



Volunteer Voice

Summer 2010

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Volunteer Center of Racine County

6216 Washington Ave. Ste. G
Racine, WI 53406
(262) 886-9612

www.volunteercenterofracine.org

Mark Your Calendars for Two Events

GREEN BAY PACKER 90TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY EDITION AUTOGRAPHED FOOTBALL RAFFLE

YOUR DONATION OF RAFFLE TICKET
PURCHASE SUPPORTS THE VOLUNTEER
CENTER OF RACINE COUNTY



Volunteer Center
of Racine County

Volunteers are the Heart of the Community
6216 Washington Ave., Suite G, Racine, WI 53406
Phone: 262-886-9612 or 1-800-201-9490
Fax: 262-886-9632
volunteer@volunteercenterofracine.org
www.volunteercenterofracine.org



Prize drawing will be held Sunday, August 1, 2010 6 p.m. Winner will be called and must pick up the football the Volunteer Center of Racine County, 6216 Washington Avenue, Racine, WI 53406. LIC# R0023666A-01309

10th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, September 14, 2010
Racine Yacht Club, 1 Barker St., Racine,
WI 53402

5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
** 5:30 p.m. Program

CERT Volunteers,

If you've been wondering what we were up to in 2009, then please check the Volunteer Center's Annual Report. It wasn't until we compiled the stats for that report that we realized how busy the Southeast Wisconsin Citizen Corps volunteers have been.

This past year (from January to December 2009)

- We hosted
 - o 6 CERT classes,
 - o and trained over 125 new CERT volunteers.
- Developed a database of over 400 Non-profit agencies in Racine, Kenosha and Walworth counties
- Hosted 2 Safety fairs, 1 for Racine and 1 for Kenosha county
- Attended 2 county fairs, presenting CERT & Safety to Racine & Kenosha Counties
- Engaged the public in 26 speaking engagements and presentations of the CERT program.
- Created over 20 new volunteer opportunities for CERTs in the community including:
 - o Traffic control for 3 parades
 - o Traffic control for Cops n Kids book giveaway
 - o H1N1 clinics
 - o Medicine Collection days for both Racine & Kenosha Counties
 - o 211 volunteers
 - o Traffic & crowd control for both safety fairs
 - o Traffic & crowd control for the Spring Fling/Swapfest at VCRC

Wow! On top of that, we have a new monthly newsletter that goes out the first week of each month, more CERT classes and refresher trainings, plus we are working with other CERT programs in the area to develop a new CERT Olympics come fall!

Also, we are now on Facebook. Search for Southeast Wisconsin Citizen Corps; we post useful information there, as well as having links to sites where you can get more info or training, and we post volunteer opportunities as well as pictures of activities.

If you are looking for additional CERT supplies, you can pick up most of the items on the emergency supply list at any store, but if you want CERT specific, one of the sites we use is <http://www.cert-kits.com/>.

And always, if you have any questions, comments, ideas, etc. please email our Southeastern Wisconsin Citizen Corps Coordinator, cmarkstrom@volunteercenterofracine.org

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY NEEDS



Volunteers can use their time, talents and skills most anywhere. Here are a few community needs you might be

interested in:

- Janes Elementary School needs mentors. A step beyond tutoring, this opportunity allows you to connect with one student in school every week, help with homework, and be a consistent positive force. Spend your lunch hour (or any hour) creating a bond of friendship and education. Free training is available through RSVP and UW-Parkside's Mentor Kenosha-Racine. Mentors will be needed for other elementary schools beginning in the fall.
- Respite for caregivers wanted. Often times families deal with long term health issues within their own homes. Those who provide love and support can easily become overwhelmed and stressed. Respite allows those providers a chance to remain employed, take some time away, and re-energize. Volunteer opportunities are available in Harmony Clubs, adult day care settings, and in-home situations. Think of respite care as a way to "re-gift" your time.

Meet Board Member Dave Hegyera



Dave Hegyera joined the Volunteer Center's Board of Directors so that he could offer his perspective on volunteering and because of his interest in working with the ham radio operators.

A Union Grove resident who is self-employed as a low voltage contractor, installing and maintaining voice data and video networks, Hegyera is an experienced volunteer.

He has participated in many projects at Cedar Campus, an Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship facility located in the UP of Michigan.

Hegyera is also a Deacon at Racine Bible Church where he has helped with voice and data networks. Among his current projects at the church are digital audio recording for Internet streaming and podcasting, video recording for Internet access, and DVD duplication.

In addition, he has worked with a camp in Rhinelander, assisting in moving the telephone system and cabling for the buildings and is current vice president of the Lakeshore Repeater Association.

RSVP Volunteer Disaster Case Worker Training

Volunteers are needed for the Long Term Recovery committee. Case workers help disaster victims by matching needs to volunteer agencies that may meet those needs. The area of coverage will be Racine, Kenosha and Walworth counties.

Training is going to be provided Thursday September 23rd and Friday September 24th; the 23rd is all day, and the 24th is just the morning.

Retired and Senior Volunteers would find this opportunity meaningful and interesting.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Dave Voss at the Volunteer Center of Racine County, 262-886-9612, or dvoss@volunteercenterofracine.org.

Volunteer Facts

The "UnitedHealthcare/VolunteerMatch Do Good. Live Well. Survey" released in May 2010 finds that 68% of adult respondents feel that volunteering has made them feel physically healthier.

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Did you know that your Pick 'n Save Advantage Plus Savers Club membership card can be a *fundraiser* for the Volunteer Center of Racine County? Just update your card to include our charity code # 898900. That's it! The Volunteer Center receives checks from Pick n' Save quarterly – the few minutes you spend updating your membership card can translate into many dollars in support of the good work and valued volunteer connections that are made through the Volunteer Center.



YES, I want to support the Volunteer Center of Racine County in its promotion of volunteerism! Here is my donation of \$ _____.

Please complete this form, and send it - along with your check made out to Volunteer Center of Racine County - to 6216 Washington Ave., Ste. G, Racine, WI 53406.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

My/Our gift is in **Honor / Memory of** (please circle which one applies - an acknowledgement will be sent to the person listed below as well as to the donor)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

I/We wish to remain anonymous - The names of donors and/or people in whose honor or memory a gift has been made will be listed in future newsletters. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Volunteer facts cont.

- 89% agree that “volunteering has improved my sense of well being.”
- 73% agree “volunteering lowers my stress levels.”

Employers have an important role to play in encouraging volunteerism. Of those who volunteer through their place of employment

- 88% agree that volunteering provides networking and career development opportunities.
- 81% agree that “volunteering with work colleagues has strengthened our relationships.”
- 75 agree that “I feel better about my employer because of their involvement with my volunteer activities.”

Volunteer Center Special Events Voice Mails

Don't be surprised when you see 262-886-9612 on your telephone caller ID! The Volunteer Center of Racine County has discovered a way to reach hundreds of our special opportunity volunteers with just one message. It's called Simple Blast, and it allows us to make one phone call which is then forwarded to our own electronic phone book. The best part? Each blast message is \$.02 LESS than customary business phone call rates!

Since each voice mail is less than two minutes in length, we highlight upcoming special events headlines.

Call 262-Call 886-9612 to enroll at the Volunteer Center of Racine County. It is a FREE way to stay healthy and happy!



You're invited to call, find out more times and details and, of course, sign up.

We'd love to hear your opinion about this new, cost and time saving feature that will connect us more often with our wonderful volunteers!

**Upcoming
Events**

July 28 - Aug. 1
Racine County Fair
Aug. 1 - Packer Football
Raffle Deadline
Sept. 14 - 10th Anniversary
Celebration
Sept. 26 - CROP Walk
Oct. 23 - Make A Difference
Day

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