

2012 Virginia Conference on Volunteerism and Service

Schedule of Events

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast.

9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Opening Plenary Session.

10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

A1 Mentoring Programs That Work – Faith, Nonprofit and Corporate Models

Quality mentoring programs are strengthened when they are supported by community organizations. This session will highlight various models where programs and their volunteers are supported by strong, committed partnerships and leadership.

B1 Problem Volunteer? How to Re-Inspire OR Fire

When she first volunteered, she was fabulous. Now...not so much. You find yourself spending way too much energy finding things for her to do that, later, may have to be redone by others. He seemed like such a great addition to the volunteer group and now you are worried about possible problems with his interactions with clients, the public or other volunteers. In this session, you will learn how to determine why, when, and how to "fire," re-inspire, or redirect an under-performing volunteer -- whether she/he is on the front line, a program team member, or a board member.

C1 Volunteer Management Basics

This workshop explores the basics of managing volunteers. You will gain valuable strategies for volunteer recruitment, retention, training, and supervision with the overall goal of learning how to create and maintain a mutually beneficial volunteer program.

D1 Outcome-Driven Grant Writing

At a time when most organizations are having to put more effort into simply keeping their doors open, how do some organizations seem to thrive? One way is to be clear about their mission and what they are working to accomplish. Organizations demonstrate accountability by identifying and articulating the outcomes that they will achieve, and by persuasively presenting this information to potential funders and investors. Learn how to maximize an organization's funding opportunities by focusing efforts on outcomes that both satisfy grantors and are consistent with an organization's highest priorities.

E1 Recruiting Refugees for Volunteer Service

This workshop will identify specific challenges to recruiting refugees as volunteers. Participants will learn specific strategies to address those challenges in order to attract volunteer applications from refugees who have resettled into their new Virginia communities. Refugees who are ethnic and cultural minorities living, and often isolated, in major Virginia communities, can provide an important resource in serving their own populations, as well as others.

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Interactive Networking Lunch

1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

A2 Mentoring with Positive Youth Development

Positive youth development (PYD) is a comprehensive framework outlining the supports young people need in order to be successful. PYD emphasizes the importance of focusing on youth's strengths instead of their risk factors to ensure that all youth grow up to become contributing adults. Volunteer mentors can play an essential role in this realm.

B2 Developing and Keeping a High-Performance Board

Gone are the days when a director and staff of a nonprofit could do everything needed to keep the organization moving forward. The effective engagement of board members is more important now than ever. Do your board members know what is expected of them, and can they deliver? Does your board composition ensure that needed perspective is provided while also connecting the organization to appropriate segments of the community? Learn the current thinking on board roles, responsibilities, training, and management.

C2 Volunteers as Leaders

An organization benefits from a robust volunteer infrastructure that sustains the activities of the organization. Essential to this sustainability are volunteer leaders, community members who are trained to recognize community needs and to lead other volunteers in service activities that will meet those needs. This training will help your organization establish the business processes needed for a solid volunteer leadership program. Participants will learn to develop a volunteer leadership program framework, recruit volunteer leaders for service opportunities, equip leaders with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed, and support leaders in their service efforts.

D2 Effective Volunteer Programs in Local Government

Volunteer programs are assets with huge returns for local government and the community at-large. Learn how localities can generate millions of dollars each year in services. There are opportunities for governments and agencies of all sizes to develop new partnerships with community-based organizations and citizens of all ages.

E2 Cultural Brokering and Volunteer Administration

This workshop will explore how "culture" consciously and unconsciously influences how volunteer services are delivered. This workshop will take an in-depth look at each component that is used to define one's cultural context. The purpose of this workshop to identify the specific ways that Western culture enhances or prohibits effective volunteer administration and management.

2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

A3 School-Based Mentoring - A Win-Win Volunteer Opportunity

Youth mentoring in schools has provided opportunities for increased successful youth intervention and outstanding volunteer opportunities for the community. Strong school and district support is essential.

B3 Specialized Training Opportunities Broad Volunteer Service to their Communities

Did you know that less than one percent of the nation's workforce are emergency responders? They need help when disasters strike! Your volunteers may be interested in supporting some of their efforts. This workshop explores training and volunteer opportunities to share with your volunteers that promise to broaden their scope of organizations they probably have never heard about before. You will be introduced to specialized volunteer organizations offering free training in useful skills that contribute to the effectiveness of emergency services in times of disaster and in between. Specific training, and occasions to practice and utilize those skills, will increase the ability of your volunteers to be more prepared themselves. This will impact their friends and families, and also nourish a need to "help more." All this ultimately creates more fulfilled volunteers who still remain devoted contributors to your organizations.

C3 Volunteer Management Basics

This workshop explores the basics of managing volunteers. You will gain valuable strategies for volunteer recruitment, retention, training, and supervision with the overall goal of learning how to create and maintain a mutually beneficial volunteer program.

D3 Are Volunteers Risky Business?

A little prevention goes a long way in reducing risk. Volunteers and volunteer programs need to be administered with risk management in mind. You can take steps that can prevent possible limitations of volunteers' responsibilities, mistreatment of clients and negative association and press of your organization while increasing the satisfaction of your volunteers' experience. In this session we will discuss techniques and resources for screening, evaluating, training and placing volunteers.

E3 Expanding Opportunities for Veterans

The Corporation for National and Community Service places a high priority on engaging Veterans in national service opportunities. Learn about [the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program](#) and the innovative approach they took to turn their veteran community expertise into the AmeriCorps Service program, Virginia Veterans Corps. In this pilot program they partnered to place AmeriCorps Members in community organization throughout their region to reach identified underserved Veterans. Journey through the lessons they gathered from site selection, to recruitment of members, to creating and maintaining a meaningful service experience. Discover techniques and ideas for building on current projects or creating a veteran focus for your own program to more effectively engage and support the veteran community.