

NEWS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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Professional Development Conference for Educators to be Held

Linking Service Learning to Common Core

North Jersey—Special early registration rates are available for New Jersey educators to attend **Service Learning New Jersey: Building Our Future**, the 2013 Professional Development Conference presented by the NJ State Governor's Jefferson Awards, the Volunteer Center of Bergen County and generationOn.

The conference will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 from 8:15 am to 3:15 pm at the Kean University STEM Building, 1000 Morris Avenue in Union, NJ. Attendees who register before June 30, 2013 will receive the early bird discount rate of \$45.00 per person, which includes lunch and all materials. After June 30th, the rate is \$60 per person. All attendees will receive a Certificate of Participation for six credit hours of professional development. Service-Learning is a research-based teaching and learning strategy that engages youth in service to meet learning objectives and address real-world issues. The conference will be of interest to all K-12 Educators, including teachers, administrators, counselors, faculty advisors, volunteer service coordinators, curriculum coordinators, campus ministers and club moderators.

The workshop curriculum will offer strategies that will integrate service learning principles with common core objectives, to include:

- Preparing students for life beyond school
- Teaching students to solve problems through inquiry and analysis
- Developing students' understanding of real-world issues
- Demonstrating literacy with a variety of texts

- Applying learning to new situations, especially real-world contexts
- Gaining knowledge and skills for success in college and career
- Engaging students in critical thinking and problem solving

Keynote speaker is Joan Liptrot, Executive Director of the Institute for Global Education and Service Learning, a non-profit training organization that works with schools, National Service Programs and organizations across the country interested in establishing, improving, or expanding a service learning initiative.

Workshops will include:

- Investigating issues using Newspapers in Education
- Developmentally appropriate service learning
- Stories from the field—How our schools engage students in community action
- Schools networking with Community agencies to build our future
- Serving as the Service Learning coach in a school
- Engaging Youth Voice
- GenerationOn Schools

For more information, contact Karen Hatcher, Director of Youth Programming, NJ State Governor's Jefferson Awards at Karen@sianj.com or by phone: 908-797-4649.

Sponsors for **Service-Learning, New Jersey; Building Our Future** are State Farm, PNC Bank, PSEG, Verizon, BD, The Star Ledger/NJ.com and the Community Foundation of New Jersey.

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