

THE 2008 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK CHALLENGES AMERICANS TO CREATE SOCIAL CHANGE

Engage, inspire and recognize is the week's focus

ATLANTA – April 22, 2008 – Did you know?

- Individuals who volunteer have lower mortality rates than those who do not.
- Communities with high levels of neighbors working with and helping each other are more healthy and vibrant places to live and work.
- Service learning has a strong impact on students:
 - 96 percent of teachers report students learn more through service learning than instruction alone
 - 46 percent report improved grades
 - 36 percent report decrease in absenteeism

The impact of volunteering can't be overstated. 2008 National Volunteer Week (NVW), April 27 – May 3, will engage individuals in service, inspire others to join a movement for change and recognize deserving volunteers. The week, an initiative of the largest volunteer network in the nation, Points of Light & Hands On Network, and sponsored by Target, will highlight the impact of volunteerism as a civic change agent – as thousands of people associated with affiliates, community organizations and corporations will engage in hundreds of service projects nationwide.

Engage

It's easy for people to get involved with National Volunteer Week, which was created by presidential executive order in 1974. Individuals and groups can pledge to serve by visiting www.1-800-volunteer.org. There they can become engaged or even list a local service project they plan to complete.

Inspire

When a community comes together, volunteers can truly change the world, and technology will give those volunteers a voice. Participants in National Volunteer Week can share and post their success stories at www.nvwstories.org, or they can upload and share photos of their project sites within the group "2008 National Volunteer Week" on www.Flickr.com.

Recognize

The week also recognizes outstanding volunteers who have created and/or continue to create positive civic change. Volunteer organizations are encouraged to visit www.presidentialserviceawards.gov to nominate their most dedicated volunteers who are making an impact in their local community.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the prestigious President's Volunteer Service Award to honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. The award is open to any individual, family or group for completing a certain number of volunteer hours over a 12-month period or over the course of a lifetime.

National Volunteer Week 2008/Add One

"The week has become a national platform to demonstrate that challenges are met not as isolated individuals but as members of a true community working together to meet a common goal," said Michelle Nunn, president of Points of Light & Hands On Network. "Every day, countless Americans act selflessly in the service of others, and do so without fanfare or public recognition. National Volunteer Week celebrates our country's rich history of volunteerism and encourages individuals to be at the center of civic change, discovering their power to make a difference," she added.

"For a second year, we are joining with Points of Light & Hands On Network to sponsor National Volunteer Week," said Laysha Ward, vice president, community relations, Target. "Target sees this as an extension of our corporate mission to support volunteering by recognizing outstanding volunteers and encouraging people across the country to get involved in their own communities."

Volunteerism is at the heart of Target. Since Target first opened its doors, team members, retirees, family and friends have volunteered millions of hours to community projects. This commitment is part of the company's legacy. As the 2008 NVW presenting sponsor, Target is significantly expanding national awareness to increase participation through marketing and support of the President's Volunteer Service Award. On April 30, in honor of NVW, 150 Target employees will be joined by more than 50 community members in Minneapolis to makeover the school library. Building on Target's commitment to education and volunteerism, this event will serve as the kick-off to a pilot program of eight school library refurbishments taking place across the country between August and September 2008. The signature volunteer program will provide Target team members with year-long opportunities to get involved with local schools in their community – offering everything from book donations to simple library refreshes to major library makeovers. The signature volunteer program is slated to expand to all Target stores in 2009.

For more information, please visit www.pointsoflight.org or www.handsonnetwork.org.

Points of Light & Hands On Network

Points of Light & Hands On Network is a national nonprofit whose core mission is to inspire, equip and mobilize people to take action that changes the world. Our collective network -- now the largest in the nation -- connects 370 civic hubs managing millions of volunteers and thousands of volunteer-driven community impact projects annually across the country.

Target

Minneapolis-based Target serves guests at 1,613 stores in 47 states nationwide by delivering today's best retail trends at affordable prices. Target is committed to providing guests with great design through innovative products, in-store experiences and community partnerships. Whether visiting a Target store or shopping online at Target.com, guests enjoy a fun and convenient shopping experience with access to thousands of unique and highly differentiated items. Since 1946, the corporation has invested five percent of its income in the communities it serves. Target (NYSE:TGT) gives more than \$3 million a week to its local communities through grants and special programs. Target partners with nonprofit organizations, guests and team members to help meet community needs.

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