



Volunteer Voice

Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County

Volume 12, Issue 1

Winter 2012

Celebrating 10 years of helping people volunteer!

Volunteering in the New Year

Inside this issue:

Volunteering in the New Year 1

Youth Corner: Project Linus 1

Community Events 2

Special Thanks 2

Comings and Goings 2

Organization in the Spotlight: Banneker-Douglass Museum 2

Volunteer Opportunities 3

Board and Staff 4

The mission of the Volunteer Center For Anne Arundel County is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs in Anne Arundel County.

It feels like 2011 went by in the blink of an eye and it's resolution time again! What is your New Year's resolution? You might have vowed to be your best self during the upcoming year. You might even have a laundry list of changes you want to make — lofty goals and good intentions to improve your health, finances, personal relationships and work-family balance.

As you prepare for the New Year, why not consider adding community service to your list? Try designating a set amount of time each month to give back to the community. Volunteering in your community benefits everyone; and best of all, there are no specific skills needed, just a desire to help others.

If you need ideas on how to get started, visit the new and improved Anne Arundel County Volunteer Center's website to find volunteer opportunities or search the event calendar.



For more information on volunteering or to get involved, contact the Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County at 410-897-9207, email info@volunteerannearundel.org, or visit www.volunteerannearundel.org.



Youth Corner: Project Linus

Project Linus is a 100 percent volunteer non-profit organization with a mission to provide a sense of security to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need, through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans created by volunteer "blanketeers". The Anne Arundel/Annapolis chapter welcomes students to attend their meetings, learn how to make a blanket on their own or as a group.

On the third Saturday of every month (except for Jun.-Aug.) from 10 am-12 noon, join other "Blanketeers" at the Community Center in Severna Park. Blanketeers will work on projects that could use an extra set of hands to com-

plete tasks such as cutting, matching fabric, sewing, pressing, tying knots, embroidery, or quilting. Volunteers can be as young as 8, but a parent must accompany if younger than 14.

For more information about volunteering with Project Linus, contact Karen at (410) 255-0182 or krnsway@hotmail.com or visit website at



Community Events

In Celebration with Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Anne Arundel County Volunteer Center invites you to “Everyone Can Serve” Day on Monday, January 16, 2012. To make Martin Luther King, Jr. Day a day of giving back to the community, join the Volunteer Center, The Banneker-Douglass Museum, and more organizations to learn how fun and easy it is to volunteer throughout the year.

MLK Day 2012 projects at Banneker-Douglass Museum:

- Banneker-Douglass Museum will be making school and family program materials for the museum. In one of the galleries, they will have a community mural making area on volunteering, and short mini-tour opportunities where people can see what they would do if the volunteer as a guide at the museum.
- The Volunteer Center will be making valentines for our troops overseas and handwritten cards to youth whose

military parents are deployed.

- The Anne Arundel County Conflict Resolution Center will be teaching basic conflict resolution and communication skills. Activities involve both groups and pairs and are suitable for volunteers of any age.
- The Chesapeake Children’s Museum will be doing a hand sewing project working on costumes for kids.
- Creating Communities will be making cards for low-income seniors and shut-ins.
- Bello Machre will be leading a project for their clients with developmental disabilities.

This event is for free and open to all ages (participants 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult). Join us from one or two shifts: 11:30 am—1:00 pm; 1:00 pm—2:30 pm.

Registration is encouraged.

Contact info@volunteerannearundel.org for more information.

Special Thanks To...

We gratefully acknowledge the following for their continuing support in the day-to-day operations of the Volunteer Center:

Anne Arundel County Government, City of Annapolis, Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism, TH Media, Points of Light Institute and HandsOn Network, WNAV Radio, Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center, Anne Arundel Community College, Anne Arundel Office of Emergency Management, Murray Foundation, Constellation Energy, Toal, Morgan Stanley Foundation, Comcast CARES, Youth Volunteer Corps of America, Anne Arundel Recreation and Parks, Great Harvest, Rotary Club of Annapolis, Coordinators of Volunteers of Anne Arundel County, M&T Bank, Capital One Bank, ARINC, Heim Lentz, Loews Annapolis Hotel, Premier Planning Group, and Annapolis Accounting Services.

Comings and Goings

The Volunteer Center would like to welcome new Board Member Ryan Herbert, with Prostatix Financial Advisors

Volunteer Steve Litts is consulting with us as we transition to a new cloud-based database and a new website.

Intern Michael Russo joins us during his winter break from the University of Maryland.

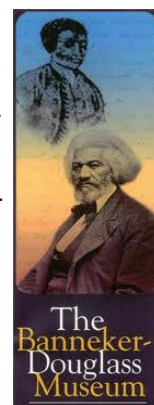
Organization in the Spotlight: Banneker-Douglass Museum

The Banneker-Douglass Museum is a historic church located in Annapolis, Maryland. Banneker-Douglass is dedicated to honoring African-American culture and heritage. The museum offers tours, workshops, and outreach programs to educate visitors.

The Banneker-Douglass Museum recently held a “Hands on Mosaics Family Art Program” where children and families participated in a workshop on mosaics. This historic site also performs their many free, daily family tours where visitors are submerged into the lives of historic African-American heroes and heroines, such as Benjamin Banneker and Harriet Tubman.

The volunteers at the Banneker-Douglass Museum expand the enlightening and interactive education programs, give guided tours to the general public, students, educators, and others, and assist with front desk maintenance.

If interested in volunteering as a tour guide or at upcoming events at the Banneker-Douglass Museum, feel free to contact the Outreach Coordinator LeRonn Herbert at 410-216-6187 or LHerbert@goci.state.md.us. More information about the Banneker-Douglass Museum can be found at www.bdmuseum.com.



One-Time Volunteer Opportunities

Friends of Kinder Farm Park (Farmhouse Renovations)

This non-profit is a volunteer group of citizens working to enhance this county park in Millersville off of Jumpers Hole Rd. Volunteers are needed to help with the interior renovation of a 1925 farmhouse in January 2012. There will be a need for "hammer users", people to haul debris to a dumpster, and people to move furniture upstairs. Gloves and masks will be provided. Event Days: **Sat. Jan. 21, 2012 from 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM, or later.** There will be future dates as well. For more information, contact Diane Rausch at 410-647-8927, email jdrausch2@verizon.net, or visit www.kinderfarmpark.org.

Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation & Parks (Through Out County)

The Department of Recreation and Parks has announced adaptive sports and social activities programs at Ruth P. Eason Special School in Millersville and Central Special School in. Volunteers and parents needed to assist with the programs, and background checks are required for all volunteers. Contact the Adaptive Office at Recreation and Parks at 410-222-7313 for additional information. The following is a program for which volunteers are needed: **6:30-9:30 pm, Fris., Feb. 3, 2012, to May 18, 2012:** Teen/Young Adult Social

Club for Youth with Developmental Delays, ages 13 and up, at both Millersville and Edgewater locations. Youth with differing abilities get together with peers for dancing, games, parties and socialization. There is a 1 to 5 supervision ratio.

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM)

Serving all of Central Maryland, the Girl Scouts help girls develop courage, confidence, character and leadership skills that they will use throughout their lives. Girl Scout volunteering offers many flexible options, for both individuals and groups, whether you want to work directly with the girls throughout the year or lend expertise for a specific short-term project or event. Training is provided. Volunteers should be 18 and older. For more information, call 410-358-9711 or visit the website www.gscm.org. Special volunteer needs: **7am - 4pm, Sat., Jan. 21, 2012,** Lego League Robots Regional Tournament: GSCM will be hosting 12 teams from around Maryland at the Urban Program and STEM Center in Baltimore; volunteers are needed to help run this event. Volunteer positions include: Referees, Technical Director, Timekeeper, Field Manager, Queuers, Pit Runners, a Judge Assistant, and Registration and Information personnel. Contact Su Kim at skim@gscm.org or 410-358-9711 x265 for more information, and to volunteer.

Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Books for International Goodwill (B.I.G.)

B.I.G. provides thousands of books to students and adults in developing countries who lack both textbooks and recreational reading. Volunteers drop off good used books and/or help sort and pack on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 8 am to 1 pm at the B.I.G. warehouse. Special times may be arranged for groups. Individuals are welcome on a "drop-in" basis. For more information, contact Steve Frantzich at 410-293-6865 or frantzic@usna.edu or visit www.big-books.org.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels enhances the quality of life of homebound individuals through provision of nutritious meals, personal contact, and related services. Volunteers are needed as drivers for meal delivery, drivers' assistants and are needed to pack meals. There may be opportunities for youth under 18 to assist with general office work (such as filing and data input, staffing displays, and fundraising activities). If interested, contact Terry Lehr at 410-626-7543 or Lehr@mowcm.org or visit www.mealsonwheelsmd.org.

Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks

Volunteers, 14 and older, are needed to assist staff in recreation programs, especially in therapeutic programs. Volunteers should be open minded and willing to work with children with special needs. Contact Wendy Scarborough at 410-222-7313, Xtn 3554 or rpscarnb@aacounty.org. Lake Waterford Park: Individuals and groups interested in volunteering for a few hours (6 - 12) each year, contact 410-222-6248. Quiet Waters Park: Lead and assist in Interpretive Nature Programs. For more information visit our website: www.aacounty.org/RecParks/parks/quietwaters click on Volunteer Opportunities, or email qwvolunteer@aacounty.org.

Anne Arundel County Food and Resource Bank

Their mission is to fight hunger by assuring that all county citizens in need have access to food and other necessities. Volunteer activities include sorting food and clothing, assisting with computer work and office duties. For more information, contact Bruce at 410-923-4255 or Bruce@aafoodbank.org or visit www.aafoodbank.org.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Operation Welcome Home (MD)

This nonprofit organization provides a hero's welcome every week at BWI Airport International Terminal to military personnel returning home from the War on Terror. Volunteers are needed to attend welcome home events to greet by cheering, clapping, shaking hands to say thanks. The community is also invited to attend or hold a collection drive and/or donate water and snacks for the troops. There is critical need for "Thank You" cards and snack bags for distribution to the troops - this is a great project for groups such school classes and scouts. An event line has been set up to be called on the day of the event: 410-630-1555. For more information call 410-757-0982, e-mail webmaster@owhmd.org, or visit web site at <http://www.operationwelcomehomemd.org/>

Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services Mentoring Program

The AA Co. Dept. of Social Services Mentoring Program is looking for volunteers to mentor at-risk youth ages 8-20 years old. Mentors are positive role models who provide guidance and support in a one-on-one relationship. All mentors are

background screened and trained, and a one-year commitment is desired. Contact Tanya Steele at 410-269-4462 or tsteele@dhr.state.md.us for more information and to volunteer.

H.O.P.E., Inc. (He Opens the Path to Everyone)

H.O.P.E., Inc. is an all volunteer non-profit Christian ministry serving families in need by collecting and distributing donated school supplies, household goods and furniture, and clothing. H.O.P.E. is currently looking for some assistance with processing (sorting, testing, reconditioning, pricing) yard sale items at the warehouse and to help with warehouse cleanup. They are also seeking groups to sort donated clothing at their facilities, pick up and delivery help, and grant researchers/writers. Donations of furniture, infant and children's clothing as well as financial donations are needed. For more information, contact Leo Zerhusen at 410-859-1297 or E-mail lzerhusen@verizon.net. See web site at www.hopeforall.us.

**Celebrating 10 years of helping
people volunteer**

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**Lend a hand...
Volunteer**

“Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

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“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

~Margaret Mead