



Good Work!

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED 

To encourage civic engagement year round.

Volume 4, Issue 8

2-1-1 Hotline Give Help

July/August 2009

Disaster response is everyone's BUSINESS!

No time like the present, eh? While hurricanes are not the only disastrous events to which the Lowcountry is vulnerable, they receive the most attention, and now is when things traditionally start heating up. In fact, disaster can happen anytime and on any scale, and all of us have the potential to be part of the devastation and part of the rebuilding. How much of which depends on planning and preparedness.

The Business Roundtable, an association of CEOs of leading US companies, has published *Rebuilding Our Communities (ROC): Helping*

Companies Set Priorities to Aid Long-Term Recovery. The booklet looks at aspects of business's role in a community's response and recovery in times of disaster, one of which is the role of employees as volunteers. Following is an excerpt from ROC:

There is a broad range of expertise that employees may have that could be extremely useful once the crisis passes. When deciding how to integrate employees into the recovery effort, your company should consider the following questions:

- *What is the most effective and rewarding way to engage employees in recovery efforts?*
- *When is the best time to encourage employees to volunteer after a disaster to ensure that they will be well utilized (six months, one year, two years)?*
- *What are the skills and expertise the community needs to expedite its recovery?*



- *Does your company have employees who live in the affected community?*
- *What are these employees' roles in the community and how can the company support them?*
- *How can the company's commitment to recovery become an opportunity to promote teamwork and boost company morale?*
- *Should your company consider developing a formal employee volunteer program to support its corporate commitment or link to an existing organization?*
- *What incentives can your company provide employees to encourage volunteer assistance (e.g., paid time off)?*

Many individuals (employees) are already involved in our community disaster response, either through the Red Cross, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), etc. Companies should consider how they can support their community by allowing these individuals to be available to assist in the recovery efforts.

Of course and always, the #1 priority in disaster preparedness is planning for self and family.

- For more information from the Business Roundtable on business and disaster response, visit their website at businessroundtable.org or download *Rebuilding Our Community* at <http://respondtodisaster.org/sites/default/files/Rebuilding%20Communities%20.pdf>.
- For more information on disaster preparedness for self, business and community, visit lowcountryredcross.org or ready.gov

Good Work takes good planning

[adapted from The YOU Docs - Mike Roizen and Mehmet Oz <http://www.curves.com/mycurves/the-you-docs.php?id=18>]

Volunteering – good. It's been researched, studied, anecdotally supported. Volunteering is good for the community; good for business; good for individuals; good for families, good for aging...it's just good!

And, not all volunteering is a good fit for all people. You may love to work outside digging, building cleaning, even in the billion degree weather here in the Lowcountry. Your best friend, however, would prefer reading to children, sorting donated items or organizing shelves in the comfort of air conditioning cranked up to "arctic."

Here are a few tips to consider as you continue your journey of community engagement.

- What's important to me? Give away your time to something you believe has meaning and purpose, and watch your happiness go up, which is critical in stressful times. You don't have an obligation to society to find a bigger purpose. You have an obligation to yourself.

- How much time do I want to give? A daily commitment may be great for network-building, but once a week is fine, and once in a while is a good start.
- Would I rather do something I'm good at? Donating your gardening or accounting expertise may be very satisfying. But if you want to try out a new interested or learn a new skill, go for it.
- What's available near me?
- Got anything else? Don't let yourself get stuck in a volunteer opportunity that does not work for you. Just accept that it's not the right fit and move on. The right spot will leave you feeling like you can't wait to come back next time. Don't settle for less; your happiness deserves a good match. So do the people or the cause you're helping.

For information on volunteer opportunities, visit TUW.org and follow the Volunteer banner to the Big Blue Button.

Good Work! can be good deeds AND good stuff!

For Lists of Volunteer Opportunities AND Items Needed by Helping Agencies
 Visit TUW.org * Click "VOLUNTEER" * Follow the **BIG BLUE BUTTON**

SPONSOR	EVENT/ OPPORTUNITY	DESCRIPTION	DATES TIMES	CONTACT NUMBER EMAIL
Increasing H.O.P.E.	Back to School	Volunteers will assist with passing out literature and answering questions to inform the community about service to help individuals and families with personal finance skills, credit/debt management, and successful home ownership. Help also needed w/set up & break down.	Aug 15 10am-1pm North Charleston Coliseum	Dorothea Bernique 225-4343 increasinghope@msn.com
Charleston Mayor's Office for Children, Youth and Families	7th Annual First Day Festival	Held at the Maritime Center and Liberty Square, volunteers are needed to assist with kids' games, exhibitors, boat rides, the food court, and much more! It's tons of fun! You can sign up for the first or second shift, or both. If you are not available on Sunday, you can sign up for pre-festival volunteer opportunities — vendor registration, promotion, etc.	Aug 16 Volunteers are needed 8:30am-4:30pm	Dominique Green 965-4190 mocyfintern@ci.charleston.sc.us
American Heart Association	empowerME	Volunteers are needed to outside for a few hours and speak intelligently and politely with children about empowerME — a program to educate children and their families about the benefits of good nutrition and exercise. Instruction will be given about the program and how to impart the information to the kids.	Aug 16 Noon-5pm Maritime Center at the First Day Festival	Courtney Duncan 853-1597 Courtney.duncan@heart.org
Trident Literacy	Buy or Burn Book Sale	TLA is trying to save as many books as possible by having a gi-normous book sale! We need volunteers August 17-20 to help collect, sort, organize and set up for the sale. On August 21-22, we need volunteers to help with the sale itself. Volunteers will work in 2-3 hour shifts.	Aug 17-20, 9am-4pm Aug 21, 8am-7pm Aug 22, 8am-6pm 1650 Sam Rittenberg West Ashley	Cheryl Moniz 747-2223 cmoniz@tridentlit.org
The ARK	Race for The ARK	The Race will benefit the ARK programs that support people with Alzheimers and related illnesses and their families. Volunteers are needed to assist with food set-up, booths for vendor sponsors, registrations and distributing food and snacks to participants.	Aug 29 Race begins at 7:45am (Volunteers needed earlier!) 206 Central Avenue Summerville	Peg Lahmeyer 832-2357 pklahmeyer@sc.rr.com
Trident United Way	It's not too late! Has your company team signed up?	 Trident United Way	Sep 11 — All day! All over the place! Be a part of the largest Day of Caring in the galaxy!	Sally Burnett 566-7185 211volunteer@tuw.org Tuw.org > 2009 Day of Caring

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

2-1-1 Hotline Give Help



Choose → **VOLUNTEER**



Click ↖

Trident United Way
 PO Box 63305
 North Charleston, SC 29419

Phone: 843.566.7185

Fax: 843.566.7193

Email: 211volunteer@tuw.org

Create the Community
 You Want!