

**Connecting Resources. People. Organizations.**

**November 2009 Newsletter**

**Number 32**

## **Your Holiday Volunteering How-To Guide!**

By: Damien Chacona

Are you looking to volunteer this holiday season, as an individual or in a group? Check out our annual volunteer guides: [click here for meaningful Fall and Winter Holiday Opportunities!](#)



Once you find an opportunity that interests you, contact that nonprofit directly to make arrangements for your volunteer effort. Happy Holidays!

And don't forget:

A financial gift to The Volunteer Center is one that keeps on giving! [Click here to see how your contribution supports good causes throughout the year!](#)

## **It's your last chance -**

**Register for The Board Match Today!**

By: Damien Chacona

The Board Match, sponsored by PG&E, takes place on January 12, in San Francisco at Moscone Center South, 4:30 to 7:30 pm.

**THE  
BOARD MATCH**

Representatives from over 100 nonprofit organizations are waiting to meet and greet potential board candidates over the course of the evening. [Click here for more information!](#)

**Don't wait - don't be left out!**

If you are associated with a nonprofit that should be a part of this event, follow the link to apply today! **The deadline for nonprofit applications is December 1, 2009.**

### **In This Issue**

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### **Fun and Useful Fact:**

The Volunteer Center is on Facebook *and* Twitter!

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### **TVC Wishlist**

Conference table  
Digital camera  
Fan  
USB jump drives  
Laminating machine  
New phone system  
Portable projector  
Shredder  
Vacuum cleaner

[Please contact us](#) if you

Note: To apply, nonprofits must have [a free online account](#) with The Volunteer Center in order to complete The Board Match application requirements.

[Click here to learn more and to register your nonprofit for The Board Match 2010!](#)

## Volunteering Before a Disaster

By Brian Whitlow

Program Manager, SF CARD

Many people love to volunteer, especially after a large scale disaster. After the 1989 Loma Prieta



community agencies responding to disaster

Earthquake, for example, hundreds of people rolled up their sleeves and assisted the fire department. In 2005, people from all over the United States traveled to New Orleans to help with that community's recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

Most people volunteer for response organizations post-disaster, which is fantastic. But those same organizations could really use support and assistance before a large disaster or even when a minor emergency takes place, because many nonprofits and faith-based organizations deal with everyday emergencies. These emergencies are rarely broadcast on the nightly news, but they require support and would benefit from volunteer involvement. Did you know that the American Red Cross of the Bay Area responds to house fires throughout the Bay Area? While on scene, American Red Cross volunteers offer aid to newly displaced residents with meal vouchers or lodging accommodations.

The fact is, volunteering before a disaster or for an everyday emergency makes a big impact within an organization and provides much-needed support, so when a large scale emergency or disaster takes place that organization is in a much better position to respond. Volunteering before a disaster allows you the opportunity to receive free training, sharpen your disaster response skills and allows the organization you're volunteering for time to prepare.

Interested in helping out today? Here are some wonderful

would like to donate to  
The Volunteer Center

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local disaster response organizations that could sure use your support!

[The American Red Cross of the Bay Area](#)

[United Way of the Bay Area](#)

[Neighborhood Emergency Response Team \(NERT\)](#)

[California's Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster \(VOAD\)](#)

[The Salvation Army](#)

## **BACVC Member *Holiday* Spotlights - Franklin Templeton Investments**

*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.*

### **Volunteers from Franklin Templeton Investments Help Set a World Record!**

For the fourth year in a row, volunteers from Franklin Templeton Investments participated in Jumpstart's Read for the Record, the world's largest shared reading experience. Each year, Jumpstart hosts this event to unite our communities and encourage children and adults to read the same book together on the same day.



Through Involved, Franklin Templeton's employee volunteer program, 48 volunteers received training in Jumpstart's dialogic reading technique and read to 180 preschool and kindergarten students in two schools in San Mateo. This year's

special campaign book was Eric Carle's classic, **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**.

One FTI volunteer shared, "It absolutely made my day - seeing how excited the students were that we were there. The event really encourages them to read and get involved in the story."

Over one million children were read to during this year's Read for the Record. The event raises awareness and funds to support Jumpstart's valuable early childhood literacy programs in underserved communities across the United States, including right here in the Bay Area.

Franklin Templeton CEO Greg Johnson (see photo) even joined in the fun. "Jumpstart is making a tremendous difference in children's lives each and every day, while also helping to train future teachers," said Johnson. "This was the fourth year that Franklin Templeton's Involved volunteers have participated in Read for the Record, and year-after-year, everyone raves about the experience and the critical purpose it serves. I had a great time reading with my students."



In total, over 550 students in the San Mateo - Foster City Elementary School District participated in Read for the Record and received a copy of the book for their home library, courtesy of Franklin Templeton Investments.

To learn more about Jumpstart and Read for the Record, [please click here!](#)

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

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## **NVLC Member Spotlight - Holiday volunteer opportunities**

[By: Jill Blackburn](#)

*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.*

Every holiday season nonprofits offer a multitude of

meaningful ways to get involved and give back. The Nonprofit Volunteer Leaders Council member organizations engage volunteers in a variety of fun, meaningful and much needed activities that will keep you feeling good about yourself through the New Year! Read on for a small sampling of some of the unique and impactful activities they have planned for this year!

### **Catholic Charities CYO**

Have you been spending weekends playing Rock Star? Catholic Charities CYO invites the star in you to perform for residents during the holiday season. Play music for them and lift their spirits during special events and holidays!

### **Community Grows**

At Community Grows, you can work with youth and residents of Hayes Valley Housing Development to make wreaths and cards for the holidays. Help folks get the holiday spirit and explore your crafty side too (you have one even if you think you don't)!

### **Curry Senior Center**

Lunch is not just for food, but for socializing and simply getting out of the small rooms or apartments our elders call home. And during the holidays this is doubly true! Get in the spirit with our spirited seniors over lunch or for a holiday party.

### **Edgewood Center for Children and Families**

Whether in San Francisco or San Carlos, Edgewood provides children and families with fun and festive holiday programs to bring the holiday spirit to life.

### **Larkin Street Youth Services**

Avenues to Independence is a 15-bed transitional housing program for homeless youth. This holiday season they need your help to make the space look extra festive! If you're particularly crafty, bring decorating or crafts supplies to create decorations.

### **Meals on Wheels San Francisco**

What a meaningful and fun way to spend Thanksgiving: Help provide meals for seniors throughout San Francisco! Whether your driving or riding shotgun, your help will mean that isolated seniors receive a hot meal and some holiday cheer.

### **Shelter Network of San Mateo County**

You can make a huge difference in the lives of low income and marginalized families-and all you have to do is show up at work! Organize a food drive for your co-workers and inspire others to do the same -- anything goes, from peanut butter to diapers, everything is needed.

[Check out our Holiday Guides for even more holiday volunteer opportunities!](#)

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

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### **TVP Volunteer Spotlight - Arnold E.**

[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.*

Arnold E. is TVP's new Data Entry Assistant and is a blessing to our organization. From the moment Arnold arrived, he has been exceedingly dedicated to his job and has demonstrated reliability, punctuality and an exorbitant amount of motivation. TVP has not only gained a hard working volunteer, but also one of the friendliest people our organization has had the honor of meeting!

Arnold is very kindhearted and always walks around with a smile on his face. His positive and cheerful disposition has elevated the office mood and contributed to a fun-loving environment. Even though Arnold has only just started volunteering for us, he has contributed enormously to the organization and has helped in so many ways. Thanks to Arnold the workload is more manageable for everybody and our Salesforce data is becoming more precise and well entered than ever. We want to thank Arnold for his hard work and commitment to TVP. He is an inspiration to all of us, and a great example of what volunteering is all about.

*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).*

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## **FYI - Upcoming Dates!**

### **Board Service Information Sessions**

November 18, 2009

December 14, 2009

January 5, 2010

January 19, 2010

6:00 - 7:30 pm

[Click here to register now!](#)

### **The Board Match Application Period Closes!**

December 1, 2009

[Click here to apply today!](#)

### **The Board Match event**

January 12, 2010

4:30 - 7:30 pm

Moscone South, San Francisco

[Click for more information and to register!](#)

### **Forward email**

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