



VOLUNTEER FACT SHEET

THE NATIONAL CENTER

1111 North Nineteenth Street

Suite 500

Arlington, Virginia 22209

(703) 276-0542

Volunteer Center is a generic term for a local organization with the primary mission of increasing and promoting volunteering in the local community. Volunteer Centers are private nonprofit organizations and operate as independent agencies or as a part of another organization. They use the names Volunteer Center of (city/county), Voluntary Action Center, Volunteer Service Bureau and other similar titles that express their overall purpose.

The majority of Volunteer Centers receive their operating funds from a number of sources. The funders include United Way, grants, contracts, foundations and fees for service. In addition, the boards of directors conduct special event fund raising activities.

There are approximately 380 Volunteer Centers in the country. The oldest has been in operation for more than fifty years and the youngest opened last month. As communities attempt to resolve their need for professional development of non-paid human resources in the delivery of social services or to increase citizen commitment to the community, they turn to the concept of a Volunteer Center. For this reason, new Volunteer Centers will be developed in cities and existing Volunteer Centers will gain strength, in the future.

VOLUNTEER-The National Center is the only national organization that views Volunteer Centers as its primary constituents and has on staff a person to work in the development of Volunteer Centers.

To locate the Volunteer Center in the community, check the telephone directory or write VOLUNTEER-The National Center.

VOLUNTEER-The National Center can provide additional materials on Volunteer Centers upon request.

For more information on Volunteer Centers, review:

- 101 Ways to Fund a Volunteer Center
- Characteristics of a Well Operated Volunteer Center
- Examples: Volunteer Center Program Activity
- Volunteer Center Directory
- Volunteer Center Survey