



Directors of Volunteers In Agencies

"Enhancing Professionalism in Volunteer Management"

Dimensions Newsletter Spring 2008

Inside This Issue:

<i>President's Corner</i>	<i>Cover</i>
<i>Save the Date</i>	<i>Cover</i>
<i>Upcoming Programs</i>	2
<i>Programs Schedule</i>	3
<i>DOVIA Member Spotlight</i>	3
<i>October Program Info</i>	3
<i>Save the Date We Count On You</i>	4
<i>The Value of Our Volunteers</i>	4
<i>Membership Updates</i>	5
<i>Board Members</i>	5



Stay Tuned for Updates:
www.denverdovia.org

President's Corner

Each spring, we look forward to the renewal that comes with the season. DOVIA is undergoing its own spring revitalization, which you can read about in this newsletter.

We are very excited about DOVIA's We Count On You recognition event, and believe it will be a wonderful opportunity to recognize volunteers and volunteer managers alike. This year we are honored to have Mitch Jelniker from Channel 7 News serve as emcee for the We Count On You event.

You will see changes to DOVIA's website in the coming months, as we strive to make it more informative and user-friendly. Other social events are in the works, giving us an opportunity to network with our peers.

Take advantage of the great workshops and brown bag events. Don't miss the special June event for volunteer managers and their CEOs at the Botanic Gardens!

Your DOVIA Board is working diligently to make your Denver DOVIA a vital organization which reflects your professionalism and experience. Celebrate with us!

Sincerely,

Patti Wright
Denver DOVIA Board, President

Volunteer Manager Celebration!

Please join Denver DOVIA for an evening of relaxing and rejoicing your successes following Volunteer Appreciation Week. We know how hard you worked to show your volunteers how much you and your organization appreciate them. Now it is your turn to celebrate all you have done.

When: Thursday, May 22nd

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Where: My Brother's Bar, 2736 15th Street

Join us for food, fun, networking and much more!

Mission Statement

The mission of Denver DOVIA is to promote professionalism in the field of volunteer management, advocate for issues concerning volunteerism and provide networking and educational training opportunities for the membership.

Upcoming Program Events



Our May training will be a Brown Bag lunch on **Thursday, May 29th from 11:30 – 1:00 pm**. This will be held at the Volunteers of America office on Larimer in the basement conference room.

The title is ***Untapped Resources: Every Volunteer Can Make a Difference***. This training will offer ways for you to “tap into” new volunteer resources including Volunteers with special needs, disabilities, court-ordered volunteers and students with community service requirements. These volunteers can make a huge impact with our agencies when we are able to effectively connect with them. Attend this session and learn more about how you can utilize this great resource.

Looking ahead to our June Training:

Would you like to have your Executive Director understand the benefits of empowering you in your position of Volunteer Director? Would your job be easier if you had “buy in” from the rest of your staff? Would you like to have the opportunity to have your Executive Director attend training with you to help understand these issues and many more? If you answered yes to any of the above questions this breakfast seminar is one you will not want to miss.

Invite your Executive Director to realize the impact an empowered staff can have on your volunteer program. Brian Vogt, Chief Executive Officer and Kelly Groen, Volunteer Services Manager, both with Denver Botanic Gardens, will co-lead this interactive session. We will take a close look at the assets and detriments of great empowerment and will offer opportunities for discovering where you lie along the empowerment continuum. We will also discuss methods of fostering empowerment and the astonishing results that will take place!

Here is the trick ... you need to get this on your Executive Director's calendar **now** to be sure you will both be able to attend this amazing seminar. The cost is only five dollars more to bring your Executive Director. In your agency the best person for you to bring to this seminar may be your CEO, Executive Director, Deputy Director or Supervisor. Whomever you work most closely with that would benefit from hearing about the impact that can result from a motivated and empowered Volunteer Director.

Please join us at the beautiful Denver Botanic Gardens 1005 York Street – Gates Hall for a breakfast seminar on Thursday June 19 from 8:00 – 9:30 am. The price for both you and your Executive Director is just \$15 which includes breakfast and entrance to the gardens. If you are coming solo the cost is \$10. Please R.S.V. P. to Kelly Groen at (720) 865-3560 by June 6 to reserve your spot.

June Seminar:

Time: Thursday, June 19 from 8 – 9:30

Location: Denver Botanic Gardens, 1005 York Street – Gates Hall

Cost: \$10 per individual, \$15 for Individual & CEO (or supervisor)

Breakfast and admission to the Botanic Gardens is included in the cost!



Don't Miss These Upcoming Programs:

May 29, 2008 Thursday 11:30 am – 1:00 pm Brown Bag Lunch

Untapped Resources: Every Volunteer Can Make A Difference

Location: Volunteers of America
2660 Larimer St.
Denver, CO 80205

June 19, 2008 Thursday 8:00 am – 9:30 am Breakfast (included in cost)

Executive Management Buy-In & Empowerment

Location: Botanic Gardens
1005 York St. – Gates Hall
Denver, CO 80206

July 23, 2008 Wednesday 8:30 am – 12:00 noon ½ Day Workshop

Risky Writing – Bring Your Volunteer Handbook

Location: Volunteers of America
2660 Larimer St.
Denver, CO 80205



DOVIA Member Agency Spotlight Family Tree

Family Tree's mission is to **help people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness to become safe, strong and self-reliant** ... and they've been doing just that since 1976.

Sean Wolfe, chair of the DOVIA Marketing committee, is Family Tree's Director of Volunteer Services. "I've been with Family Tree for the past year and a half, and I can't tell you how thrilled I am to be a part of such a vibrant and passionate agency," Sean says. "We have a tremendous volunteer force of over 1,000 ... and they're the most amazing group of dedicated people I've ever worked with. The work we do is very hard, and our volunteers roll up their sleeves, get down to work and really get things done."

Family Tree has the following services, to help their clients achieve levels of self-reliance:

- ✓ Emergency shelter for battered women and children
- ✓ Domestic Violence counseling and education center
- ✓ Supervised visitation and safe exchange program
- ✓ Homeless shelter for women with children
- ✓ Residential treatment facility for at-risk youth
- ✓ Transitional and permanent housing program for homeless families
- ✓ Thrift store where clients shop for free



There are literally dozens of volunteer and internship opportunities at Family Tree. For more info on Family Tree and their volunteer program, please contact Sean Wolfe at (303) 422-2133 or swolfe@thefamilytree.org.

Save the Date To Recognize Outstanding Volunteers!



DOVIA will be hosting the annual *We Count on You Awards* luncheon on **Tuesday, September 16, 2008** at 11:30 am at the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities. The cost of the luncheon will be \$25. Channel 7 news anchor Mitch Jelniker will serve as emcee for this year's celebration, so it will be a wonderful time to recognize your outstanding volunteers!

This year, the *We Count on You Awards* will recognize outstanding volunteers and volunteer professionals from the Denver Metro area. In the coming months, DOVIA will be accepting nominations for outstanding volunteers (youth and adult), outstanding volunteer groups (youth and adult), outstanding board members, and outstanding volunteer managers. This is a wonderful way to recognize your entire volunteer program or an individual volunteer that has done an exceptional job over the past year.

The *We Count on You Awards* makes volunteer recognition easy! Members of the DOVIA recognition committee plan the event, send the invitations, make the name tags, prepare the programs, and organize the awards. All you have to do is nominate your volunteers, register for the luncheon and attend. Volunteers will be honored that you have invited them to attend an awards ceremony in their honor. Nominations will be reviewed by the recognition committee and a volunteer for each category will be selected as the overall award winner for 2008. Nominations forms will be available in mid-June. We look forward to hearing about your outstanding volunteers and recognizing them on September 16, 2008.

We Count On You!

How Much Are Our Volunteers Worth?

The return on volunteer involvement has historically been taken for granted, particularly when the costs of engaging volunteers were very low. Now, with increasing management standards requiring greater resource allocations (e.g., more program coordination and supervision time, increasing hard costs of screening, and of training and recognition materials, etc.) combined with the tendency of volunteers to stay for shorter periods of time, organizations need to think carefully about the returns they receive on the investments they make in volunteer involvement.

There has been a strong movement to assess "the value of volunteer time" or the "value of volunteer work" using the wage replacement approach. Briefly, this methodology involves multiplying the number of volunteer hours by an average hourly pay rate based on what an employee might be paid to do the same work. **The resulting total is reported as the "value" of the work done by volunteers. It is not. The resulting figure is quite simply what the organization did not pay to have the work done. That is very different from what the work is actually worth.**

Think on how you might answer the following questions. What is the value of:

- a volunteer who spends time at the bedside of a dying child?
- 400 citizens who turn out to find a little girl lost in the swamp (and they are successful)?
- the work of a group of anglers and environmentalists collaborating to clean up a stream bed, preserve the watershed, rehabilitate the sport fishery, and thereby revive the previously failing tourist industry in the surrounding area?
- the adult literacy movement?
- mentoring a "high risk" child who then does not join a gang or get pregnant at the age of 14?
- a volunteer fire department?
- 700 volunteers who help raise over \$1 million to help provide services for persons living with HIV/AIDS live a better quality of life?

Excerpted from BEST OF ALL: The Quick Reference Guide To Effective Volunteer Involvement, Linda L. Graff, Linda Graff and Associates Inc., 2005, Pages 20-22. Dollar value as determined by Independent Sector (www.independentsector.org)

Volunteer Hour Value: \$19.51

DOVIA Membership

Renewals: Don't wait any longer, the programs and benefits are great and the networking can't be beat!

New Members: Are you ready to start receiving the benefits of being a DOVIA member?

Membership Benefits:

- Continuing education and training through workshops and seminars at a reduced cost or on scholarship basis
- The DOVIA member listserv to share ideas, make announcements or look for advice
- Annual DOVIA membership directory
- Region's most comprehensive awards program for volunteer managers through annual Outstanding DOVIA Member, Outstanding Achievement in Volunteer Management, Marlene Wilson Commitment to the Profession Award
- "We Count On You" award and luncheon for your volunteers
- Access to DOVIA website with updated association information, links to hundreds of resources for volunteer managers and member agencies websites
- Lending library of volunteer management and professional development resources
- Results of collaborative efforts with other volunteer organizations such as Metro Volunteers, Colorado Nonprofit Association, etc.
- Opportunities for professional development and peer support through networking opportunities
- Information on legislative and legal issues regarding volunteerism and volunteer management
- Gain leadership skills throughout committee involvement or board involvement

Don't delay renew or sign up today by contacting Nora Simmons Daly at nnsimmons@yahoo.com.



Prices:

Individual	\$40 (1 person)
Associate	\$25 (1 student or volunteer)
Agency	\$100 (List main contact person)

Thank You Denver DOVIA Board Members:

Executive Board

President – **Patti Wright**
City of Westminster

Ex-Officio – **Pam Mayhew**
City of Westminster

Vice President – **Mark Smith**
Lakewood Heritage Center

Treasurer – **Lee Ann O'Brien**
Arapahoe House

Board Members

Betty Aldworth Project Angel Heart	Sean Wolfe Family Tree
Mary Brook Rebuilding Together Metro Denver	Kellie Mieremet Johnson & Wales University
Bevin Carithers Easter Seals of Colorado	Kelli Groen Denver Botanic Gardens
Bobbie D'Addaro Smoky Hill United Methodist Church	Val Purser Arap. Cty. Vol. Connection Prog.
Karen Rivers Volunteers of America,	Nora Simmons Daly Visiting Nurses Association
Kathi Conner Children's Hospital	Vicki Leigh Colorado State Parks
Lisa Shuman Harrison Memorial Animal Hospital	



What We Do

We provide opportunities for professional growth in the field of volunteer management. We host monthly workshops on a wide variety of topics. We also provide extensive resources through our website and provide access to a comprehensive lending library of professional resources. We offer networking opportunities for our members and have been involved in some of the major volunteer related events in the area such as National Philanthropy Day. We also offer opportunities to recognize outstanding volunteer managers and volunteers in our community. Our goal is to provide a variety of ways to further your journey to excellence in volunteer management.