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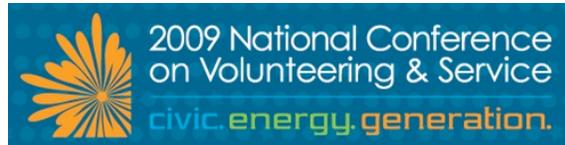
June 2009 Newsletter

Number 27

## Faith & Neighborhood Partnerships Day

*faith. community. partnerships.*

By: John Power



Join us June 23rd, beginning at 8 am, before the conference begins, for the 7th annual Faith & Neighborhood Partnerships Day at the Hilton San Francisco.

Keynote Speaker **Joshua DuBois** is a Special Assistant to the President and Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

He will be speaking and taking questions, so it's a prime opportunity to listen - but also to speak to the White House.

After kicking off the day with an interfaith prayer breakfast, the Faith & Neighborhood Partnerships Day will include fantastic dialogues and interactive workshops:

- Faith and the Obama Administration
- Rise of the International Agenda
- Innovative Community Partnerships - Violence-Free Movement
- Glide Memorial Church - SF Tenderloin Neighborhood Walkabout
- A Million Acts of Kindness - Building an Interfaith Youth Movement
- Film screening and conversation

Register now for the National Conference on Volunteering and Service and select Workshop 1187. You may also register onsite the day of the event at the Hilton San Francisco.

### Immersion Learning: Engaging the Community

**June 23, 2009** All Day Activities Only \$30!

Starting at 8:00 am at the Hilton San Francisco, 333 O'Farrell Street

**Questions:** Contact RoShunda Sims at 404-979-2933 or by email at: [rsims@handsonnetwork.org](mailto:rsims@handsonnetwork.org)

### **Volunteer for National Conference:**

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

## San Francisco Youth Explore Careers!

By: Kristen Kramer

It's almost that time of year again (summer!), which means that The Volunteer Center--in collaboration with JVS--is excited to kick-off another season of youth programming!

The Summer Career Exploration Program (SCEP) is a unique opportunity for 15 active high school students from diverse backgrounds to participate in a variety of volunteer projects throughout San Francisco. For eight weekend days, these students will visit eight nonprofit organizations where they will learn about social activism and different careers while giving back to the community. The projects include, but are not limited to: working on food service skills at St. Anthony's Dining Room, learning about event planning at the Stern Grove Festival and trying out a variety of jobs at The Jewish Contemporary Museum.

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**DONATE!**

### Fun and Useful Fact:

Volunteer referrals on TVC's website have doubled from January-May 2008 to January-May 2009!

### TVC Wishlist

Conference table  
Digital camera  
Fan  
Fax machine  
Jump drives  
Laminating machine  
New phone system  
Projector  
Shredder  
Vacuum

Please contact us if you would like to donate to The Volunteer Center

### The Volunteer Center

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News & Events  
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The Volunteer Center newsletter is brought to you by:



Join Our Mailing List!

Sounds fun, right? Well, it is! We are recruiting participants for SCEP right now! If you are or know of a high school student with a documented disability, we encourage you to apply!

To gain resume-building experience this summer while having fun and volunteering, please contact Kristen Kramer by June 5 for more information at 415-982-8999 Ext 223 or by email at: [kkramer@thevolunteercenter.net](mailto:kkramer@thevolunteercenter.net).

### **BACVC Member Spotlight - Gap Inc.**

*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.*



Established in 1977 by Gap Inc. founders Doris and Don Fisher, Gap Foundation strives to create opportunities for people to fulfill their personal promise - to "Be What's Possible." As a global retailer, we believe it is important to invest in the communities where we do business, and we recognize the need to take a focused approach in order to have long-term impact. That is why we focus our financial giving on two key target causes - women in the developing world and youth in the developed world. By narrowing our focus, we are able to make a deeper impact in areas that affect our business and communities.

Because we want to make a deep and lasting impact, we think beyond our capacity to write checks to nonprofits. We offer unique programs that encourage our more than 130,000 employees around the world to become actively involved in their communities and we reward them for their efforts.

One of our recognition programs is called Community Corps. Each year, Gap Inc. partners with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for underserved families in one domestic and one international location. Employees who are actively engaged in community investment work apply to be a part of the program. This year, 25 employees from all over the world will build homes in New Orleans, and another 25 will build in Guatemala.

To celebrate the company's 40th anniversary, Gap Inc. launched an employee volunteer video contest in April called The Ultimate Happy Hour, where employees can win up to a \$10,000 grant for their featured nonprofit organization. A customized website was made for the contest, and once employees post their volunteer videos, anyone can vote on their favorite. **You can vote between June 3-12 at [www.volunteeringmakesyouhappy.com](http://www.volunteeringmakesyouhappy.com).**

To learn more about Gap Foundation, [click here!](#)

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

### **NVLC Member Spotlight - CommunityGrows**

*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.*



CommunityGrows (known for years as Hayes Valley Neighborhood PARKS Group) is an ethnically and economically diverse group committed to fostering neighborhood participation, pride, and environmental stewardship for the parks and recreation areas in the Hayes Valley-Western Addition of San Francisco.

We accomplish our mission through programs and projects that empower all residents, youth, and their

all residents, youth, and their families to be healthy and safe, and to positively impact their community. Our programs engage, recreate, and educate children, families, and other residents.

All the work we do here at CommunityGrows would NOT be possible without the help of many amazing volunteers, both in the garden and behind the scenes, serving on our advisory board.

We love our volunteers so much we want even more and are being featured at the upcoming Volunteer Symposium hosted by the SF Young Democrats, along with nine other great organizations.

Thanks to everyone who wrote glowing reviews of us for GreatNonprofits. We were declared the winner in the small nonprofits category, as part of the Green Choice Awards 2009.

Look for CommunityGrows' new logo and website, coming soon!

And to learn more about the Nonprofit Volunteer Leaders Council, please [click here!](#)

### **TVP Volunteer Spotlight - Michael Hicks**

By: Matt Miller

*The Volunteer Center's Transitional Volunteer Program (TVP) provides vocational training 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.*



Michael Hicks has been one of the Transitional Volunteer Program's greatest success stories. As we work together, Michael continues to impress with every passing day! Not only did Michael show an avid interest and passion for volunteering his first day working with TVP, at every step in the road he has showed an incredible amount of commitment, follow-through and accomplishment in his service to the community.

His very first day in the program he volunteered as an HIV/AIDS awareness advocate, passing out over 100 condoms in the neighborhood surrounding The Volunteer Center. From that point on, he continued to excel in his volunteering. Michael became a volunteer in an arena close to his heart, the performing arts, becoming an usher at both San Francisco Performances and The New Conservatory Theater.

In fact, Michael has become such a staple and exemplary volunteer for the New Conservatory Theater that his volunteer manager, Jovan Olague, reported that Michael is, "By far one of the BEST volunteers we have ever had!" On top of his amazing work as a volunteer, Michael has become one of the greatest client advocates for TVP. He recently shared his story and successes at the annual TVP Symposium, Volunteering Towards Recovery. He wowed all in attendance with his incredible story of struggle with mental illness and perseverance through volunteering.

Michael continues to volunteer on a regular basis with The New Conservatory Theater, has recently moved into a wonderful new studio apartment and has begun a paid job within a Mental Health Program here in San Francisco. Michael is a real-life example of the positive change volunteering can create in one's own life and community, as well as the goals the Transitional Volunteer Program hopes to accomplish.

*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](mailto:mmiller@thevolunteercenter.net).*

### **FYI - Upcoming Dates!**

[Week of Caring Project Pre-Registration Opens](#)  
June 8, 2009

**[Engaging the Business Community](#)**  
**June 30, 2009**  
**Silicon Valley Community Center**  
**Mountain View, CA**

**Register!**

National Conference on Volunteering and Service

June 22-24, 2009

San Francisco, CA

Register!

Nonprofit application for The Board Match 2010 opens

July 1, 2009

San Francisco Business Times Corporate Philanthropy Summit

July 16, 2009

San Francisco, CA

United Way of the Bay Area's Week of Caring 2009

September 2009

Multiple Locations TBA

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