

# Affiliations

The Volunteer Center of Greater Milwaukee  
A Service of the Nonprofit Center



A Quarterly Newsletter for Member Agencies

January 2010

## In This Issue

[Workshops and Networking](#)

[2009- A Year In Review](#)

[Nomination for Inspire by Example Awards](#)

[Giving Tree Wrap-Up](#)

## Mark Your Calendar



## Trainings

Volunteers: Increasing Student Success

Tuesday January 26/ 1:00-5:00 pm

<http://bit.ly/studentuccess>

Legal Issues in Managing Volunteers and Protections for Volunteers

Thursday February 4/ 9:00-10:30 am

<http://bit.ly/legalvol>

Open the Board Room Door: Answer the Call to Serve

Tuesday February 9/ 4:00-6:00 pm

<http://bit.ly/openboard>

Become a Project Leader: You Can Lead the Way

## 2009- A Year of Change



2009 was a year of changes - economic, political and volunteer!

The year began with a 60% increase in visitors to our website -- with job seekers, and inspired volunteers fresh from a political campaign wanting to change the world. By the end of the year we averaged over 1300 unique visitors on [volunteermilwaukee.org](http://volunteermilwaukee.org) every week -- a 32% increase from 2008. The increase was not only for web visits, we also saw a 28% increase in the number of volunteers who took referrals to your opportunities. An average of 85 people are taking referrals every week -- and these are just the ones we can track! Others are visiting the site and contacting you directly without going through our web system.

At the beginning of the year we also conducted a survey to understand how your needs were changing, and then held workshops to help you respond to the new volunteers. In fact, during the year we held a total of 20 workshops to help nonprofits effectively engage and manage volunteers, and 250 of you attended!

We promoted your opportunities for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, generated 13,400 gifts through Giving Tree and sent volunteers to rake hundreds of homes for Make a Difference Day. We held a grand celebration during National Volunteer Week, helped volunteers with disabilities find placements, answered calls from hundreds and hundreds of volunteers and promoted volunteerism and your opportunities through the media.

In fact, last year was a very good one for volunteerism and we look forward to great things in the year ahead as we continue our partnership with you.

Tuesday February 23/ 4:00-6:00pm

<http://bit.ly/projectleader>

Give Them What They Want-  
Develop Volunteer  
Opportunities with Appeal

Thursday March 25/ 9:00 am-  
Noon

<http://bit.ly/whattheywant>

## **Networking**

Background Checks for  
Volunteers: How Much is  
Enough?

Tuesday March 16/ Noon-1:30  
pm

<http://bit.ly/volbackground>

## **Save the Date**



Mark your calendars for  
Wednesday, April 14 for the  
2010 Volunteer Celebration. The  
luncheon program at the Italian  
Community Center will  
recognize outstanding  
volunteers from your nonprofit  
organizations. To find out how  
to nominate volunteers, [click  
here](#).



For up-to-date  
information on  
volunteer news and  
workshops, check  
out the [Volunteer  
Center's facebook  
page](#).

## **Nominate an Outstanding Volunteer for the 2010 Inspire by Example Award**



Recognize outstanding volunteers in your  
organization by nominating them for the  
Volunteer Center's Inspire by Example Awards.

Awards are given in the categories of Milwaukee  
County adult, youth, team, and business, who demonstrate  
commitment to, and active engagement in volunteering. The Wile  
Volunteer Management Award, named for Shirley Chase Wile -  
founder of the Inter Agency Council on Volunteerism (IACV),  
honors the professional volunteer manager. The award is co-  
sponsored by [AVM - the Association of Volunteer Managers of SE  
Wisconsin](#). The Fran Swigart Board Leadership Award recognizes an  
exceptional leader of a nonprofit Board of Directors. Winning  
nonprofit organizations will receive a \$500 donation.

To nominate an outstanding volunteer from your organization for  
the Fran Swigart Board Leadership Award, [click here](#). To nominate  
someone for all other categories of awards, [click here](#). Complete  
the nomination form and submit by **Friday, February 5th**.

## **Volunteer Tracking Software**

Are you currently using a software package to manage and track  
data for your volunteers? Would you be interested in attending  
sessions where you can work together and share information on  
how you are using software to track volunteer data? The Volunteer  
Center is considering putting together a study group that can share  
ideas. If you are interested, please let us know by sending an [e-  
mail to Megan](#). In the e-mail please include what you are currently  
using to track volunteer data.

## **Thanks for Another Successful Giving Tree Program**

The Giving Tree saw another successful year with 13,400 people  
receiving gifts through the program. Nonprofit Center member  
organizations were connected with companies and groups that  
purchased specific gifts for clients in need. The goal of the  
program is to create relationships between nonprofits and  
companies/community groups while informing the companies of  
needs in the Milwaukee community.

This year's program did not happen without the efforts of  
nonprofit staff, volunteers, and the staff at the Nonprofit Center  
of Milwaukee. This year, more companies participated than ever  
before. A record 211 companies and community groups such  
as scout troops, churches, and book clubs participated. That  
means there were more recruiting efforts needed than ever  
before. Thanks to everyone who lent a hand to be sure that no one  
was forgotten this holiday season.

Giving Tree information is distributed via e-mail through the list of

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

---

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

[Services](#)

[More About Us](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

coordinators from the previous year and our online database. To ensure that you receive all materials, update your information on our website. Watch for Giving Tree 2010 information to be available in August.



Fr. Mike Bertram, Capuchin from St. Francis of Assisi Parish receives toys for needy children from the staff of KPMG. St. Francis of Assisi Parish was connected with KPMG through the Volunteer Center's Holiday Giving Tree Program. Photo Courtesy of the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph

---

Thank you for your commitment to volunteerism in the Milwaukee community. As always, we are here to help you recruit and manage volunteers. Let us know how we can help you.

Sincerely,

Megan Stoelb

Program Assistant

Volunteer Center of Greater Milwaukee

(414) 273-7887

[www.voluntermilwaukee.org](http://www.voluntermilwaukee.org)