



**VOLUNTEER
IMPACT**

November 2006

Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering

Adopt-a-Shelter

Volunteer Impact's Annual Holiday Gift to Detroit

Every problem that the country faces is being solved in some community by some group or some individual.

The question is how to get connected, so that the whole nation can solve problems.

– Former President
George H.W. Bush

Save the Date

**Adopt-a-Shelter
Dec. 2 and 9**



Adopting hundreds of homeless children and their parents living in shelters for one day is one of Volunteer Impact's most cherished activities. The residents of the shelters are enormously touched by the generosity of volunteers and sponsors. Having a special party in their honor – with tons of needed gifts, foods that residents *never* usually are treated to such as cookies, cakes, donuts, bagels, pizzas and pitas – and sharing a day of crafts, dance, manicures, music and camaraderie is heart-warming for both residents and volunteers.

Volunteer Impact is back at it again this Dec. 2, with Mitch Albom's *Time to Help* annual event to be held at the Booth Evangeline Center Dec. 9. Help make the 17th annual Adopt-a-Shelter as successful as last year's. Students, there's still time to organize a drive

for gifts in your class or school, or show your parents how to put one together at their offices.

Vendors, if you would like help out our effort, we need food donations, including pizza, drinks, pitas and cake for lunch, and bagels, donuts, coffee, milk, orange juice and/or other breakfast confections for the morning meal.

If you would like to assist on Adopt-a-Shelter 2006, please contact VI at volunteer_impact@yahoo.com. A list of this year's shelters (on Page 5) and gift ideas for various age groups (on Page 6) can be found inside this issue, as well as a list of frequently asked questions about this VI signature project. We hope you can help us bring some holiday joy to these Detroit citizens.

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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

From the President:

We Need Your Help



Nancy Welber Barr

This holiday season, as always, we will start off with our Adopt-a-Shelter holiday parties on Saturday, Dec. 2. This year's parties, chaired by the very able Jolynn Benson, will be one of the highlights on the Volunteer Impact calendar, as they are every year. We hope you and your friends and family, or you and friends from work, school, or your congregation, will attend these wonderful parties. You can sign up online now.

None of us have to be reminded about the dire conditions of the economy in Metro Detroit. It is for this reason that I am especially concerned that we have adequate donations for our holiday gifts for the shelter parties. Please look at our wish list in this newsletter. We hope you will be generous and purchase more than one gift for the shelter party you attend. But we also encourage you to organize a gift drive at your place of work, worship, or your child's school. The gifts need not be expensive. Gifts of clothing from places like Target and Steve & Barry's are most welcome and appreciated. Please note the sizes we have requested in the wish list.

You can drop off unwrapped gifts at the VI office during normal business hours. The VI office is located at 6960 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 204, West Bloomfield. Please call (248) 932-1230 to be sure someone will be there or to get directions. We encourage you to provide us with a copy of the receipts from any purchases so we can thank you appropriately. Gifts of cash are also accepted. You or your group will be listed in an upcoming newsletter for all donations, in cash or in kind, of \$100 or more.

This is a tough year for all of us. Please help us help the most needy in the Detroit area enjoy a brighter holiday.

Build a Playground at University Prep Academy, Nov. 2-5



University Prep Elementary School is a new school nestled in the historic 4th Street neighborhood in Detroit. The transformation of an old furniture warehouse into a vibrant elementary school is only lacking one thing – a playground for the kids. More than 100 volunteers are needed to make this a success!

Volunteers with carpentry skills are needed on Nov. 2 and 3. All volunteers willing to lend a hand with physical labor are needed on Nov. 4 and 5.

See calendar for details.

Alternative Gulf Coast Spring Break 2007

Spring Break is not just for college students anymore. United Way for Southeastern Michigan in partnership with United Way of America and Think-MTV is recruiting 20 young professionals from southeastern Michigan ages 18-24 to volunteer along the Gulf Coast for Spring Break in March of 2007.

All "on the ground" costs along the Gulf Coast will be covered by United Way of America and MTV. The only cost the participants are responsible for is the cost of transportation to and from the Gulf Coast. United Way for Southeastern Michigan will be responsible for training the participants and assisting with participant orientation, transportation coordination and fundraising.

Here is the link where young professionals can apply to participate: www.mtv.com/thinkmtv/asb/2007/. Signing up online does not guarantee that the young professionals will be selected. Applicants who are selected will be integrated with participants from other communities upon arrival to the Gulf Coast to foster relationship building.

Volunteer Opportunities for November 2006



ONGOING EVENTS

Arts and Scraps

Recycling for learning and fun. Located at 16135 Harper in Detroit, volunteers are needed on an 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 to learn more and view events where volunteers are requested. Contact Suzan at (313) 640-4411, ext. 5, or artsandscraps@hotmail.com.

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+

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 or (248) 932-2580.

New Hope Food Pantry, Melvindale

Need 10 volunteers to pack food boxes for distribution the last two Thursdays of the month, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., and the Saturdays which precede the last two Thursday of the month 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Noon Call Nancy at (313) 383-6577

Deeper Life Outreach Tutoring

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

Samaritan Care Hospice

Samaritan Care Hospice is in need of Hospice Volunteers throughout metro Detroit. Volunteers can expect to see their assigned patient once a week while the patient is on our services. They would receive the appropriate training prior to their first assignment (our training consists of 10 hours of hospice specific information - usually consecutive Saturdays from 9-2 in our Southfield office). Volunteers are then free to choose the area in which to see their patients, throughout the metro Detroit area. If interested, please contact Chris Kokenos, Volunteer Coordinator at Samaritan Care Hospice: chriskok@aol.com 1-800-397-9360

Hadassah Doll-Making Project

Hadassah and community volunteers of all ages are creating very cuddly rag dolls used in "medical play" for sick and/or injured children needing either in-patient or out-patient care. Volunteers trace, cut, pin, sew, stuff, dress and distribute dolls for the children to decorate and keep. Most project tasks do not require specialized sewing skills or training and are held at Hadassah House every Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - noon. Contact Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030 or Eleanor Smith at (248) 626-0762 or elephil@comcast.net

Greening of Detroit Projects

The Fall Planting Schedule is subject to change for all Greening of Detroit projects listed below. It is imperative that Greening has your current information on file when you sign up for a planting. To sign up for a planting, get more info, get map/directions to sites call Monique Torbert at (313) 237-8733 or email volunteer@greeningofdetroit.com. Updated information can be found at www.greeningofdetroit.com.

Nov 1 - Wed

10:00a -12:00p Lighthouse of Oakland County -- Volunteers needed to package fruits & vegetables when they are delivered to Lighthouse on the first Wednesday of each month. Need 3-4 people between the hours of 10:00 and 12:00. The job involves light lifting and requires some bending at the waist, as we currently are packaging the bags on the floor. Contact: Ken Fuerst (248) 683-9788 -- Leave message if you like. kenn1st@comcast.net.

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

Nov 2 - Thu

8:00a -6:00p University Prep Academy Playground Build
Time: 11/2 to 11/5 from 8:00 AM to 6:00PM,

4-6 hour shifts are available
Location: 957 Holden, one block southwest of the Henry Ford Health Systems Headquarters
University Prep Elementary School is an amazing new school nestled in the historic 4th Street neighborhood in Detroit. The transformation of an old furniture warehouse into a vibrant elementary school is only lacking one thing—a playground for the kids. Come be a part of this fantastic educational opportunity for Detroit kids by helping to build the playground. More than 100 volunteers are needed to make this a success! Volunteers with carpentry skills are needed on November 2 and 3. All volunteers willing to lend a hand with physical labor are needed on

November 4 and 5.

Visit our website at www.uprep.com to learn more, or sign up by calling Kim Llorens at (313) 874-9800 or emailing her at kllorens@uprep.com.

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 3 - Fri

8:00a -6:00p University Prep Academy Playground Build



Volunteer Opportunities for November 2006

Nov 4 – Sat

Playground Build (see previous page for instructions)

8:00a -2:30p Community Sharing for Healthy Caring Conference in Howell w/ Arts and Scraps

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

12:00 -4:00 Macy's Day of Music at the Max with Arts and Scraps

Nov 5 – Sun

8:00a -6:00p University Prep Academy Playground Build

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.

Nov 6 – Mon

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

Nov 7 – Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 8 – Wed

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

Nov 9 – Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

10:00a -2:00p New Hope Food Pantry, Melvindale – Pack food boxes for distribution

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 11 – Sat

8:30a -3:00p DACTM Math Conference in Madison Heights with Arts and Scraps

9:00 Greening of Detroit, Lumley St and Priest Elementary Planting.

The Greening of Detroit is working hard with local residents and any volunteers interested are more than welcome to come out and help beautify the school for our children. We will need 75 volunteers to plant 40 beautiful trees around Priest

Elementary School. Volunteers should meet at 9am at Priest Elementary, 7840 Wagner, Detroit, 48210 (corner of Lumley and Wagner). Please note that the Fall Planting Schedule is subject to change.

It is imperative that we have your current information on file when you sign up for a planting so you can receive new schedules. To sign up for a planting, get more info, get map/directions to sites and receive an updated schedule every season, please call Monique Torbert at (313) 237-8733 or send an e-mail at volunteer@greeningofdetroit.com or check the calendar on our website at www.greeningofdetroit.com.

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Nov 13 – Mon

4:00p -6:00p

Nov 14 – Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 15 – Wed

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

Nov 16 – Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

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

Nov 18 – Sat

9:00 Greening of Detroit, Memorial Tree Grove Planting at the Delray Neighborhood House – Saturday, November 18, 2006

Every year donations come in for individuals being honored, remembered and celebrated. All the donations that come in prior to Memorial Day are used to plant a memorial grove. This year we will be working with People's Community Services to plant more than 20 trees at the newly renovated Delray Neighborhood House and Playground. Volunteers to meet at 9:00 am at 410 Leigh Street, Detroit, 48209. Please note that the Fall Planting Schedule is subject to change. It is imperative that we have your current information on file when you sign up for a planting so you can receive new schedules. To sign up

for a planting, get more info, get map/directions to sites and receive an updated schedule every season, please call Monique Torbert at (313) 237-8733 or send an e-mail at volunteer@greeningofdetroit.com or check the calendar on our website at www.greeningofdetroit.com.

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Nov 19 – 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

Nov 20 – Mon

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

Nov 21 – Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps,

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

Nov 23 – Thu

9:00a -11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 24 – Fri

10:00a -2:00p Eastland Center Opening of Play Area in Harper Woods with Arts and Scraps

Nov 25 – Sat

11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

12:00a -4:00p Eastland Center Opening of Play Area in Harper Woods with Arts and Scraps

Nov 27 – Mon

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

Nov 28 – Tue

11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

Nov 29 – Wed

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

Nov 30 – Thu

9:00a - 11:00a Hadassah Doll-Making Project

11:00a - 6:00p Arts and Scraps

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

December 2006

What's an Adopt-a-Shelter Party?

Adopt-a-Shelter is an annual Volunteer Impact event serving hundreds homeless children and their parents living in shelters throughout the Metropolitan Detroit area. This program was created to ensure that for one day, homeless children and their families living in a shelter experience a little of the joy and magic usually associated with the holidays.

What do volunteers do?

Volunteers provide the shelter guests with many fun activities: face painting, arts and crafts projects, a visit from Santa and, of course, good things to eat. Volunteers are asked to bring at least one item from the shopping "wish list". Each shelter needs at least one volunteer to dress as Santa, so if you have a Santa Suit, do let us know! Volunteers are also encouraged to bring holiday decorations, face paints, nail polish, and crafts projects (beads and beading string are a big hit, children's scissors, glue, colored paper, felt, cotton balls, sparkle glue—your imagination is your limit) to help insure a fun and active day for shelter children and moms.

What happens at an Adopt-a-Shelter Party?

While children make their holiday crafts, and get their faces painted, their mothers are invited to shop in the "Secret Store". The stores are stocked with the new, unwrapped items that have been donated, and mothers are given an opportunity to select presents for their children and to pick something for themselves as well. Volunteers, corporations and schools collect the gifts that are used to stock the "stores" at each shelter. In the past, some organizations have provided a photographer for the day so that each family has a photo with Santa. One service the moms all seem to adore is a manicure, done by volunteers. For women who struggle to provide life's basic needs, pampering by someone else is the most indulgent thing in the world.

Restaurants that wish to donate pizza, cake or other treats are encouraged to participate. And what's a party without music? If you have a band, play the guitar, or like to sing, this is your opportunity to put on a show.

How do I sign up?

Groups are asked to call Volunteer Impact at (248) 932-2580, or the project coordinator listed with their site to register. Or, e-mail a list of participants to volunteer_impact@yahoo.com. Your project co-coordinator (PC) will e-mail you a confirmation as well as directions to your shelter. Individuals may sign-up directly online at <http://volunteerimpact.org>. You will receive a confirmation by email as well.

What else can I do?

Please call us if you can arrange to provide any of the following:

Music

Santa Suit

Food donations (pizzas, soda, cake or cupcakes, fresh fruit)

Corporate partnerships—Monetary donations to help cover costs of arts and crafts projects

High School Community Service Credit

Community Service credit is given for high school students who participate in Adopt-a-Shelter. Be sure to check with the Project Coordinator at your site to receive your certificates. School personnel: if your school requires a special form, please bring it to the shelter.

Adopt-a-Shelter Parties

Dec. 2, 2006

Amelia Agnes Transitional

42960 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Current residents: 5 adults, 6 children

Project Coordinator (PC): Katie Hartman-Sheridan

katiehs@ameritch.net

COTS

26 Peterboro, Detroit, MI 48201

Current residents: Adults: 25-50, Children: 30

PC: Kim Haranczak haranczak@yahoo.com

Doorstep West

224 Highland, Highland Park, MI 48238

Contact: LeShan Hall P 313.867.0111 ext 232

Current residents: Adults: 150, Children: 150

PC: Dolores Oakley doakley@lockwoodcompanies.com

First Step Domestic Violence Shelter

44567 Pine Tree Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170

Current residents: Adults: 25, Children: 30

PC: Karen Hanson ekhsherman@wowway.com

Genesis I

131 Stimson, Detroit, MI 48201

Current residents: Adults: 8 women, Children: 8

PC: Jolynn Benson jolybenson@wideopenwest.com

Genesis II: YES

2015 Webb, Detroit, MI 48206

Current residents: 50 women and 10 children

PC: Julie Kroflich juliekroflich@yahoo.com

Genesis III

3840 Fairview, Detroit, MI 48214

Current residents: Adults: 100, Children: 20-25

PC: Contact volunteer_impact@yahoo.com

Peggy's Place

16630 Wyoming, Detroit, MI 48221

Current residents: Adults: 30, Children: 45

PC: Rod Monts rlmonts@aol.com

Wayne County Family Center

20600 Michigan Ave., Westland, MI 48141

Current Residents: Adults: 32, Children: 57 (0-17)

PC: contact Volunteer_impact@yahoo.com

Dec. 9, 2006

Time to Help with Mitch Albom

Sat. Dec. 9, 2006

Booth Evangeline Salvation Army

3737 Lawton, Detroit, MI 48208

Current residents: Adults: 75 women 5 men, Children: 110

PC: Nancy Welber and Marci Fitch

Wish List for Adopt-a-Shelter

Infant/Toddler



- Bibs
- Cotton Balls
- Blankets
- Books
- Booties
- Bottles
- Diaper Bag
- Diapers
- Educational Toys
- Hats/Mittens
- Pacifiers
- Sleepers
- Snowsuits
- Socks
- Teethers
- Toys
- Wipes

Child (4-12)



- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Art Kits | Overalls |
| Batteries | Puzzles |
| Board Games | Scarf |
| Books | Slippers |
| Boots | Socks |
| Coat | Stuffed Animals |
| Coloring Book | Sweatsuit |
| Crayons | Toy Trucks/Cars |
| Dolls | Underwear |
| Hats/Mittens | |

Parent



- Alarm Clock
- Bathrobes
- Batteries
- Books
- Boots
- Coat
- Crossword Puzzles
- Fanny Packs
- Hats/Mittens
- Headphones
- Scarf
- Slippers
- Socks
- Sweaters
- Sweatsuit
- Towels
- Underwear



Household



- Band-Aids
- Bath towels
- Batteries
- Blankets
- Boots
- Cleaning Supplies
- Coat
- Cottonballs
- Dishwasher Soap
- Drinking Glasses
- Facial Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Paper Towels
- Pots and Pans
- Shampoo
- Slippers
- Socks
- Toothbrushes

Teenager



- Backpack
- Batteries
- Board Games
- Books

- CD/MP3 Players
- Clothing
- Electronic Games
- Football, Basketball
- Headphones
- Jewelry Kits
- Pencils/Paper
- Skateboards
- Scooters
- Slippers
- Socks
- Underwear
- Wallets
- Winter Clothing (especially large sizes)

If you will be volunteering at Adopt a Shelter on Dec. 2 or Dec. 9, please bring your unwrapped donations with you. Items may also be dropped off at the Volunteer Impact Office, 6960 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 204, West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Recommended sizes

Infant and 4-12 years: all sizes
 Teenage: Large and Extra-large
 Parent: Extra large and XXX-large



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Margaret and Joel Smoller
Gary and Geri Spezia
Jo Anne Steele
Mary and Louis Stern
St. John's Episcopal Church of
Plymouth
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Southfield
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Lora Weingarden and Michael
Pasick
Milton and Renee Wohl
Alfred Wood, Jr and Florence
Monnier
Jean Yee
Rick and Julie Zussman

We Have Your Volunteers!

If you know of a non-profit organization that is in need of help, tell them about VI. We are here to serve the community's needs. Volunteer Impact will post volunteer needs for any non-profit as long as the activity is not long-term or a fund-raiser.

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
Provide winter wear for a shelter	\$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



Volunteer Impact would like to congratulate the Detroit Tigers for a fantastic 2006 season. You have inspired our city both on and off the field. Good luck next year!



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>