



# Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering



## WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!

**A**s you go about setting your New Year's Resolutions, make one special resolution that Volunteer Impact can help you keep...volunteering!

**We have an invitation for you . . . JOIN US!**

**Join Us** – By helping spread volunteerism throughout Metro Detroit.

**Join Us** – By spending a few hours each week in our Volunteer Impact office, using skills you possess, whether it's to answer the phones, or help do mailings or data input.

**Join Us** – By becoming a Project Coordinator (the heart and soul of Volunteer Impact). We'll train you how to do it. You'll have a ball while you help VI help others.

**Join Us** – If we lost you along the way and you want to get re-involved (We really need your experience).

**Join Us** – By signing up for Dr. Seuss' Birthday and spending time reading to children in shelters and HeadStart programs.

**Join Us** – By recruiting a team for Hands On Detroit Day.

**Join Us** – By checking out our calendar each month; we're going to be adding some new and exciting projects this year.

**Join Us** – By visiting our website at [www.volunteerimpact.org](http://www.volunteerimpact.org) where you can now donate on-line, sign up for projects on line and read about what's happening in our Community.

**Join Us** – By joining one of our Committees and giving us your ideas for shaping the future of Volunteer Impact, or planning one of our fundraising events, or Adopt-A-Shelter.

There are many ways you can help. Everyone can make a difference, and together we can make Metro Detroit the best "volunteer community" in the country. Call 248-559-4950 or email [JEBodnar@aol.com](mailto:JEBodnar@aol.com).

**Start out 2005 in a good way . . . JOIN US!**

Dolores Oakley, Board President

### Volunteer Impact wishes to thank and acknowledge the following supporters of Adopt-A-Shelter 2004:

Dearborn Sausage, Shields Pizza, Little Caesars, National Coney Island, Gleaners, and Sam's Club for providing the snack and lunch. (this list may not reflect all the generous donations for lunch). Star Trax Event Productions for taking family photos at the Booth Shelter. Ms. Lynn Bailey for all the gift baskets she made for distribution at the shelters. Ms. Colleen Virag for suppling so many of the wonderful crafts. To all the companies and corporation who so generously donated items from our Wish List. Thank you Alex & Emilio Salon and Michael's Salon for allowing VI to place collection boxes at your site.

A special thanks to our great Project Coordinators, without you this event would not have happened.

## IT'S A BIRTHDAY PARTY!

**F**riday, March 4, and Saturday, March 5, 2005 – please join Volunteer Impact as we celebrate Dr Seuss's Birthday with our 5th annual birthday party in honor of Dr. Seuss.

This project celebrates reading. We read one-on-one to children in head start programs in metro Detroit. Volunteers are asked to bring new, preschool-focused books to read and leave for the children to encourage reading at home.

**How can you help?**

1. Call the office and sign up to volunteer at one of the sites to read to a child.
2. Donate new preschool-focused books to be distributed at the party.
3. Arrange a new book drive at your place of worship, work, or school.

New books may be dropped off at the Volunteer Impact office. To volunteer, please call the office at (248) 559-4950.



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#### VOLUNTEER IMPACT, INC.

#### A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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www.volunteerimpact.org

## ADOPT A SHELTER REFLECTIONS

Reflecting on past holiday seasons shared with family and friends fills us with joy and warmth. Our traditions remind us of the meaning of life. It really is a special time.

This year was exceptionally phenomenal. The competitive world in which we spend so much of our time often causes us to lose sight of our true purpose on earth. However, this year has been exceptionally phenomenal. For one day, December 4, 2004, I had the unique opportunity to help homeless families at the Lakewood Manor share the excitement of Christmas. I am extremely grateful that over twenty employees of Wachovia Securities dedicated their time and resources to benefit humanity.

As we prepared the events on this day, Kevin Bolden gave all the volunteers a tour of the shelter. The facilities are great. There are programs in place to aid the women with job placement and childcare.

Saint Nicholas entered the premises. Children lined up and prepared for pictures with him. They smiled and gleamed with gratification as they told him their utmost Christmas desires. Later on, volunteers from Wachovia utilized their creative talents when they assisted the children with their craft projects. At the same time the mothers of the children prepared to shop in the store with items donated by Wachovia from the Wish List. It was a pleasure for me to watch these women sparkle with appreciation as they shopped for gifts (at no charge) for their children. Finally, the families had a pizza party for lunch. As we prepared to leave, many families expressed thanks for enriching their life on this chilly December morning.

Micoya Hutchins, *Project Coordinator*



## 2004 IN REVIEW: OUR IMPACT ON DETROIT

*"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."*

– Dr. Martin Luther King

Thank you to our valued volunteers for transcending your individualistic concerns to strengthen our community through volunteerism. In 2004, VI volunteers completed over 600 projects, dedicating more than 23,000 hours of service to Metropolitan Detroit.

#### In just one year some of the feats of service we have accomplished included:

- 720 hours spent making dolls for children in hospitals
- 4,000 hours spent help building affordable housing
- 2,880 hours spent tutoring students
- 500 hours spent reading to children
- 1,152 hours spent preparing Sunday dinner at Ronald McDonald Houses
- 8,640 hours spent packing food boxes
- 400 hours spent walking dogs
- 2,000 hours spent serving meals
- 1,200 hours spent sorting books for distribution to Detroit schools

Without your dedication and commitment to volunteering we could not have we made this IMPACT on our community in 2004.

**WE NEED YOU IN 2005 – as a volunteer** and we are always looking for more people interested in being **PROJECT COORDINATORS**. The more Project Coordinators we have, the more good we can do for our community.

The next Project coordinator training will be on Saturday, January 22, 2005

Joan E. Bodnar, *Executive Director*





# Volunteer Opportunities for January 2005

*"Volunteerism is giving of yourself to provide hope to people in need."*

## 2 SUNDAY COTS

Prepare and serve lunch.  
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 5  
Call: Gloria Sarver • 586-293-1914

## 2 SUNDAY RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE – ANN ARBOR

Bring a dish to serve for Sunday dinner.  
Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Ann Arbor  
Volunteers: 8  
Call: Dolores Oakley • 734-844-7649

## 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 MONDAYS SOUTHWEST TUTORING PROGRAM

Help elementary and middle school students improve their academic skills.  
Time: 4:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Call: Grace Colter • 248-735-4430

## 4, 11, 18 & 25 TUESDAYS DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY – CHASE BRANCH

Help students with homework.  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Call: Dortha Pitts • 313-578-8002

## 4, 11, 18 & 25 TUESDAYS DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY – MARK TWAIN BRANCH

Help students with homework.  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Call: Karen Bell Abbott • 313-924-9272

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT PROJECT



Kids 12 and younger may attend **Family Friendly** projects as long as they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.



**Youth Friendly Projects** are for teens 13-17 years old unless specified.



**Singles** Projects are designed for single adults.



**Seniors** – 55 years or older.

## 6, 13, 20 & 27 THURSDAYS HADASSAH – DOLL MAKING

Make cute and cuddly dolls for distribution to children in local hospitals.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: West Bloomfield  
Volunteers: 5  
Call: Eleanor Smith 248-626-0762



## 8 SATURDAY HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MACOMB

Help build affordable housing.  
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Location: Eastpointe  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Mark Surmont • 586-772-4892 2#

## 8 SATURDAY KIWANIS NO 1 CLUB

Sort books for distribution to Detroit Public Schools.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 20  
Call: Volunteer Impact • 248-559-4950



## 9 SUNDAY CHERRYWOOD NURSING HOME PET THERAPY

Bring your dog to visit with the residents.  
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Location: Sterling Heights  
Volunteers: 8  
Call: Connie Carr • 586-465-5931  
Email: ccarr@etdinc.com

## 9 SUNDAY RONALD MCDONALD – DETROIT

Bring a dish for Sunday dinner for families staying at the house while their child is in the hospital.  
Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 7  
Call: Volunteer Impact • 248-559-4950

## 15 SATURDAY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Help construct affordable housing. You must be at least 18 years old. If with an adult 16 and 17 year olds may volunteer.  
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Volunteer Impact • 248-559-4950

## 15 SATURDAY FOCUS: HOPE

Packing food boxes.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Jackie Goforth • 248-593-9749  
Email: jacalyn.s.goforth@us.pwc.com



## 15 SATURDAY DEARBORN ANIMAL SHELTER

Dog walking. You must be at least 14 years of age.  
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  
Location: Dearborn  
Volunteers: 10  
Call: Micoya Hutchins • 248-559-4950

## 15 SATURDAY GLEANERS – TAYLOR

Pack food boxes.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Taylor  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Volunteer Impact • 248-559-4950



## 15 SATURDAY GLEANERS – DETROIT

Pack food boxes.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Julie Kroflich • 248-478-5168

## 16 SUNDAY ARDEN COURT OF BINGHAM FARMS ALZHEIMER'S ASSISTED LIVING

Assist residents with simple art and craft projects.  
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Bingham Farms  
Volunteers: 5  
Call: Andrea Ferriss • 248-644-8100 ext. 210

## 20 THURSDAY ST. LEO'S SOUP KITCHEN

Prepare and serve lunch.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Detroit  
Volunteers: 8  
Call: Gloria Sarver • 586-293-1914

## 22 SATURDAY FOOD BANK OF OAKLAND COUNTY

Pack food boxes.  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Pontiac  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Sherri Fresorger • 248-596-1157  
Email: sherri.a.fresorger@gm.com

## 22 SATURDAY CITY OF SOUTHFIELD – PARKS & REC. DADDY/DAUGHTER DINNER & DANCE

Help with registration, photo stations, refreshments and more.  
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Location: Southfield Civic Center Pavilion  
Volunteers: 15  
Call: Chris Redmond • 248-796-4616

## JANUARY COMMUNITY CALENDAR:

**2005 Motown Winter Blast Festival** has many exciting volunteer opportunities. The Winter Blast, scheduled to take place in downtown Detroit on January 21-23, 2005, was developed to create an innovative backdrop for the 2006 Super Bowl game. Please go directly to our website for more detailed information [www.motownwinterblast.com](http://www.motownwinterblast.com) or contact Mary Flynn at 248-435-0244.



**VOLUNTEER  
• I M P A C T •**

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### TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

*In Honor Of:* The clients and friends of  
Nancy H. Welber, P.C.

*From:* Nancy H. Welber

### SAVE THE DATE!!!

***Saturday, May 14, 2005 - Hands On Detroit Day***

Watch for further information on our website  
**[www.volunteerimpact.org](http://www.volunteerimpact.org)** or in future issues of  
Volunteer Impact's Connections.

*There is no fee to volunteer, but you can show your support by sending your tax-deductible gift to help VI's mission to improve our community through hands-on volunteerism.*

**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!***