



**VOLUNTEER  
IMPACT**

# Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering

## Take Me Out to the Ballgame

### *Volunteer Impact Treats Katrina Victims to Evening at Comerica Park*

Some people see things as they are and say "why," I look at things that never were and say "why not."

—Robert Kennedy

**Save the Date**  
*Adopt-a-Shelter,  
Dec. 3*

The Tigers provided hats and Pudge Rodriguez shirts, and Volunteer Impact paved the way for Katrina victims who are being housed in Southfield to spend an evening at the ballpark on Monday, Sept. 12, for Volunteer Impact Day.

Three rows of newly transplanted families, many children seeing their first ballgame, met Tigers mascot "Paws," who also offered his autograph for the youngsters' caps.

Tigers outfielder Magglio Ordonez waved his cap toward the right-field stands and ABC Channel 7 came by during the 4th inning to see how the Southerners were enjoying the "northern hospitality."

The Tigers had originally donated the tickets to Volunteer Impact for Hands on Detroit Day volunteers, but many were donated back to VI to provide the welcome to Detroit. Volunteer Impact thanks



Charlie Grant and ABC Student Transportation for providing buses to Comerica Park.

The honored guests, who were warned about the Michigan weather by nearby fans, witnessed a 30-degree temperature drop within 9 innings. Welcome to Detroit!

### *Volunteer Impact Has Moved*



VI has spent the summer moving, cutting expenses, and re-organizing so that it may continue to serve the Metropolitan Detroit community during these trying economic times. We are now an **all-volunteer** agency working to link the needs of non-profits in the Metropolitan Detroit community with those who wish to volunteer.

## Lighthouse Seeking Substitute Drivers

Lighthouse delivers to Focus:Hope on the Thursday following the second Wednesday of each month. The boxes are 12" x 18" and weigh about 10 - 15 lbs. Our drivers pick up the packages at the Lighthouse between 9:00 - 4:30 We currently have a full complement of drivers but need substitutes almost monthly. Delivering a route takes about 2 hours. We require our drivers to obtain a signature for each package delivered, which we return to Focus Hope for their records. A great way to start volunteering. I generally call for substitutes a week in advance.

We also deliver Fresh Fruits & Veggies the first Thursday of each month. Each

package weighs 8-10 lbs and is contained in a paper bag. Same kind of schedule; pick-up from 9:00 - 4:30 A route takes about 2 hours. No signatures are required at this time. Again we have a full complement of drivers but need substitutes every month. Lighthouse provides a client list and a detailed turn by turn map for each driver for both of the above programs. Groups of two persons on each route are welcomed. I carry a cell phone and stay a Lighthouse from 9:00- 4:30 if any issues arise. Contact: Ken Fuerst 248-683-9788 - Leave message if you like. [kenn1st@comcast.net](mailto:kenn1st@comcast.net)

### WHAT'S INSIDE!

- 2 Greetings from the President.
- 3 Month at a Glance
- 4 September volunteer opportunities
- 6 HODD Sponsors

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Welber Barr, President  
Dolores Oakley, Past President  
Marcy Heller Fisher, Secretary  
Michael F. Daniels, Treasurer  
Melissa Handler  
Karen Hanson  
Todd Harrison  
David C. Hellman  
Jerry Kanter  
Mary Frances Kilcoyne  
Judith Letvin Liebman  
Tova Perlmutter  
Sheldon Reid

#### FOUNDER

Elizabeth Kanter Groskind

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joan E. Bodnar

#### GENERAL COUNSEL

David Kotzian

#### ADVISORY BOARD

Mitch Albom  
Dennis Bernard  
Paul Bridgewater  
Ed Deeb  
R. Sue Dodea  
Jacalyn S. Goforth  
Kara Hocking  
Walter Kraft  
Dave Lockhart  
Rick Loewenstein  
David Page  
Lisa Pernick  
Justin Ravitz  
Cliff Russell  
Sarah Saltzman  
Reginald Turner, Jr.  
Steven Weinstock

#### VOLUNTEER IMPACT, INC. A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

OUR NEW HOME:  
6690 Orchard Lake Rd.  
West Bloomfield, MI 48322  
Suite 207 (Mail 204)  
(248) 559-4950 Phone  
[www.volunteerimpact.org](http://www.volunteerimpact.org)

### From the President

## New School Year Brings Changes to VI



**Nancy Welber Barr**

As the school year begins, we are all saddened and trying to figure out how we can help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Volunteer Impact is responding to those families who have been relocated here. Please see our article in this newsletter about our efforts and watch our website for updates.

This is also a new beginning for Volunteer Impact. The Detroit economic situation has not been kind to VI. We have lost a great deal of our corporate funding and we have made many difficult decisions so that we can continue to provide help to our agencies, who need us more than ever, and to provide volunteer opportunities for those who want to help, who are more generous with their time than ever.

We have moved our office to West Bloomfield and we are currently an all-volunteer organization. You can still reach us in the same way, by calling (248) 559-4950 or by going to our website: [www.volunteerimpact.org](http://www.volunteerimpact.org). It may take us a little longer to get back to you, since we are not staffing our office fulltime, but we will respond.

We will no longer send printed newsletters. All of our newsletters and our calendar will be online. You can register at our website to receive an e-mail of our newsletter, which we will publish in electronic form only. If you do not have web access, we

will download, print, and mail or fax you a copy of the newsletter and calendar each month, for a minimum donation of \$12 per year. It was a tough decision to forego our newsletter but the cost of printing is prohibitive in the current economic climate. Besides, think of all the trees we will save.

We are going to keep bringing you your favorite projects, such as making meals for Ronald McDonald House guests and packing food boxes at Focus:HOPE. We are also trying to bring you new projects, either at new agencies or at agencies we have assisted in the past with new projects. As always, stay tuned for our Adopt-a-Shelter program which will be held on Saturday, December 3. If you would like to help us plan any projects, act as a project coordinator, or get more involved in the operations of VI, please let us by e-mailing us at [volunteer\\_impact@yahoo.com](mailto:volunteer_impact@yahoo.com).

Our biggest challenge remains our finances. We know that you may have given to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina. However, we hope you will continue to remember and help Volunteer Impact with your contributions so that we can assist with the urgent needs in the Detroit area, which now includes helping some of the evacuees. You can contribute on line or by check or credit card and we have tribute cards which we will send to your family and friends to honor special occasions or as a memorial to a special person.

Please support Volunteer Impact by giving back. We need whatever you can give, your time and your resources.

## The Minoti Rajput Challenge Grant

Thank you to all our donors who rose to the challenge by Minoti Rajput, a Southfield financial planner and president of Secure Planning Strategies, who celebrated 25 years in business by donating \$25,000 to 12 charities throughout Metro Detroit. Volunteer Impact received a grant of \$2,500.


Photo from left to right: VI Board Member Tova Perlmutter, Minoti Rajput, VI President Nancy Welber Barr, and VI Board Member Karen Hanson





# Month at a Glance

## September 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
28 Aug	29	30	31	1 Sep	2	3	
				9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield</a>			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
			10:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Lighthouse of Oakland County-Packaging fruits and vegetables</a>	9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield</a> WI Exec and Regular Board Meeting			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
4:30p - 6:30p <a href="#">Ronald McDonald House Ann Arbor</a> 4:30p - 6:30p <a href="#">Ronald McDonald House Detroit</a>	10:00 <a href="#">Sorting clothes for Katrina Hurricane Victims</a> <a href="#">Volunteer Impact Day at Comerica Park</a>	6:30p - 8:00p <a href="#">Youth Board Meeting</a>		9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield</a>		9:00 - 12:00 <a href="#">Food Bank of Oakland County</a> 9:00 a - 3:00p <a href="#">Clinton River Clean Up Oakland and Macomb Counties</a> 9:00 a - 11:30 a <a href="#">2005 Adopt A Highway Southfield Rotary</a> 10:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Focus Hope, Time to Help Project, Detroit</a> 10:30 a - 12:30p <a href="#">Detroit Public Library Elmwood Branch Tutoring</a> 12:00p - 3:00p <a href="#">Food Bank of Oakland County, Afternoon Shift</a>	
			21	22	23	24	
					9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield</a>		9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Food Bank of Oakland County</a> 9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Gleaners Food Bank Taylor</a> 12:00p - 3:00p <a href="#">Food Bank of Oakland County, Afternoon Shift</a>
				28	29	30	1 Oct
				9:00 a - 12:00p <a href="#">Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield</a>			

Young volunteers help to 'spruce' up the city.

Even our illustrious president got her hands and knees dirty.





# Volunteer Opportunities for September 2005

<u>Sep 1</u>	Thu	9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield	Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office 248-683-5030
<u>Sep 7</u>	Wed	10:00a -12:00p Lighthouse of Oakland County-Packaging fruits and vegetables	Volunteers needed to package fruits & Veggies when they are delivered to Lighthouse on the first Wednesday of each month. We could use 3 - 4 people between the hours of 10:00 and 12:00. The job involves light lifting but does require some bending at the waist. Contact: Ken Fuerst 248-683-9788 - Leave message kenn1st@comcast.net
<u>Sep 8</u>	Thu	9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield VI Exec and Regular Board Meeting	Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office 248-683-5030
<u>Sep 11</u>	Sun	4:30p -6:30p Ronald McDonald House Ann Arbor	Bring a dish to pass for a Sunday potluck for the families residing in the house while their child is in the hospital. 8 volunteers. Contact Dolores Oakley: DOakley667@aol.com to sign up.
		4:30p -6:30p Ronald McDonald House Detroit	Bring a dish for the potluck dinner for the families staying in the Ronald McDonald House.
<u>Sep 12</u>	Mon	10:00 Sorting clothes for Katrina Hurricane Victims Volunteer Impact Day at Comerica Park	The Faith Walkers Christian Center located at 13000 W. 7 Mile in Detroit needs 10 people, 10 AM to sort clothes donated for hurricane victims. Contact: 313-345-7729. Thanks to the Tigers, VI HODD volunteers, families from the Katrina disaster living in Southfield will be enjoying a game at Comerica Park.
<u>Sep 13</u>	Tue	6:30p -8:00p Youth Board Meeting	Open to high school students in the tri-county area. First meeting is at VI office in W. Bloomfield. See website for further information <a href="http://volunteerimpact.org">http://volunteerimpact.org</a>
<u>Sep 15</u>	Thu	9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield	Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office 248-683-5030
<u>Sep 17</u>	Sat	9:00 -12:00 Food Bank of Oakland County	Pack food boxes Volunteers needed: 15 Contact: Nancy Knop, 248-332-1473 fax:248-335-8160 or email: nknop@gcfb.org Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE Michigan 120 E. Columbia, Pontiac
		9:00a -3:00p Clinton River Clean Up Oakland and Macomb Counties	Different shifts available. Contact Heather VanDerberg at 248-601-0606. Unlimited number of volunteers needed.
		9:00a -11:30a 2005 Adopt A Highway Southfield Rotary	Help clean up Telegraph Road. Meet at Media Play near 11 Mile. To sign up call Mitchell at 248-737-0820.



Ken Brown of the Mitch Albom Show would get more done if he'd stop making everyone laugh while they're working.



The football team of Seaholm High School in Birmingham would use every carb.

# Volunteer Opportunities for September 2005



<u>Sep 17</u>	Sat	10:00a -12:00p Focus:Hope, Time to Help Project, Detroit	The TIME TO HELP project with Mitch Albom is going to Focus:HOPE to pack food boxes. Their warehouse, which is separate from their main facility is located at 6500 Davison in Detroit.  Needed: 20 volunteers Family friendly-- kids ages 12 and up. (Please, no children younger than 12.) It is a very fun project, with two assembly lines "competing" to pack as many boxes of food for homebound seniors as they can during the 2 hours that we have to work.  To sign up, call 248/559-4950 and leave a message.
		10:30a -12:30p Detroit Public Library Elmwood Branch Tutoring	Contact Cally Kypros to sign up. 313-877-8015
		12:00p -3:00p Food Bank of Oakland County, Afternoon Shift	Pack food boxes Volunteers needed: 15 Contact: Nancy Knop, 248-332-1473 fax:248-335-8160 or email: nknop@gcfb.org Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE Michigan 120 E. Columbia, Pontiac
<u>Sep 22</u>	Thu	9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield	Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office 248-683-5030
<u>Sep 24</u>	Sat	9:00a -12:00p Food Bank of Oakland County	Pack food boxes Volunteers needed: 15 Contact: Nancy Knop, 248-332-1473 fax:248-335-8160 or email: nknop@gcfb.org Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE Michigan 120 E. Columbia, Pontiac
		9:00a -12:00p Gleaners Food Bank Taylor	Pack food boxes for distribution. Located on Northline west of Telegraph. Contact: 734-946-6374
		12:00p -3:00p Food Bank of Oakland County, Afternoon Shift	Pack food boxes Volunteers needed: 15 Contact: Nancy Knop, 248-332-1473 fax:248-335-8160 or email: nknop@gcfb.org Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE Michigan 120 E. Columbia, Pontiac
<u>Sep 29</u>	Thu	9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield	Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office 248-683-5030



Mitch Albom digs in to clean up Detroit before the All Star game.



Julie Kroflich, recipient of the 2005 Volunteer Impact Award

## Thank you to our 2005 Hands on Detroit Day Sponsors



*Gracon Wesserling Printing and Graphic Communications*  
*Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Network of Michigan*  
*Price Waterhouse Coopers*  
*Michael Flora and Associates*  
*Olympia Entertainment*  
*Premier Business Products*  
*Absopure*  
*EGT*  
*JFT Graphics*  
*Kanter Associates*  
*New York Bagel*  
*Detroit Wholesale Produce*  
*Caribou Coffee*  
*Joe's Army and Navy*  
*The Detroit Tigers*

We know that you may have given to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina. We hope you will continue to remember and help Volunteer Impact with your contributions so that we can assist with the urgent needs in the Detroit area, which now includes helping some of the evacuees. You can contribute on line or by check or credit card and we have tribute cards which we will send to your family and friends to honor special occasions or as a memorial to a special person.

Please support Volunteer Impact by giving back. We need whatever you can give, your time and your resources.

**Yes!** I want to support the important work of Volunteer Impact in our community.

I'm sending a gift of: \$500.00 \$250.00 \$100.00 \$50.00 \$25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company/Group \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Volunteer Impact or charge my tax deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To my: VISA MASTERCARD Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your generous gift! You have made an impact!*

Send this card to:

*Volunteer Impact, 6960 Orchard Lake Rd., Suite 204, West Bloomfield, MI 48322*