Many Hands Make Light Work
Tips for Meaningful and Effective Volunteer Engagement

Welcome!

Presenter

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Volunteerism is Up

“Biggest one year jump since 2003 . . .”
Today's Focus

Why Recruit Volunteers?

Short Term Commitments
Understanding Vision & Mission
Leadership

Why Don’t People Volunteer?

• Too busy/Not enough time
• No one asked
• Don’t care about organization
• Don’t understand organization
Why Do People Volunteer?

• Basic level – Self-serving drive
• Secondary level – Relational drive
• Highest level – Belief drive

Create Opportunities

• List all current activities
• Brainstorming party
• Let go of process, focus on results
• Break big tasks into smaller ones

Why Don’t People Volunteer?

• (Poll results)
Why Don’t People Volunteer?

No One Asked!

Volunteer Recruitment

Tip # 1 – Ask

- Make it personal
- Connect with their skills and interests
- Don’t say no for them
- Don’t assume “no” means “never”
- “If not you, who?”
- Smile at them

Volunteer Recruitment

Tip # 2 – Be clear

- Job/Task description
- Time required
- Deadlines/End date
- Put it in writing
- Smile at them
Volunteer Recruitment

Tip # 3 – Communicate

- Follow up immediately
- Orientation
- Regularly throughout project
- Deadline reminders
- Smile at them

Volunteer Recruitment

Recap

- Ask
- Be clear
- Communicate
- Smile at them

Where to Look

- Current volunteers
- Other volunteer groups
- Events
- Faith communities
- Leadership classes
- Local employers
- Service and social clubs
- Schools and colleges
- Media
Retention Facts
One in three American volunteers dropped out in 2007.

Why?
• Opportunities aren’t challenging or meaningful enough
• Management is inadequate
• Volunteers need flexibility

Volunteer Retention
• Make it meaningful
• No surprises
• Communicate
• Smile at them

Volunteer Recognition
• Match the “thank you” to the volunteer
  – Praise
  – Affiliation
  – Accomplishment
  – Power and Influence
• Create a culture of thanks
• Annual event
• Smile at them
Questions?

Resources

Idealist Volunteer Management Resource Center
www.idealist.org/en/vmrc

Other websites:
www.energizeinc.com
www.volunteerpower.com

What’s Next?
1. Upon leaving the webinar you will be asked to complete a survey designed to evaluate this training.

2. A follow-up email will be sent that will include links to …
   • The PowerPoint presentation and handouts
   • Link to the webinar recording
   • Links to register for next month’s remote training sessions
   (This information will also be available at For Affiliated Funds » Education & Training » Webinar Trainings » Register for the next Webinar.)

3. Join us on Wednesday, August 11th for Geese and Golden Eggs: Setting Your Unrestricted Endowment Goal