



VOLUNTEER SAN DIEGO

Change yourself. Change your world. Volunteer.

In This Issue

[What's New](#)

[Hot Projects](#)

[Holiday Volunteer Guide](#)

[HOSD Accomplishments](#)

[Flex Members](#)

[Be a Leader](#)

[Flex Accomplishments](#)

[Superhero of the Month](#)

[Contact VSD](#)

Volunteer Newsletter

December 2008

"Living is the art of loving. Loving is the art of caring. Caring is the art of sharing. Sharing is the art of living. If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else."
- Booker T. Washington

Executive Director's Message

From Sue Carter

It's all around us - the struggle of our neighbors and community nonprofits. Need is up and money is down. As volunteers, we often see the increased need first hand. As volunteers, we know that we are part of the solution and the threads that weave a tighter fabric for our society.

Others are starting to realize the value and power of volunteerism, too. Funders and community members are looking to Volunteer San Diego to provide additional support to community organizations that want to engage more volunteers through a stronger volunteer program. This is on top of the extraordinary growth we've seen in service in just the past two years. Flex program participation has increased 42% since 2006!

We at Volunteer San Diego wants to continue to equip and mobilize volunteers and to help nonprofits engage even more volunteers in meaningful ways. Please make a [donation](#) to help support our efforts. Every dollar contributed is transformed into \$3.64 of service to San Diego. In times like these, that's a stellar return.

You are part of a growing movement and you have much to be

Quick Links

[Find A Project](#)

[Flex Orientations](#)

[VSD Podcast](#)

[VSD Blog](#)

proud of. We are grateful for all the ways you support Volunteer San Diego and our community and feel privileged to be in partnership with you. Thank you!

Can't get enough about volunteerism? Check out a special section on service in the [Sacramento Bee](#), complete with a contribution from VSD!

What's New

The Princess and the Black-Eyed Pea

Support Volunteer San Diego by watching this wonderful performance at the San Diego REPeratory Theatre. The Princess and the Black-Eyed Pea is a soulful musical comedy that includes rhythm and blues, gospel and African beats, not to mention soaring pop ballads. It's a perfect holiday entertainment for the whole family. Attend a performance any Wednesday, Thursday or Friday from December 10-19 and a portion of your ticket sale will be donated to Volunteer San Diego but you must use the code - **VOLS**. This offer starts Sunday, December 7. For more information about the show, click [here](#).

Calling all Golf Fans - Start your Holiday Shopping!

Purchase Buick Invitational tickets for the golf fans in your life. Tickets are \$15 each and good for any one day of the tournament (February 3-8, 2009).

Please send a check made out to "Volunteer San Diego" to 4699 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego, CA 92123 with a self-addressed stamped envelope or to pay by credit card, click [here](#).

Questions?

Contact Kelli at kochoa@volunteersandiego.org or (858) 636-4133.

FREE Engaging Students: Service Event

Save the Date: Thursday, February 5, 2009!

Calling all educators and students interested in getting students and your fellow classmates involved in your community through service projects! Come network and collaborate with educators, students and community organizations about simple and easy ways to engage in service and make an impact in your community. [Click here](#) for more details on this FREE event!

Save the Date!

The 2009 Oscars are on February 22nd and you can celebrate Volunteer San Diego style. There will be food, games, and celebrity viewing! Mark your calendars and walk the red carpet with Volunteer San Diego. More details to come.

10News Leadership Award



With Volunteer San Diego, Sempra Energy Foundation and LEAD San Diego, the 10News Leadership Award recognizes someone who provides leadership by making San Diego a better place to live, by standing up for those who need help, and improving the quality of life for all San Diegans. [Nominate](#) a leader for their work in the categories of Volunteerism, Environment, Diversity or Community Action.

Hot Projects

Is it time for you to be a Servapalooza LEADER?

Servapa-what? Servapalooza 2009 is a fun-filled event and collaboration between Volunteer San Diego and two AWESOME non-profit partners: eXcel Youth Zone and Kids for Peace. This one day event will celebrate Global Youth Service Day with a service festival and a parade of wishes. Servapalooza includes service stations with hands-on activities from community agencies, entertainment, food and prizes. This event is a fun afternoon for anyone and everyone.

Where do you come into the picture? We need Project Leaders and Leadership Team Members to begin planning for Servapalooza 2009! We need leaders and members who want to create, plan and implement an event from the start to finish. We have a wide range of volunteer positions and one will surely spark your interest. Come to the introduction to Servapalooza meeting on December 9th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM and find out all the details to bring a Project Leader or Team Member.

To attend the Introduction to Servapalooza meeting, click [here](#).

Weed Whackin' Saturdays

Volunteer San Diego's Fire Recovery Team had a successful Weed Whackin' Saturday on November 22nd. Covering 2 locations, Rancho Bernardo and Dulzura, over 60 volunteers participated in brush clearance for individuals affected by the 2007 Wildfires. Putting their stamina to the test, volunteers were able to clear five lots and provide substantial support for under-insured and elderly individuals who needed assistance in getting their property ready to rebuild!

Survivors of the 2007 Wildfires need your help! Volunteer San Diego is seeking community volunteers to help provide brush management services for fire survivors in need. With assistance from local fire recovery centers and partner organizations, teams of volunteers will be able to provide these services at no cost to

fire survivors who are either senior citizens, physically unable, low-income, under-insured or challenged by special circumstances. [Sign up](#) now! No experience necessary - we provide the training!

Holiday Volunteer Guide

This season, give a gift to your community. If you are still looking for ways to give back to your community, click [here](#). You may also [download](#) a copy of our Holiday Volunteer Guide and share the holiday spirit of giving with your friends and family.

Hands On San Diego Accomplishments

Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in this year's Hands On San Diego event that took place back in September!

1,693 volunteers participated in Hands On San Diego 2008! With their time (**7,287 hours** collectively!), talents, energy, they completed an impressive **77 projects** for **31 organizations** throughout San Diego County.



Here are just a few of the amazing ways they made a difference in our community:

- 7238** meals were served to the homeless, seniors, and to families at the Ronald McDonald House
- 800** pounds of electronic wastes were collected and properly disposed of
- 643** boxes of food were packaged and distributed to seniors and military families
- 184** bags of trash and non-native species were removed from our beaches and canyons
- 275** youth were provided with recreational and educational activities
- 98** seniors with Alzheimer's were provided with social and recreational activities
- 15** recreation centers, **3** facilities for people with disabilities facilities, **3** schools and after school programs' facilities were renovated
- 4** libraries were provided tender loving care (painting, dusting, cleaning, gardening, and/or book reshelved)
- 1** playground was built

Flex Members

Flex Projects

New Project

English Conversations with International Students

This project will be held at the Mira Mesa Library on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 6-7:45 PM. Look for it on the calendar soon!

Updates

Saturday Scrapbookers

In last month's newsletter we stated this project will return in January but the Team Leader and Ronald McDonald House were able to coordinate two Saturdays in December. The two Saturdays are December 6 and December 13. [Sign up now!](#)

Friends of San Diego River Mouth

This project is back and will take place January 24, 2009. [Sign up now!](#)

Caring Cooks

This project usually occurs on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month but we have added an extra day in January. [Sign up now](#) for January 25!

Polinsky Projects

All projects held at the Polinsky Center will be taken off the calendar after November due to the high background check process going in effect.

What will be required of volunteers in the future?

- * Two LiveScan fingerprint checks
- * TB test
- * Drug clearance as part of their medical screening

We understand that this process could take 6-8 weeks and do not anticipate having projects on the calendar until February 1 at the earliest. Your clearance would then be valid for 2 years.

We understand that a number of you have been volunteering with our programs at this site for many, many years. We would like to determine how many of you would be interested in continuing to volunteer given the screening process that you would need to complete? If you are interested in continuing to volunteer at the Center as part of Flex, [click here](#) to obtain the

forms. The forms would need to be completed and returned to the staff at the Polinsky Center.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Debbie Krakauer at 858-636-4184 or by email at dkrakauer@volunteersandiego.org. If you do submit an application, please let us know so we can keep a tally of the number of interested volunteers.

We will keep you updated on the status of this process.

Not a Flex member yet? Click [here](#) to join.

Have an idea for a Flex Project? Email [Leia](#) or call her at (858) 636-4139 for more details.

Be a Leader

Flex Team Leaders Needed!

Interested in Being a Flex Team Leader?

We need Team Leaders for:

- * Childcare at the Women's Resource Center (WRC) - 3rd and 5th Wednesday and 3rd Saturday of each month
- * Feeding America - 2nd Tuesday of each month
- * San Diego Coast Cleaners - Beach Cleanups - 4th Saturday of each month

If you are interested in becoming a Team Leader for any of the above projects, please email [Debbie](#) or call her at (858) 636-4184.

If you live in South County and are interested in being a Team Leader, especially for Homework Helper projects, please contact [Leia](#) or call her at (858) 636-4139. We are currently trying to start Homework Helper projects in South County and need your help to make it happen.

Board and Committee Members Wanted

Are you looking for a position on a committee or Board of Directors? Check out a list of opportunities with a variety of organizations looking for your expertise [here](#).

Flex Accomplishments

Flex keeps growing and improving the community!

In the month of October, 337 new volunteers joined Flex and attended orientations. Welcome to you all!

Thanks to Flex volunteers like you...

831 volunteers completed **117** projects and **1,651** hours of service.

Not yet a Flex Member?

Please join us at one of our [Flex Orientations!](#)

Superhero of the Month

This month we would like to recognize **Dale Goldman**, a volunteer with Voices for Children, Inc. Voices for Children, a nonprofit organization, endeavors to ensure that abused, neglected and abandoned children who have become dependents of the San Diego County Court will have a safe and permanent home.

Through our network of trained and educated volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), Voices for Children works with key agencies, legal counsel and community resources.

Dale has been volunteering with Voices for Children as a CASA volunteer for almost 5 years.

Each month, Dale volunteers a total of 20 hours, to ensure the best for Colin and Katie by visiting the children on a regular basis and talking to the professionals involved in the children's lives.

"Dale has been the only consistent person in Colin and Katie's lives over the last four and a half years. The children have changed placements, schools, social workers, therapists and friends, and Dale has been there through it all. Dale works hard to ensure that Colin and Katie get to participate in extra curricular activities and have as much stability in their lives as possible. Dale doesn't leave any stone unturned. With 6,000 children in foster care, the foster care system is, quite simply, overwhelmed. Dale ensures that Colin and Katie do not slip through the cracks and their needs are not overlooked. Thanks to her consistent and persistent advocacy, Colin and Katie are

flourishing," states Briana Lao Ogletree, Senior Program Supervisor.

If you would like to [nominate](#) a volunteer, please let us know!

Support Volunteer San Diego

Donate to Volunteer San Diego

Click [here](#) to donate funds.

Check out the latest Volunteer San Diego fashions.

Visit our shop [here](#).

Supporting VSD is easy!

Now you can raise money for Volunteer San Diego just by searching the Internet at goodsearch.com.

Have an Albertson's Preferred Savings Card?

Sign up your Albertson's card to benefit Volunteer San Diego. Support VSD youth programs with your Albertsons Preferred Savings Card! Register [here](#) & enter our ID# 49001011683.

For more information contact:

Volunteer San Diego

Email: volunteer1@volunteersandiego.org

Phone: (858) 636-4131

Fax: (858) 492-2016

Web page: <http://www.volunteersandiego.org>

[Forward email](#)

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to sadams@volunteersandiego.org by volunteer1@volunteersandiego.org.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Volunteer San Diego | 4699 Murphy Canyon Road | San Diego | CA | 92123