

Valley United Way

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Proudly Serving the Valley Community since 1995

United Way



Valley United Way March, 2010

Mission Statement

The Corporate Volunteer Council strives to enhance the quality of life in the Valley by promoting and fostering corporate volunteerism through the sharing of ideas and information on corporate volunteer management and actions that can be driven to address issues of community concern.

All efforts performed by the CVC will be conducted to collectively embrace change and leverage diversity.

Corporate Volunteer Council Elects New Leadership



Rose Gurn (left) and Lynn Kieley (right) have been elected to serve as the Corporate Volunteer Council's 2010 Co-Chairs. Rose has worked for Pitney Bowes for 34 years, where she is currently a Sr. Global Product Manager. She has been a member of the CVC for 3 years. Lynn has been involved with the CVC since joining Newtown Savings Bank as the manager of the White Hills branch in 2006. Both are excited about the opportunity to lead the CVC in 2010.

Don't Overlook the Tax Advantages of Volunteering

Tax filing time is right around the corner. When you do your taxes, don't overlook the potential tax advantages of volunteering your time for charitable work.

While your time spent working on behalf of a charitable organization is not tax-deductible, your travel expenses are. On your 2009 tax return you may deduct the miles you spent driving to and from, or on behalf of your volunteer duties at 14 cents per mile. This rate stays the same for 2010. Keep a log of your mileage as proof for the IRS. You can do this by keeping a mileage log in your car (available at Staples for a couple of bucks) or jot it down on your calendar after every trip.

In addition to mileage, you can also deduct the cost of any supplies or equipment you purchased in conjunction with your volunteer work. Perhaps you volunteer in a hospital and need to purchase a uniform. The costs for the apparel AND the costs to clean the uniform can qualify as charitable deductions. Meals and lodging expenses incurred while volunteering may be deductible – for instance, if you travel to another state or country to do volunteer work.

The organization for which you volunteer must be a religious organization, federal, state or local government, non-profit organization, public park or recreation facility or public charity. War veterans' groups qualify too. More information is available in IRS Publication 526.

Some of this article was reproduced from The Boston Globe's online news outlet www.boston.com.

Did you know?

Certain 2010 Cash Contributions for Haitian Relief Can Be Deducted on Your 2009 Tax Return

If you made a charitable contribution of money for Haitian Relief after January 11, 2010 and before March 1, 2010, a new law allows you to take a deduction on your 2009 return instead of your 2010 return. Contributions of money can be made by cash, money order, credit card, charge card, debit card, or via cell phone.

The new law was enacted after the 2009 forms, instructions, and publications had already been printed. When preparing your 2009 tax return, you may complete the forms as if these contributions were made on December 31, 2009, instead of 2010. The contribution must be made to a qualified organization and meet all other requirements for charitable contribution deductions. However, if you made the contribution by phone or text message, a telephone bill showing the name of the organization, the date of the contribution, and the amount will satisfy the recordkeeping requirement.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March Food Pantry Drives

The CVC has established a year-round collection schedule to ensure a steady supply of food to the needy. Each month, local businesses conduct food drives on their premises for the **Area Congregations Together Food Pantry**. ACT also runs Spooner House, a homeless shelter in Shelton. Companies holding drives this month are:

- *Ned Miller Associates* ■ *Freedom Disability*
- *Computershare* ■ *CDW-G*
- *Naugatuck Savings Bank* ■ *Regional Water Authority*

•Clothing Drives in March

CVC companies conduct monthly clothing drives throughout the year. Clothes are donated to **My Sister's Place** thrift shop which sells the clothing to benefit The Umbrella Domestic Violence Program and the **Helping Hands** thrift shop run by Father McKenna St. Vincent De Paul Society. Conducting drives this month:

- *Pitney Bowes* ■ *GE International*
- *Prudential* ■ *TD Bank*

Next CVC Meeting – March 18, 2010

California Closets will host the next CVC meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2010 from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. They are located at 2 Mountain Drive, Shelton. All CVC members are invited to attend.

March 27, 2010

3rd Annual Men Who Cook Fundraiser for TEAM, Inc.



From 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. at Warsaw Park Ansonia. \$50 donation

Silent auction, dancing, beer & wine, and an amazing buffet of culinary dishes prepared by 50 Valley community men.

If your company would like to volunteer a gift basket for the silent auction, contact Adrienne Cabral at 203-925-7274 or adrienne_cabral@iroquois.com.

- Arson Productions
- Altair Global Relocation
- Baldrige Seminars Int'l
- Barnum Financial Group
- Basement Systems
- Better Packages
- BIC Corporation
- CDW-G
- CG Automation Systems USA
- Cablevision
- Calvert Safe & Lock
- Citi Bank
- Comcast
- Computershare
- DRS Consultants, Inc.
- David M. Grant Caterers
- DeDonato Building
- Emhart Teknologies
- Energizer
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
- F.W. Serra, Inc.
- Fletcher Thompson
- Fred Ortol Photography
- Freedom Disability
- GE International
- GVCC
- HSBC Bank, USA
- Hamworthy Peabody
- Health Net
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Holiday Inn Express
- Homewood Suites
- Iroquois Gas
- Kerite Company
- Latex International
- Market Data Retrieval
- Marks of Design, LLC
- Minuteman Press Center
- NEC
- Naugatuck Savings Bank
- Ned Miller Associates
- Newtown Savings Bank
- People's United Bank
- PerkinElmer
- Pitney Bowes
- Professional Travel
- Prudential Financial, Inc.
- Regional Water Authority
- Riverview Funeral Home
- SSC, Inc.
- Sikorsky Aircraft
- T.D. Bank
- The Greenwich Workshop
- The Hartford
- The McIntyre Group
- United Illuminating
- Wachovia
- WalMart
- Webster Bank
- William Raveis Real Estate



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Sharing Best Practices:

Energizer Combines Community Service with Employee Party



Companies looking for a way to get their employees volunteering in the community might want to borrow a great idea from Energizer – combine community service with an employee party!

150 Energizer employees from the Shelton and Milford offices met at the Waterview catering facility one Monday afternoon in December, where they were put into teams, and transported by buses to seven different Valley non-profit agencies. Each team spent three hours doing everything from painting, sorting food, and packing clothes and toys for holiday giving programs. When the work was done, they climbed back on the buses and returned to the Waterview for a holiday party thrown for them by the company. The best part of all? Being able to share stories and fun experiences about making a difference to the community.



Energizer's "Afternoon of Caring" was coordinated by Brenda Hummel, a member of the Energizer Culture Team, with help from Pat Tarasovic, who arranged the volunteer projects at each agency. Together, Energizer employees painted walls and floors at the Boys and Girls Club in Shelton, My Sister's Place consignment shop, the "Nordstrom" room of the YMCA, and TEAM's Headstart classrooms. They also sorted food and packed holiday food baskets at ACT/Spooner House's food pantry, set up the Toy Store at TEAM's Toys for Tots program, and organized clothing, food and toys for Salvation Army's holiday giving program.



David Hatfield, Energizer CEO was very pleased with the day. "Our mission is to satisfy the needs of consumers, customers, and the community where we live and work," said David. "Giving back is a major goal."

Interested in setting up your own Day of Caring?

Consider combining it with one of these employee events to maximize participation and build team spirit:

- Company Holiday Party or Employee Picnic
- Management Training Program or Conference
- Milestone Achievement or Anniversary Celebration

For help organizing a community project for your employees, contact Pat Tarasovic in the Valley United Way's Volunteer Action Center at 926- 9478.

CVC COLLECTION COMMITTEES:

Cell Phone Collection – Used phones for victims of domestic violence

Team Leads:
Walter Binck 922-1199 ext. 250
Wbinck@hamworthy-peabody.com
Carol Pendagast 926-0001
carolp@fwserra.com

Food Pantry – Corporate food drives to benefit area food banks

Team Lead:
Kristin Bures 929-2357
Kristin.j.bures@us.hsbc.com
Carol Pendagast 926-0001
carolp@fwserra.com

Clothing Collection – Used clothes for the Umbrella Program & St. Vincent DePaul Helping Hands of the Valley

Team Leads:
Sue Millican 925-7255
Sue_Millican@iroquois.com

Mandi Marcino 203-944-0777 ext. 241
mam@themcintyregroup.com

Notions Collection – Toiletries for the men living at the Valley YMCA

Team Lead:
Antionietta Hallet 402-1405
Antionietta.hallet@prudential.com

Caring Circle – Knitted blankets and apparel for clients at Umbrella

Team Leads:
Antionietta Hallet 402-1405
Antionietta.hallet@prudential.com

Michelle Fabozzi 944-3385
michelle.fabozzi@corporate.ge.com

Computer Collection – Refurbished equipment donated to charities

Team Lead:
Alan Tolmich 929-9746
atolmich@sbcglobal.net

Valley United Way

Jack Walsh, President & Chief Operating Officer
Jack.walsh@valleyunitedway.org
Patricia C. Tarasovic, Director, Volunteer Center
Patricia.Tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org

CVC 2010 Co-Chairs

Lynn Kieley – Newtown Savings Bank
lkieley@nsboline.com
Rose Gurn – Pitney Bowes
Rose.gurn@pb.com

Forward comments regarding the CVC newsletter to:

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