

Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council Volunteer Center of Bergen County 64 Passaic Street Hackensack NJ 07601 VOICE: 201-489-9454 FAX: 201-489-1995 E_MAIL: <u>NNJBVC@bergenvolunteers.org</u> www.bergenvolunteers.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 20, 2012 End date: Sept. 7, 2012 CONTACT: Tess Tomasi Ext 114 Maureen McCormick Ext. 126 (201) 489-9454

BVC to Present Corporate Workshops at Conference on Volunteerism

<u>North Jersey</u>-- The Volunteer Center of Bergen County's Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council (BVC) will be organizing and presenting the corporate track of workshops specifically geared towards business volunteer programs at this year's NJ Governor's Conference on Volunteerism, to be held on Friday, October 5, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick, NJ. The Governor's Conference Corporate track is sponsored by Novartis.

The NJ Governor's Conference on Volunteerism attracts hundreds of representatives from non-profit organizations, government agencies, community groups and corporations across the state. The Conference presenting sponsor is Comcast; major sponsor is Bank of America.

Corporate community service has become a critical element in affecting a company's bottom line. Employees, investors, consumers and the public are placing more emphasis on how a company demonstrates ethical business practices and commitment to improving community conditions, and they are offering their loyalty and dollars to those companies who do make a difference. The successful companies will be those who can communicate their commitment to community service and effectively engage their employees to participate in projects that will have significant impact on the communities where they live and work.

Topics at the BVC's Corporate Track workshops will include:

- Building a robust Employee Volunteer Program (EVP)
- Storytelling for EVP managers
- The CSR Report—How does your EVP fit in?
- Using data to measure impact of your EVP on the company, employees and community
- The Future of Volunteering in NJ—an interactive session

At the Corporate Track luncheon, representatives from Fortune Magazine's Most Admired Companies---Best in Social Responsibility, will participate in a panel discussion on what they do to make them the best of the best. Two of the top 10 companies are members of the Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council.

"The BVC has been named one of the Corporate Volunteer Councils of the Year by the national volunteer agencies HandsOn Network and Points of Light Institute. The experience of their members with maintaining strong Employee Volunteer Programs is unsurpassed. We urge all companies to send a representative to this year's Governor's Conference to learn ways to develop or maintain their own programs," says Janet Sharma, executive director of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County.

The NJ Governor's Conference on Volunteerism begins at 7:30 am registration and breakfast, with opening plenary at 9:00 am. Registration fees for the Corporate Track are: Early bird (before Sept.7)-- \$100 includes free parking; regular --\$125; on-site-- \$150. Fees include materials, continental breakfast and lunch. There is a \$6.00 parking fee. To register for the Corporate Track of the NJ Governor's Conference on Volunteerism, call 609-633-9627 or visit <u>www.nj.gov/state/divisions/volunteerism</u> to download a registration form.

For more information about the Conference on Volunteerism in general, email <u>Rowena.madden@sos.state.nj.us</u> or call 609-633-9627

Registration forms for the Corporate Track only can be obtained by calling Tess Tomasi from the Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council at 201-489-9454 Ext. 114 or email at <u>ttomasi@bergenvolunteers.org</u>.

^{###}