies show that volunteering is associated with better health and greater life satisfaction!



The Volunteer Center

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also:

- Attend non-conflicting sessions for free on your day(s) of service*
- Access all conference events on your day(s) of service*
- Receive a reduced conference registration rate of \$150 for providing a single, four-hour shift of service* - includes participation in all conference events that don't conflict with your shift

* Please note that volunteers are required to provide a minimum of four hours of service to qualify for these benefits.

Opportunities to serve include conference hosts/hostesses, greeters, guides, workshop monitors, and much more. [Visit The Volunteer Center's website](#) to select a project for yourself, your friends or your colleagues!

We look forward to seeing you at the 2009 National Conference on Volunteering and Service!

Have You Checked Youth Pulse Lately?

By: Damien Chacona



The Volunteer Center's monthly electronic newsletter, *Youth Pulse*, encourages youth to find meaningful community volunteer opportunities by providing easily accessible information about the diverse volunteer opportunities in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. *Youth Pulse* is a means to inspire Bay Area youth to volunteer and support them in making positive and appropriate connections to their community.

Filled with safe, youth appropriate volunteer opportunities, *Youth Pulse* explores and reports on a different community need each month, highlighting one "Youth-Friendly Agency" that addresses that need, and providing articles and links to opportunities at other agencies that support the monthly focus.

To learn more about Youth Pulse, or to receive a monthly copy of this useful publication, please [click here!](#)

BACVC Member Spotlight -

Synopsys Shares

By: Katie Painter

The Volunteer Center's Bay Area Corporate Volunteer Council (BACVC) engages businesses in supporting the nonprofit sector through employee volunteering and advises them on how to tie those efforts to their philanthropic goals, corporate social responsibility strategies and business success.



Synopsys is a leading semiconductor design software company enabling new generations of advanced electronic devices. Their community involvement programs inspire and nurture the next generation of the world's technologists--many of whom will become future employees, partners and customers.

Synopsys maximizes their community relations efforts by empowering the creativity and energy of their dynamic employee base through our Synopsys Shares program. Synopsys gives employees the organizational support and individual freedom they need to have the greatest possible positive impact on their communities. Employees enjoy judging at science fairs; mentoring during Junior Achievement Job Shadow Day; training students impacted by the 2008 China Earthquake in the latest office software; donating pet food and supplies for local animal shelters; and planting trees in a park.

For Earth Day, employees based in Mountain View, CA, have organized an eWaste Recycling event for Thursday, April 23 from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. The public is welcome to drop-off eWaste materials at their office located at the corner of Maude Avenue and Highway 237. Employees' family and friends will also participate in planting trees, through Our City Forest.

As a result of the Synopsys Shares programs, employees share their skills, live the company's values, build Synopsys' brand in the community, and enjoy making a difference in the

community with co-workers, family and friends.

For more information about Synopsys Shares, please [click here!](#)

And to learn more about the Bay Area Corporate Volunteer Council, please [click here!](#)

TVP Volunteer Spotlight -

Theodore Radamaker

By: [Matt Miller](#)

The Volunteer Center's Transitional Volunteer Program (TVP) provides vocational counseling to people with mental health disabilities. TVP places clients in volunteer jobs as a means of transitioning to a life of work - more than 120 placements per year.

Theodore Radamaker is a new TVP volunteer who truly exemplifies what our work at The Volunteer Center is all about. From the moment he stepped foot in The Volunteer Center's door, his dedication and commitment to working with animals in need radiated throughout the office.



Theodore went to incredible lengths to secure a volunteer position with the Marine Mammal Center at Fort Kronkhite in Sausalito. Despite public transportation only providing service to the headlands one day a week, he went above and beyond to make it to this remote location, attended their orientation and began volunteering. Just one day after the orientation he was knee deep in Marine Mammal rescue, helping to rehabilitate injured marine mammals and making a huge difference in the lives of these distressed creatures. Theodore's work and dedication is an inspiration and a highlight of the true essence of volunteerism.

To find out more information about hosting a TVP volunteer at your nonprofit, please contact Matt Miller, Vocational Counselor, at 415-982-8999 Ext 245 or by email: mmiller@thevolunteercenter.net.

NVLC Member Spotlight -

Larkin Street Youth Services

By: [Kelleigh Trowbridge](#)

The Volunteer Center's Nonprofit Volunteer Leaders Council (NVLC) provides a platform for Bay Area nonprofit professionals to access the resources they need for volunteer program development and management, facilitates a forum for these professionals to tap into a peer network for support, and provides a venue for cross-sector interaction with its sister-council the Bay Area Corporate Volunteer Council.



Founded in 1984, San Francisco's Larkin Street Youth Services is a globally recognized leader providing innovative, effective housing, medical, social and educational services to at risk homeless and runaway youth ages 12-24 across 25 programs and 13 sites.

Seventy-four percent of youth who participate in the full continuum of services at Larkin Street exit street life.

For more information on Larkin Street youth Services, please [click here!](#)

FYI - Upcoming Dates!

[National Volunteer Week](#)

April 19 - 25, 2009

[Global Youth Service Day](#)

April 24 - 26, 2009

[Nonprofit Technology Conference](#)

April 26 - 28, 2009

San Francisco, CA

[Surviving and Thriving During Tough Times](#)

April 28, 2009

8:30 am - 2:00 pm

Bay Area Location: TBA

[Third Annual East Bay Policy Day](#)

April 29, 2009

8:30 am - 2:00 pm

East Bay Location: TBA

Keynote Speaker: Nancy Amidei

[Hats Off! : A Celebration of Volunteer Heroes](#)

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Action

New Date: May 6, 2009
San Francisco, CA

[NVLC General Meeting](#)

May 8, 2009
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
San Mateo, CA

[Creating and Running a Successful Volunteer Program](#)

May 13, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm
San Francisco, CA
[Register!](#)

[The Merrill Lynch Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Management Presents: Benevon - Creating Sustainable Funding For Nonprofits](#)

May 15, 2009
8:30 am - 11:00 am
San Francisco, CA
[Register!](#)

[Microfinance: It's Happening in our Backyard](#)

May 28, 2009
8:00 am - 7:30 pm
[Palo Alto, CA](#)

[Engaging the Business Community](#)

June 10th
San Francisco, CA
Registration Open Soon!

[National Conference on Volunteering and Service](#)

June 22- 24, 2009
San Francisco, CA

[Creating and Running a Successful Volunteer Program](#)

August 11th, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm
San Francisco, CA
[Register!](#)

[NVLC General Meeting](#)

August 14, 2009
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
San Francisco, CA

[Bay Area Volunteer Leaders Forum](#)

September 25, 2009
8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Topic: Day-long joint BACVC/NVLC Council Conference
San Francisco, CA

[United Way of the Bay Area Week of Caring](#)

September 2009
San Francisco, CA

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