



Connections

Improving Our Detroit Metropolitan Community Through Hands-On Volunteering

Motown Winter Blast

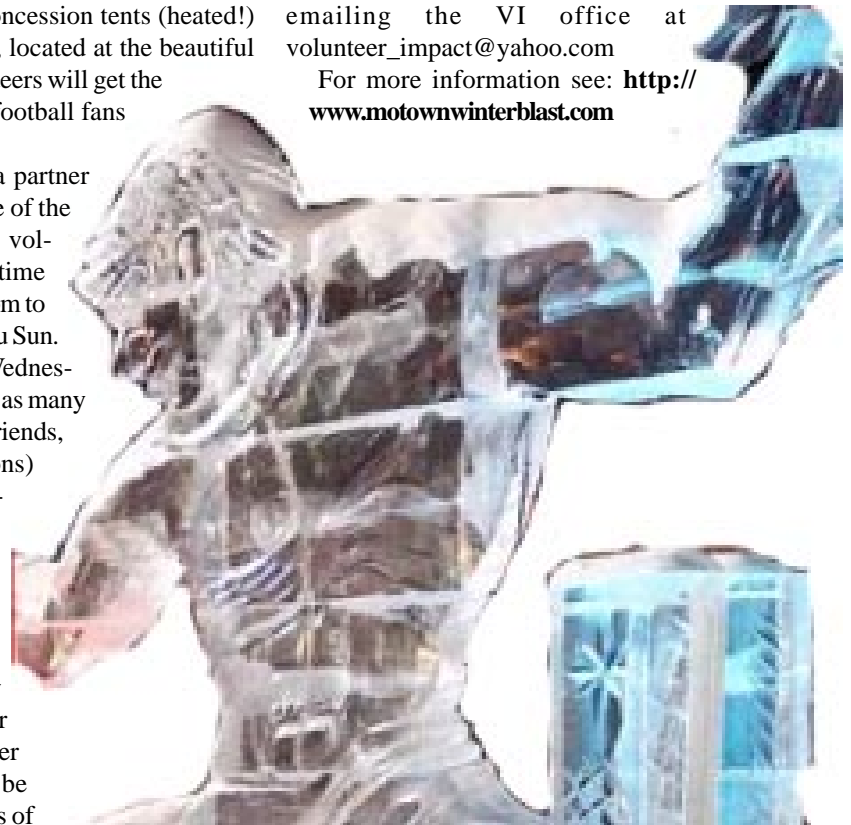
Be a Part of Superbowl Week

Come be a part of Super Bowl Week and join Volunteer Impact working in concession tents (heated!) at the Motown Winter Blast, located at the beautiful new Campus Martius. Volunteers will get the chance to help Detroit host football fans from all over the world.

the website. You may also register by emailing the VI office at volunteer_impact@yahoo.com

For more information see: <http://www.motownwinterblast.com>

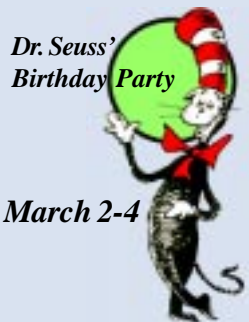
VI has been selected as a partner and will receive a percentage of the proceeds of sales. We need volunteers for daytime or nighttime shifts from 11 am to 5pm or 5pm to midnight from Wed. Feb 1 thru Sun. Feb. 5. (No early shifts on Wednesday or Thursday). Sign up for as many shifts as you wish. Groups (friends, work groups, or organizations) are encouraged to sign up together. Volunteers must be 18 years of age due to the sale of alcohol. This event is unusual for VI because you must attend a training session. Registration is now available online under 'Events'. Please register under "My Account"(it's free) to be able to use the online features of



Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are.

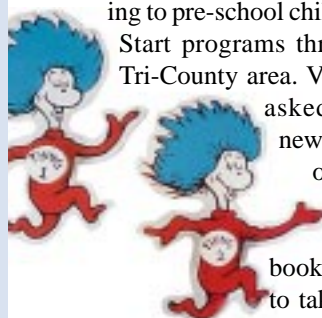
-Journal entry by Nkosi Johnson, Zulu, who died aged 12 from AIDS after helping to bring international attention to the epidemic

Save the Dates



WHAT'S INSIDE!

- 2 Letter from the President, Volunteer Birthday Party
- 3 Youth Board News, Mitten Making Magic
- 4 Calendar of Events and Opportunities
- 6 100+ Club
- 7 Tributes



Dr. Seuss' Birthday Party

I like to read to kids and play, I like to read to kids, I say

Volunteer Impact invites you to join our 6th annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Party March 2-4. This literacy project is designed to bring the excitement of reading to pre-school children at Head Start programs throughout the Tri-County area. Volunteers are asked to bring a new book to read one-on-one to a child, and present the book to the child to take home. We

Drop-Off Sites for New Books

Kanter Associates: 100 Galleria Office Centre, Suite 401, Southfield – Twelve Mile and Telegraph

VI Office: 6960 Orchard Lake Road, Ste. 204-207, West Bloomfield – Just North of Jack Cauley Chevrolet – Phone: (248) 932-2580

are looking for people who would like to serve as project coordinators for sites. VI provides a simple craft and lesson plan for the day. This is an annual signature event for Volunteer Impact, and often one of the year's most anticipated by past volunteers.

We invite corporate teams, youth groups, school groups, individuals, and even good-hearted grinchers to partake. Most events are on Friday, March 3.

Please call or e-mail the VI office if you are interested in being a project coordinator for a site.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Welber Barr, President
Dolores Oakley, Past President
Marcy Heller Fisher, Secretary
Michael F. Daniels, Treasurer
Jerome Kanter, Member at Large
Seth M. Fisher
Karen Hanson
Kimberly Haranczak
Katie Hartman-Sheridan
Mary Frances Kilcoyne
Judith Letvin Liebman
Tova Perlmutter
Sheldon Reid

FOUNDER

Elizabeth Kanter Groskind

GENERAL COUNSEL

David Kotzian

CONNECTIONS EDITOR

Seth M. Fisher

ADVISORY BOARD

Mitch Albom
Dennis Bernard
Paul Bridgewater
Ed Deeb
R. Sue Dodea
Jacalyn S. Goforth
Todd Harrison
David C. Hellman
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:
6960 Orchard Lake Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
Suite 207 (Mail 204)
(248) 932-2580 Phone
www.volunteerimpact.org

From the President

New Year's Resolve



Nancy Welber Barr *Revitalizing Metro Detroit through Volunteering!*

Welcome to January. As I write this, we have yet to see the sun in 2006, but that doesn't mean that at Volunteer Impact we are in hibernation. Quite the contrary. We're gearing up for another great year of

At VI, we have a bonus in store for you. If you forgot to sign up to volunteer for the Super Bowl, you can still volunteer and help VI in the process. Get a group of friends together and volunteer to sell beverages at the Motown Winter Blast. We'll be in heated tents, and best of all, we'll be raising money for VI while we work. You must be 18 to participate. Please go to our website, www.volunteerimpact.org for the details and to sign up.

So, let's get real about your New Year's resolutions. The one that says you have to drop 10 pounds? You can start that in March as bathing suit season approaches. But the one that says my family and I will get more involved in the community? Just click to our calendar and let's get it started. From all of the volunteers of Volunteer Impact, we wish you and your family a very Happy New Year.

Did you know that January is the most difficult month for agencies to get volunteers? Agencies, especially soup kitchens and homeless shelters, turn volunteers away between Thanksgiving and Christmas. They simply have more than they can handle. But come January, everyone goes back to work and to school and they seem to turn their attention away from volunteering.

It's My Party (And I'll Help If I Want To!)

When most 11-year-old girls are asked what they want to do for their birthday, dreams of sleepover parties, lots of presents, and perhaps N'Sync stopping by to give their best wishes usually come to the fore. But one Metro-Detroit young lady decided she would much rather use the focus on her special day to help those more in need.

Huntington Woods mother Chris Gross was impressed with her daughter's idea and contacted VI for suggestions as to what they could do. "I was so pleased with how enthusiastic the girls and their parents were about the party," said Gross. "We made blankets for foster children through the mitzvah project sponsored by the National Council for Jewish Women. We also made cookies to be served at the South Oakland Shelter and gathered donated goods re-



quested by the Shelter. The girls took charge at the party, and I was able to sit back and let them lead the way."

The girls were able to make 10 baby/kid blankets for the council to provide to children when they are placed in foster homes.

Continued on next page.

Youth in Action

Mitten Making Magic

VI Teens Find One Yard of Fleece Goes a Long Way



Chelsey Spriggs works on a pair of new pink mittens for a homeless teen.

Chelsey Spriggs, a Volunteer Impact Youth Board member, and President and Founder of Kids In Service to Society (K.I.S.S.) says, "Homelessness is a lot like an onion. Every time you peel back another layer of the problem, it makes you want to cry a little more." There are approximately 12,000 homeless people in Detroit, and about 25% or roughly 3,000 of them are teens, aged 13 to 17. The K.I.S.S. girls, all honor

Shelter, where parents "shopped" for Christmas gifts for their children. By the holidays, an additional 285 pairs of mittens and over 150 scarves and cowls were donated to Covenant House Michigan for use with their Street Outreach Program for homeless teens.

This month, Chelsey is scheduled to share her pattern and teach the Girl Scouts at Hartford Memorial Baptist Church how to make mittens for their Bronze Award. If you are interested in participating in this project to help keep homeless teens warm this winter, send Chelsey an e-mail at MittenMadness@aol.com. Happy mitten making!

students at Renaissance High School, decided to help them by making hundreds of mittens and scarves out of fleece this winter.

The project, called "Mitten Making Madness," was adopted by the Volunteer Impact Youth Board and the Detroit Urban League College Club. Metropolitan Church of God in Detroit provided a donation of \$350 for the purchase of fleece, and opened its doors to sewing parties where volunteers helped cut out and sew dozens of mittens.

The mittens were the brainchild of Carolyn Spriggs, Chelsey's mother and VI member, who serves as a co-chair of the youth board. The students met at several locations throughout the month under Spriggs' supervision

On December 3, the group shared 20 sets of the mittens and scarves at the Adopt-A-Shelter event at Booth Evangeline



Eleven year-old's community service-themed birthday could start new trend *Continued from Page 2*



"I wanted to celebrate my birthday by helping others because I thought it was a good opportunity to gather my friends and do something positive," said the birthday girl. "I had a great time hanging out with my friends and helping others at the same time"

At an age when many girls care more about following the latest trends, by thinking of others first, the young lady may have just started a new one.

The birthday girl and her friends show off their baking skills.



Volunteer Opportunities for January 2006

ONGOING EVENTS

Arts and Scraps

Volunteers 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 to learn more and view events where volunteers are requested. They may contact me at artsandscraps@hotmail.com to sign up.

St. Leo's Soup Kitchen, 4860 15th Street, Detroit.

Any T, W, TH, F or S: People needed 9am-1pm daily to help prepare and clean up the noontime meal for 200 people. Under 17 needs to be accompanied by an adult. 10-15 people needed daily. If interested, contact Joseph Micallef (313) 897-6565 or Daretta Williams: daretta2450@yahoo.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.

Jan 1 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 and leave message for Dolores Oakley. 8 volunteers needed.

Jan 2 Mon

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

Jan 3 Tue

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach
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.

Jan 4 Wed

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
9:00a -1:00p Bridging Communities, Winterizing Homes
Weatherize homes for homebound seniors. No experience necessary. Looking for teams of two people for each group of homes.
Dates: Weeks of January 2 and January 9. Also, any day of either week M-F for a four-hour or longer shift. Contact: AB Anthony at Bridging Communities (313) 361-6377
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. Three-four people needed. The job involves light lifting but does require 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 or kenn1st@comcast.net
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jan 5 Thu

9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield. Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact person: Eleanor Smith (248) 626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030

Jan 5 Thu (cont.)

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen.
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps,
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jan 6 Fri

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen.

Jan 7 Sat

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Jan 10 Tue

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach
4:00-6:00 p The Children's Center: 79 W. Alexandrine, Detroit, 48201

Jan 11 Wed

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jan 12 Thu

9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield
Make cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals. Contact person: Eleanor Smith (248) 626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030
9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Volunteer Opportunities for January 2006



Jan 13 Fri

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

Jan 14 Sat

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Jan 15 Sun

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

Jan 16 Mon

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

Martin Luther King Day of Service
Join City Year Detroit in commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. King
City Year corps members nationwide will celebrate and reflect on the work of Dr. King to build the "Beloved Community", bringing together diverse groups of children, parents and community members in a day of service.
Contact Carmen Garcia at City Year for more information: (313) 874-6862 or detroitmlday@cityyear.org. Please tell them you saw the listing on Volunteer Impact.

Jan 17 Tue

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scrap
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Jan 18 Wed

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jan 19 Thu

9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield
Making cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals.
Contact person: Eleanor Smith (248) 626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030
9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
10:30a -11:30a Ushers needed, "A Honey Pot of Pooh Series, Wild Swan Theatre, Washtenaw Community College. Performances have no intermission and last about 45 minutes to one hour. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Kim McLean at the Wild Swan Theater at (734) 995-0530 or at abby@wildswantheaterorg
Note: The times listed are for showtimes. Plan to arrive 45 minutes earlier.
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Jan 20 Fri

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
10:30a -11:30a and 1:00p -2:00p Ushers needed, "A Honey Pot of Pooh Series, Wild Swan Theatre, Washtenaw Community College. Performances have no intermission and last about 45 minutes to one hour. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Kim McLean at the Wild Swan Theater at (734) 995-0530 or at abby@wildswantheaterorg
Fri: 3 persons needed.
Note: The times listed are for showtimes. Plan to arrive 45 minutes earlier.

Jan 21 Sat

9:00 -12:00 and noon to 3:00 p.m. Food Bank of Oakland County. Pack food boxes.
Volunteers needed: 15 Contact Project Coordinator: Nancy Knop (248) 332-1473 fx: (248) 335-8160, nknop@gcfb.org
Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan Oakland County
120 E. Columbia Pontiac, MI 48343
9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps
11:00a -12:00p Ushers needed, "A Honey Pot of Pooh Series", Wild Swan Theatre, Washtenaw Community College. Performances have no intermission and last about 45 minutes to one hour. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Kim McLean at the Wild Swan Theater at (734) 995-0530 or at abby@wildswantheaterorg
Thurs and Fri: 3 persons needed, 8 persons needed
Note: The times listed are for showtimes. Plan to arrive 45 minutes earlier.
12:00p -3:00p Food Bank of Oakland County, Afternoon Shift. Pack food boxes
Volunteers needed: 15
Contact Project Coordinator: Nancy Knop (248) 332-1473 fx: (248) 335-8160 nknop@gcfb.org
Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan Oakland County
120 E. Columbia Pontiac, MI 48343

Jan 23 Mon

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center 1:00p -2:00p

Jan 24 Tue

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps

Jan 24 Tue (cont.)

4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Jan 25 Wed

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center

Jan 26 Thu

9:00a -12:00p Hadassah Doll-Making Project, West Bloomfield
Making cute dolls to distribute to children in area hospitals.
Contact person: Eleanor Smith (248) 626-0762 or Greater Detroit Hadassah Office (248) 683-5030

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Jan 27 Fri

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen

Jan 28 Sat

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -4:00p Arts and Scraps

Jan 30 Mon

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

Jan 31 Tue

9:00a -1:00p St. Leo's Soup Kitchen
11:00a -6:00p Arts and Scraps
4:00p -6:00p The Children's Center
4:00p -6:00p Deeper Life Outreach

Feb. 1-5

Motown Winter Blast
12:00p-5:00p or
5:00p-midnight
Sign up with up to five of your friends, or just come alone to work concessions at the Motown Winter Blast during Superbowl week to benefit Volunteer Impact. Must be 18 or older to sell alcohol. Great event for young singles! Two shifts available daily.



Platinum Donors
(\$5,000 or more)

The Sills Foundation
PriceWaterhouseCoopers,
LLP

Gold Donors
(\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Minot Rajput
Mitch Albom
A Friend of Volunteer Impact
Virginia Cassar
Austin Kanter

Silver Donors
(\$500-\$999)

C.S.I. Support &
Development Services
Marcy and Rob Fisher
Julie Kroflich
Henry Tarnow
and Tarnow Doors
Nancy H. Welber, P.C.

100+ Club

Bronze Donors
(\$100-\$499)

Judith and Joshua Adler
Zan Alley
Chuck Altman
Tom and Gretchen Anderson
JoAnn Andrees
Jill A. Bankey
Martin and Nancy Barr
Richard M. Bauhof
Mitzi and Jeffrey Berger
Nancy and Larry Bluth
Beth Brandvain
Kathy and Jim Carney
Evelyn M. Cherson
Cynthia Churches
Constance Colthorp-Amrine
Pamela and Michael
Dangovian
The Jon and Judith
Desenberg Charitable Fund
Detroit Institute of Arts –
Volunteer Committee
Kathleen Donovan and
Robert Jacques
Ron Elkus
Bonnie and Todd Flood
Steven Frank
Donald J. Griggs
David Grossman
Susan Guenther
Karen Hanson
Julie Hantman
Shelly and Ron Harwood
Barbara Heller
Kara Hocking
Dorothy Hwang
Tim and Pat Joy
Jerry and Sherry Kanter

Bronze Donors
(cont.)

Kell and Lynch, P.C.
Carol and Mitchell Klein
Glenn Klosterhaus
Mary Frances Kilcoyne and
Michael Kuzniar
Michael and Kathy Lewis
Sam Misuraca
Denise Murray
Dolores Oakley
George Oakley
David and Andrea Page Fund
Tova Perlmutter
Mary Pickett
The Employees of Premier
Business Products
Mary E. Puvogel
Debbie and Ron Shapiro
Margaret and Joel Smoller
Gary and Geri Spezia
Mary and Louis Stern
The Strunk Foundation
Unum Provident Life Insurance
of Southfield
Volkswagen of America, Inc.
Lora Weingarden and Michael
Pasick
Milton and Renee Wohl
Alfred Wood, Jr and Florence
Monnier
Jean Yee
Rick and Julie Zussman

*We honor and thank the above
donors who have made contri-
butions to Volunteer Impact of
\$100 or more as of
Dec. 31, 2005*

Tributes

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

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, and we will be happy to help you with this process.

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

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

In honor of: The wedding anniversary of Eli and Joanna Bergerm by Mitzi and Jeffrey Berger

In honor of: Marla Drutz, Grace Gilchrist, and Rochelle Riley for all of the help they give to Bookstock, by Roz Blanck

In honor of: A Happy Holiday Season for the Friends of Tarnow Doors, by Henry Tarnow and Tarnow Doors

In honor of: Nancy and Richard Barr, by Michael and Kathy Lewis

In honor of: Hank and Sharron Crawford, by the employees of Premier Business Products

VI also would like to thank *Premier Business Products* for donating the color copying for the insert for our recent mailing, and the good people of *JVS in Southfield* for their tireless efforts in sorting our mailing.

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>