## **NEWS** volunteer center of bergen county, inc.

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For immediate release December 10, 2012 End date: January 14, 2012 Contact: Amanda Missey (201) 489-9454 Ext. 119 Maureen McCormick (201) 489-9454 Ext. 126

## **BoardLink: Connecting Leaders with Non-profit Organizations**

<u>North Jersey</u>: Bergen LEADS, Bergen County's premier civic leadership program that is sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, will present an evening workshop on board service for individuals who wish to serve on a non-profit board or for those already engaged as a board member.

**BoardLink** will be presented on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, from 3 pm to 9 pm at IKEA, 100 Ikea Drive in Paramus. Cost to attend is \$100 per person, which includes dinner and all course materials. A group rate of 3 registrations for \$175 is also available to agencies that are members of the Volunteer Center. Pre-registration is required for this limited-seating program. Register on-line at <u>www.bergenvolunteers.org</u> or call 201-489-9454 Ext. 119.

"Serving on a non-profit board can provide recognition, visibility, networking, career enhancement and the ability to effect change by addressing important social needs," says Amanda Missey, Director of Bergen LEADS. "But along with the benefits comes responsibility to help the organization accomplish its mission and achieve its goals."

New Jersey is home to more than 31,000 non-profit organizations, with 3,600 in Bergen County alone. These organizations employ 10% of the workforce and spend more than \$38 billion annually, constituting a significant portion of the state's economy. A non-profit organization is only as strong as its leadership, and local non-profit boards are eagerly seeking skilled and knowledgeable volunteers to help guide their organizations.

"**BoardLink** offers a wonderful opportunity to learn about board structure, strategic planning, fiduciary responsibility, ethics, advocacy and fundraising. A thorough understanding of these topics is critical to serving – and serving well – on a non-profit board," continues Ms. Missey. "Upon completion of the workshop, the Volunteer Center will help match participants to a board that is in need of their particular skills, talents and interests."

For more information about Bergen LEADS, or the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, visit <u>www.bergenvolunteers.org</u>, or call 201-489-9454.

Founded by the Junior League in 1966, the Volunteer Center of Bergen County strengthens the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model direct service volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs

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