



# Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering

## Hands on Detroit Day

*We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.*

— Mother Theresa

### Save the Dates

**Adopt-a-Mom**  
May 6

**Hands on Detroit Day**  
May 20



Spring is in the air. The sun is peaking through the clouds. Flowers are beginning to bloom. The birds are chirping. Morning dew has replaced winter's front. It's time for all of you hibernating VI volunteers to put on a pair of pruning gloves and get your *Hands On Detroit*.

Mark your calendars for May 20 as Hands on Detroit Day continues our 15-year tradition of working together for a day of cleanup and fix-up around Detroit and helping Volunteer Impact at the same time. Our sole annual fundraiser, HODD is important to VI to show our commitment to the City of Detroit and our commitment to the projects that VI has to offer. The minimum pledge remains only \$25 per person and we will have a family rate for the first time this year, a minimum pledge of \$75 for a family of four, and \$10 for each additional person.

Many of our familiar projects will be back this year, as our organizers are getting HODD to take shape. In the works are cleanup and fix-up projects with Preserve Our Parks, Bridging Communities, and the Detroit Ronald McDonald House among other agencies which are represented each year at HODD.

This year we will have a new and exciting project which will kick off at HODD. We are partnering with the NorthRidge Church in Plymouth and the Salvation Army to begin a neighborhood cleanup and fix-up program in the Grandale Corps and Community Center of the Salvation Army, located near Greenfield and Plymouth in Detroit. We hope that the HODD blitz will be a special start to a rejuvenation of the area near this community center. We plan to clean up lots near the community center, do some cleaning in the community center itself and, weather permitting, help neighbors fix up their yards and paint the exteriors of their houses. We even hope to clear a lot for a commu-

nity vegetable garden. The Salvation Army has even promised a midday barbeque at this special event. VI will then follow up with projects at the Grandale location during the remainder of the spring, and if the need is there, into the summer.

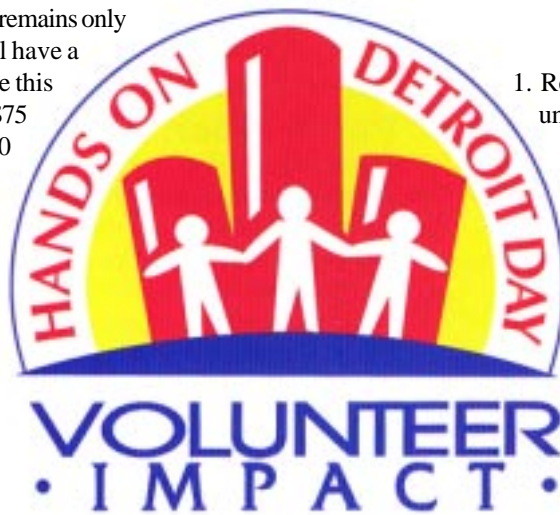
### How to Sign Up

We are in the process of making it possible for you to sign up for HODD and to pay your pledges online. If you have a group already, contact Volunteer Impact with your information. Check our website, <http://volunteerimpact.org> to download a pdf of the pledge form.

### How You Can Help

1. Recruit/sponsor a team of volunteers. The minimum pledge is \$25.00 per person. Recruit a team of volunteers from your workplace, school or your friends. Have your business, church, synagogue, or school organize and/or sponsor a team. Ask your boss to support your effort and let you post some information (try to get a letter of support from him/her to include with the info!)

- See if your company or group can do a payroll or mail stuffer to get the word out. Also, ask if your company will let you send a company-wide e-mail about HODD.
2. Promote the event! Help recruit volunteers. Agree to distribute pledge forms.
  3. Work on a committee.
  4. Work on the day of the event. If you are physically unable to work on a project, help out with registration or other activities prior to the event.
  5. Register as soon as you receive the pledge form.
  6. *Tell everyone you know about Volunteer Impact and Hands on Detroit Day!*



### WHAT'S INSIDE!

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

*OUR NEW HOME:*  
6960 Orchard Lake Rd.  
West Bloomfield, MI 48322  
Suite 207 (Mail 204)  
(248) 932-2580 Phone  
[www.volunteerimpact.org](http://www.volunteerimpact.org)

*From the President:*

# Adopt-an-Attitude



**Nancy Welber Barr** will be able to start some of our seasonal outdoor projects. We all need something to lift our spirits after a long and difficult winter. Well, the city's waiting.

This season of renewal is a good time for a renewed effort on behalf of our communities. Try looking at some new projects you have never tried before. Or volunteer to act as a project coordinator.

All of our agencies need your help. But think about doing something new this spring. Help with Meals on Wheels on Easter or teach a student about your career at career day in Detroit or Southfield. Pick a new project for Hands on Detroit Day on May 20. Try to bring a friend who has never volunteered to a VI project.

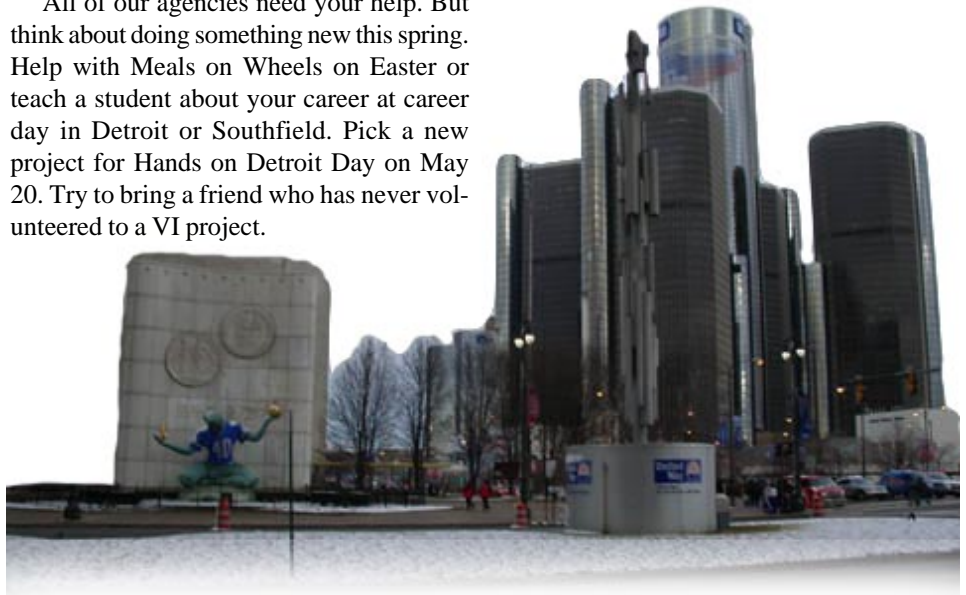
In December, we adopted a shelter. In May, we'll adopt a mom. This April, it's time to adopt an attitude.

The weather is getting better, the days are getting longer, and soon we

Trying new projects isn't the only attitude in style this spring. If you recognize an event on the calendar as something you've done before, if you already know the people at an agency, or you have that special surge of springtime confidence, then it's time to adopt the attitude of a leader. We're always on the lookout for project coordinators for HODD or any of our other projects.

Find us an agency who needs our help (remember – no special skills needed for our projects and no fund-raising for other agencies). Give us a donation – we can always use more funds to help us fund our efforts. There are so many new things you can do with VI, and it will help you have a positive attitude about yourself and the community around you.

The winter was rough, but the weather's just right for renewal.



## Youth Board News

### *NYSD 2006: Youth Changing The World*

Millions of youth will participate in National & Global Youth Service Day, the largest service event in the world, on April 21-23, 2006. The young adults will tutor children, engage in disaster relief, register new voters, educate their communities about good nutrition, distribute HIV/AIDS prevention materials and meet many more community needs through their service. The event, coordinated by Youth Service America

(YSA) and sponsored by State Farm Companies Foundation, aims to support youth on a life-long path of service and civic engagement, and educate the public, the media and elected officials about the role of youth as community leaders. For more information, visit [www.ysa.org/nysd](http://www.ysa.org/nysd)



# Hands on Detroit Day *Continued from Page 1*

## Recruiting Your Team

Putting together your Hands on Detroit Day team is easy! Here are some suggestions on how to recruit team volunteers:

**Recruit Co-Leaders:** Ask several key people to be co-leaders with you. By having co-leaders help organize and recruit volunteers, you can reach more people and build a bigger team. Select people like yourself who can motivate others to join in this fun and worthwhile event. At work, you might ask your personnel manager, a colleague from each department or floor, senior officers of the organization, etc., or you can work with friends to recruit a large group.

**Recruit Volunteers:** Start by asking your closest friends to volunteer. Then ask them to recruit their friends and families as volunteers or financial sponsors. Put up posters with your name and phone number.

**Getting The Pledges:** The most effective way to recruit a team of volunteers is to ask people face to face. When you approach people about becoming part of Hands on Detroit Day, give them a HODD brochure. This explains the event and the fundraising component. Tell them to think about it like a walk-a-thon—they can sponsor you for \$8 an hour or \$40 for the whole day of community service. For the frugal people you know, tell their pledge is tax deductible (it is!).

**Follow-Up:** The best way to get volunteers to participate is by following up; it's a great way to remind your team members about the date of Hands on Detroit Day and ensure a great turnout!

Call Volunteer Impact at (248) 932-2580 and tell us you want to help. We'll plug you into the process. You get great music, free



Volunteers from Seaholm High School in Birmingham took time for a healthy breakfast at Comerica Park before getting to work last year.

food, and can become eligible for prizes. On top of that you get to help others. It's a great day for everyone!

**PRIZES:** While everyone is required to raise at least \$25.00 in pledges, those who raise at least \$50.00 are eligible for some great door prizes. Past gifts have included dinner at some fantastic restaurants, artwork and services such as massages, manicures and pedicures!

## Substitute Drivers Needed for Lighthouse in Pontiac

Lighthouse delivers to Focus: HOPE on the Thursday following the second Wednesday of each month. Boxes weigh about 10 - 15 lbs. Drivers pick-up packages at Lighthouse anytime between 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for a route that takes about two hours. Drivers get signatures for deliveries to be returned to Focus:HOPE. There currently is a full complement of drivers but there is a need for substitutes almost monthly. This is a great way to start volunteering. Lighthouse will generally call for substitutes a week in advance.

Lighthouse also delivers fresh fruits &



veggies the first Thursday of each month. Each bag weighs 8-10 lbs. Pick-up anytime from 9:00a - 4:30p for a two-hour route.. Again there is a need for 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 welcome. Your contact at Lighthouse carries a cell phone and remains at Lighthouse from 9:00- 4:30p in case any issues arise. Contact: Ken Fuerst (248) 683-9788 - Leave message if you like. kenn1st@comcast.net



Save the Date:

**Adopt-a-Mom is coming on May 6**



Our second annual Adopt-a-Mom program will take place on Saturday, May 6. This project will provide some Mother's Day pampering and gifts for the moms at the Genesis II Homeless Shelter. Watch your April newsletter for more details on this program conceived and co-chaired by Julie Kroflich and Kelly Masters.



# Volunteer Opportunities for March 2006

## ONGOING EVENTS

### St. Leo's Soup Kitchen Thanks You

For the time being, we have suspended our projects at St. Leo's Soup Kitchen at the request of Joe Micallef. Joe is pleased to report that they are now so inundated with volunteers that their small kitchen can't handle all who want to help. We know that the volunteers of Detroit respond when asked, this is further evidence. We will post the project again when we are notified that volunteers are needed. Thank you to all who have responded.

### Arts and Scraps

*Recycling for learning and fun. Located at 16135 Harper in Detroit, volunteers are needed on ongoing basis.*

Warehouse volunteers usually come in groups and perform duties such as sorting materials and putting together project kits. When we go to events, projects are preassembled and volunteers can help assist there too...groups and individuals welcome! Requirements for volunteers...enjoy working with children and availability to volunteer a 3 or 4 hour shift. We welcome mature young people and/or those accompanied by an adult. We also like to engage seniors, retirees. Volunteers can visit our website...[www.artsandscraps.org](http://www.artsandscraps.org) to learn more and view events where volunteers are requested. They may contact me at [artsandscraps@hotmail.com](mailto:artsandscraps@hotmail.com) to sign up.

### The Children's Center, 79 W. Alexandrine, Detroit

Tutoring clients in a variety of subjects. Training and screening. Also need a tutor-liaison for M, T, W, TH, 4-6p.m. Contact: Amy Devone 313 262-1220 if interested. People needed: 3 or more per day. Ages: 18-50+

### Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

After-school homework help Contact Dr. Donald M. Lutas at (313) 896-1843.

### Volunteer Impact Office Assistance, 6960 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 240, West Bloomfield

Volunteers are needed any M,T,W,Th or F to help staff the Volunteer Impact Office to answer phone, monitor VI calendar, help register volunteers and activities and general office assistance. Volunteer an hour or few days...whatever you can do to help would be great! Contact VI at [volunteer\\_impact@yahoo.com](mailto:volunteer_impact@yahoo.com) or (248) 932-2580.

### Apr 1 – Sat

9:00a –12:00p The Detroit Project

The Detroit Project is a group of volunteers from University of Michigan who work with The Greening and other organizations to clean, renovate, and beautify Detroit's Brightmore Neighborhood. This year we will be working at the Salvation Army Denby Center planting trees. Volunteers should meet at 20775 Pembroke, Detroit, 48219 at 9:00 am. Contact: 313.237.8733

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts

### Apr 2 – Sun

4:30p -7:30p Ronald McDonald House, Ann Arbor

Bring a dish to serve at a Sunday potluck for families residing in the house while their child is in the hospital. 1600 Washington Heights Ann Arbor, MI. 48104. Call Volunteer Impact (248)559-4950, leave message for Dolores Oakley. 8 volunteers needed.

### Apr 3 – Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

### Apr 4 – Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Tutoring

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Tutoring

6:30p -8:00p Volunteer Impact Youth

Board

The Volunteer Impact Youth Board is open to high school students in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. We meet the first Tues. of every month in the cafe at the Southfield Public Library. Youth Board members receive community service for their participation. They help determine youth-friendly projects for area high school students, perform community service projects together, and develop leadership skills while meeting and working with youth from all over the Metro Detroit community.

### Apr 5 – 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. Needed: 3 - 4 people —light lifting

and some bending at the waist. Contact Ken Fuerst 248-683-9788 or leave message:

[kenn1st@comcast.net](mailto:kenn1st@comcast.net)

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

### Apr 6 – Thu

8:00a -10:45a Career Day at Thompson Middle School in Southfield

It's Career Day and YOU are needed to speak to youngsters in three classes about your career! Make a morning of it and enjoy being an inspiration to others! Meet at the school at 8:00a.m. for check-in. Classes begin at 8:30 until 10:50 a.m. You are invited to stay for lunch afterwards if your schedule permits. Please contact Gail Gates 248 746-7406 at the school, or [GATESGR@southfield.k12.mi.us](mailto:GATESGR@southfield.k12.mi.us) to sign up.

9:00a –12:00p Greening of Detroit Park Maintenance Day

The Greening of Detroit Park in Honor of Founder Elizabeth Gordon Sachs, needs sprucing up this spring. Need 20 individuals willing to help weed, mulch, plant and cleanup. Volunteers should meet at 1463 E. Jefferson, Detroit, 48207 Contact (313) 237-8733 or [janet@greeningofdetroit](mailto:janet@greeningofdetroit)

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

# Volunteer Opportunities for March 2006



## **Apr 6 – Thu (cont.)**

4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

## **Apr 7 – Fri**

8:15a -12:25p Denby High School Career Day  
Volunteers are needed to discuss their careers, including specific skills, motivation for overcoming obstacles, amount of training necessary, and entry level experience needed for the job. Volunteers can visit 1,2, or 3 classrooms. Each class has approximately 35 students. Each class period is 50 minutes long. Continental breakfast and lunch are included in the program. For more information contact Ms. Annie K. Aaron, Guidance Coordinator or Ms. Terri Horton, Compact Coordinator at 313/866-7200 Ext. 354

## **Apr 8 – Sat**

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts, 3 or 4 hour shifts

9:00 a-1:00p EGGs' taavaganza—Easter Egg Hunt and Fun in Southfield  
Shriner's Auditorium and Conference Center, 24350 Southfield Road south of 10 Mile Road in Southfield. Need 15 or more volunteers to help with children's activities including games, crafts and egg hunt, including set-up and tear-down.

Contact: Saturday, April 8 at Shriner's Auditorium and Conference Center, 24350 Southfield Road south of 10 Mile Road in Southfield. Need 15 or more volunteers needed from 9 am to 1:30 p.m. Help with children's activities including games, crafts and egg hunt, including set-up and tear-down. Contact: Janet Husaynu, 248.796.4617,  
[jhusaynu@cityofsouthfield.com](mailto:jhusaynu@cityofsouthfield.com)

## **Apr 10 – Mon**

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 11 – Tue**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 12 – Wed**

Wed 4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 13 – Thu**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 15 – Sat**

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts, 3 or 4 hour shifts

## **Apr 16 – Sun**

1:30p -3:00p Arden Courts, Bingham Farms, Crafts with Alzheimer's Patients  
Assist Alzheimer's patients with simple crafts. Persons needed: 5-8 Contact: Janet Evans (248) 644-8100

## **Apr 17 – Mon**

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 18 – Tue**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 19 – Wed**

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 20 – Thu**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 22 – Sat**

9:00a -12:00p April Time to Help with Mitch Albom—Delivering Food  
We will be delivering food boxes to the elderly living at Bicentennial Towers in Detroit. Please prepare to use your own vehicles for delivery and have enough space to transport the food. For your own safety, please do not wear sandals or open-toed shoes. We will INITIALLY MEET at the HOPE Central Warehouse (address below) and drive as a group to Bicentennial Towers (located at 4 East Alexandrine, Detroit, MI).

HOPE Central Warehouse  
6500 E. Davison Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48212

CALL TODAY: Volunteer Impact Office at 248-932-2589 If you get a recording, please leave your name and home phone number and someone will get back to you.

9:30a -11:30a Southfield Rotary Adopt-a-Highway Program  
Meet at Office Depot on E. Side of Telegraph N. of 11 Mile Road. Meet at Office Depot on E. Side of Telegraph N. of 11 Mile Road. High School age and up.

## **Apr 24 – Mon**

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 25 – Tue**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring  
4:00p -7:00p Greening of Detroit, Club Technology Maintenance Day  
Help spruce up Club Technology's pocket park for the spring. Needed: 20 individuals willing to help weed, mulch, plant and cleanup. Volunteers should meet at 4700 Maxwell, Detroit, 48213 (corner of Maxwell and Forest). Contact (313) 237-8733 or janet@greeningofdetroit

## **Apr 26 – Wed**

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 27 – Thu**

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts  
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring  
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center Tutoring

## **Apr 29 – Sat**

8:00a -1:00p *National Youth Service Volunteer Day* -Southfield. Come help clean, repair, paint, plant and prune projects at several Southfield locations. This event is under the sponsorship of the Southfield Public Schools, City of Southfield, the Southfield Chamber of Commerce, Southfield Rotary, Southfield Optimist Club and Volunteer Impact. Projects for this year are located at Birney Middle School campus, the Mary Thompson Farm Site, Senior Gardens at the Southfield Civic Center and the Valley Woods Nature Preserve.

Come for the entire time or just for a couple of hours. Service credits are granted. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes and wheelbarrows if possible. Other tools will be provided. All participants will receive a free T-shirt, a continental breakfast, and snacks. To volunteer, call Volunteer Impact (248) 559-4950 Ext.3.

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps, 3-4hr shifts



**Platinum Donors**  
**(\$5,000 or more)**

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# Tributes

## Donate From the Heart

Tributes are a wonderful way to honor the life of someone special, or mark an important milestone in life such as graduation. These generous gifts also help Volunteer Impact to provide hands-on volunteers 365 days a year to over 350 agencies at no cost to the agency. Special golden tributes are available for holiday donations.

Online giving is also available. If you prefer to make a gift as a memorial or tribute and wish an acknowledgment to be sent to another party, please call the Volunteer Impact office or 248 559-4950, or e-mail us at [volunteer\\_impact@yahoo.com](mailto:volunteer_impact@yahoo.com), and we will be happy to help you with this process.

**Please call us at (248) 932-2580 to discuss your needs for corporate giving. Help VI make an IMPACT!**

### Ten Suggestions to Help VI Make an IMPACT:

Be a title sponsor for one month of <i>Connections</i> , our newsletter	\$2,000.00
Sponsor one month media buy	\$1,000.00
Provide breakfast for <i>Hands on Detroit Day</i>	\$500.00
Provide activities and crafts for VI Events	\$250.00
Supply a pizza lunch for homeless children at a VI event	\$100.00
Sponsor a Youth Board Meeting	\$75.00
Sponsor a project for one <i>Dr. Seuss' Birthday</i> party	\$50.00
Pay for one month of DSL Internet Access	\$36.00
Provide consumable office supplies	\$25.00
Send a Volunteer Impact Honorary or Memorial Tribute (\$10 min)	\$10.00

Corporate donors who wish to give a donation in lieu of buying gifts, please contact VI.  
For individual tributes, please attach a list with names and addresses

**Yes!** I want to support Volunteer Impact.

I'm sending a gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Required for confirmation of donation. If you wish to receive e-mail from us, register online

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. \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

Volunteer Impact, 6960 Orchard Lake Rd., Suite 204, West Bloomfield, MI 48322, online giving at <http://volunteerimpact.org>