

**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.*

**It's Time To Go Back to School!**

CVC member companies clothed more than **180 children** at Mead School in Ansonia, the Spooner House and the Parent Child Resource Center through their 11<sup>th</sup> annual "Back to School Clothes for Kids" program. The program provides clothing and school supplies for underprivileged children.

In an effort to boost self-esteem and provide a positive start to the new school year, CVC members purchased for each needy child two new outfits complete with socks, undergarments and sneakers, a winter coat and a backpack filled with school supplies.

**Amy Merriman** and **Maria Nicolai** of **The Hartford Corporation** co-chaired the project which included a Luau party at Mead School. Children were greeted with cookies and lemonade donated by **David Grant Caterers**, ice cream provided by **Big Y Supermarkets** and popcorn from **Enterprise Rent A Car**.

In the past eleven years the Corporate Volunteer Council has outfitted 1095 Valley children with corporate donations totaling \$210,325. The Council is proud to play a vital role in boosting self-esteem and confidence in needy school children by helping them look and feel their best – a proven positive effect on educational performance.



*CVC members with "Back-to-School" packages for 180 children at Mead School. For more photos, visit [www.valleyunitedway.org](http://www.valleyunitedway.org).*

**2006 Week of Caring: September 11-15**

Catholic Charities of Ansonia got a major facelift during the CVC's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Week of Caring, when volunteers painted rooms and completed landscaping projects for the center. The program provides an opportunity for corporations to connect with their community, share talents and work together on a project that makes a huge impact on the Valley community. This year, over 150 volunteers from numerous CVC companies participated.

"We are so grateful for the maintenance work done by the CVC," said Glenna Butler, Director of Programs for Catholic Charities. "It is very important to us to be able to welcome those who seek our help in a comfortable place that is in good condition and provides a calming, pleasant environment. It is uplifting to our clients as well as our staff."

In previous years, Week of Caring projects have included renovations to the Tinney Community Center in Ansonia, Umbrella's Safe Home for Victims of Domestic Violence, REC Camp in Derby, Derby Day Care, Salvation Army Soup Kitchen in Ansonia and Team's Headstart building. Last year, the CVC constructed Harvest House, a 400 square foot house on the Shelton Riverwalk, lined with 100,000 cans and boxes of food for the needy.

Catholic Charities is an organization that strengthens and supports families by providing professional mental health counseling, adoption and crisis pregnancy services, employment assistance and Hispanic outreach. The agency serves individuals and families regardless of age, race, gender, religion or income.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**October Corporate Food Drives**

The CVC has established a year-round collection schedule to ensure a steady supply of food to local food banks. Each month, two or three local businesses conduct food drives on their premises to benefit Area Congregations Together who distribute to food banks throughout the Valley.

The following businesses are conducting food drives in October:

- The McIntyre Group
- Hasler, Inc.

**Clothing Drives in the Month of October**

CVC Member companies conduct clothing drives throughout the year. Clothes are donated to **My Sister's Place**, a thrift shop in Ansonia which sells the clothing to benefit **The Umbrella Program**.

The following businesses are conducting clothing drives in October:

- Microsol, Inc.
- Wachovia Bank
- The Hartford Insurance
- OCI Chemical Corporation
- Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Market Data Retrieval

**Week of Caring "Thank You" Dinner – October 2, 2006**

All volunteers who participated in this year's Week of Caring are invited to a "Thank You" dinner, hosted by the Valley United Way. The dinner will be held on **Monday, October 2** from 5:00 – 6:30 PM at Catholic Charities, 205 Wakelee Ave. in Ansonia. The event will be catered compliments of **David M. Grant Caterers**, 458 River Road.

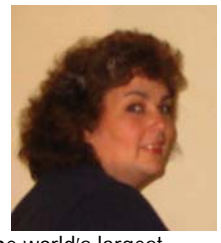
**It's United Way Season!**

The leaves are falling which must mean it's United Way season! **Jack Walsh** and **Jane Snaider** are standing by to help you with your own UW employee campaigns. Contact either of them to learn more about conducting fun filled activities that benefit your employees and their entire community.



*CVC volunteers on the steps of Catholic Charities. For more photos from Week of Caring, visit [www.valleyunitedway.org](http://www.valleyunitedway.org).*

**COMPANY OF INTEREST:**



*A Conversation with Bonnie Sinclair of NEC Infrontia, Inc.*

**Can you tell us about NEC Infrontia?**

NEC Infrontia, and our sister company, NEC Unified Solutions are divisions of NEC Corporation, one of the world's largest telecommunications suppliers. NEC Infrontia is the Engineering Research and Development Division and NEC Unified Solutions is a Sales and Marketing Division for key telephone systems. We are located at 4 Forest Parkway in Shelton and have 130 employees.

**How did you first become involved in the Corporate Volunteer Council?**

About two years ago we were invited to join the Valley United Way and the Corporate Volunteer Council (CVC). We started out with the group hoping to get involved with small Valley-based community projects and have never looked back. Great group, great projects, and we are proud to be a part of it.

**Tell us about a community project that was particularly successful at NEC Infrontia.**

We have held CVC-sponsored food bank collections several times and find it very easy and rewarding. Our employees want to help and for a small group, are very generous. In 2005, we collected nearly 1,000 items. For this year, however, we took our food collection a step further and combined it with our annual "Bring Your Children to Work" day. Susan Agamy, Executive Director at the Spooner House homeless shelter in Derby joined us and spoke to the children about the issue of homelessness. At the end of the discussion, the children were asked to put their donated food items into the collection box. They were graciously thanked and you could sense the pride in the room. The kids went on to enjoy a day of tours, pizza and games, but they walked away with something more that day as well – an appreciation for what it feels like to help those less fortunate.

**What is the impact of CVC projects like this?**

One of the children that had been present for Susan's speech attended a family pizza party a few days later. When the issue of what to do with the leftovers arose, the 9-year old said, "Why don't we bring it to the Spooner House?" A quick call was made to the Spooner House and they graciously accepted. This is an example of how one person can make a difference.

**CVC COLLECTION COMMITTEES**

The following CVC subcommittees manage ongoing collections throughout the year. For information on how you can support these efforts, contact your company's CVC representative or the individual sub-committee Team Leads listed below.

<p><b>Food Pantry – Corporate food drives to benefit area food banks</b> Team Lead: Bonnie Sinclair 203-926-5407 Bsinclair@necinfrontia.com</p>	<p><b>Notions Collection – Toiletries distributed to homeless shelters</b> Team Lead: Antonietta Hallet 203-402-1405 Antonietta.hallet@prudential.com</p>	<p><b>Cell Phone Collection – For victims of domestic violence</b> Team Lead: Jasmine Davidson 203-922-1199 ext. 222 Jdavidson@hamworthy-peabody.com</p>
<p><b>Clothing Collection – Used clothes sold through My Sister's Place to benefit the Umbrella Program</b> Team Lead: Bob VanEgghen 203-402-6852 Robert.vanegghen@perkinelmer.com</p>	<p><b>Caring Circle – Knitted blankets and apparel for clients at Umbrella</b> Team Lead: Antonietta Hallet 203-402-1405 Antonietta.hallet@prudential.com</p>	<p><b>Computer Collection – Refurbished equipment donated to area charities</b> Team Lead: Alan Tolmich 203-944-7300 ext. 149 Alan.tolmich@computershare.com</p>

<p><b>For more information contact your Company's CVC Rep or:</b></p>	<p><b>Valley United Way</b> Jack Walsh, President &amp; Chief Operating Officer <a href="mailto:Jack.walsh@valleyunitedway.org">Jack.walsh@valleyunitedway.org</a> Patricia C. Tarasovic, Director, Volunteer Center <a href="mailto:Patricia.Tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org">Patricia.Tarasovic@valleyunitedway.org</a></p>	<p><b>Corporate Volunteer Council Co-Chairs</b> Bill Bubbico, Pitney Bowes <a href="mailto:bill.bubbico@pb.com">bill.bubbico@pb.com</a> Adrienne Cabral, Iroquois Gas <a href="mailto:adrienne_cabral@iroquois.com">adrienne_cabral@iroquois.com</a></p>
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- CVC Member Companies*
- Alliance Security*
- Ansonia Copper and Brass*
- Barnum Financial Group*
- Bank of America*
- Basement Systems*
- BPA Worldwide*
- CAPS Business Recovery*
- CDW-G*
- Chase Bank*
- Computershare*
- Cushman & Wakefield*
- David M. Grant Caterers*
- DeDonato Building Contractors LLC*
- DiGiorgi Roofing & Siding*
- Emhart Teknologies*
- Fletcher Thompson*
- Fred Ortolì Photography*
- GE International*
- Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce*
- Hamworthy Peabody*
- Hasler, Inc.*
- Health Net*
- Homewood Suites*
- Intuit Eclipse*
- Iroquois Gas*
- Latex Foam*
- Life Touch National School Studios*
- Market Data Retrieval*
- Microsol, Inc.*
- Naugatuck Savings Bank*
- NEC*
- Northeast Utilities*
- OCI Chemical*
- Pitney Bowes*
- PerkinElmer*
- Pro Travel*
- Prudential*
- SSC, Inc.*
- Sikorsky Aircraft*
- The Hartford*
- The McIntyre Group*
- United Illuminating*
- Wachovia*
- WalMart*
- Warner Ins & Financial*
- Webster Bank*