CORPORATE VOLUNTEER COUNCILS: OUTSIDE RESOURCES TO SUCCESSFUL EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

National VOLUNTEER Conference Workshop Session III

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SOME BASIC QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT CVCs

What does CVC mean?

CVC generally stands for "Corporate Volunteerism Council", which has come to be the generic term to describe a coalition of business corporations which have active programs in employee volunteer involvement or an interest in initiating such programs. In different areas of the country, CVC "translates" as Corporate Volunteer Council, Corporate Voluntarism Council, Corporate Volunteer Coordinators Council (CVCC) and even Business Volunteer Council (BVC). This variety reflects primarily a difference in preference for names, not a difference in the basic purposes and operation of the group.

What are a CVC's purposes?

Basically a CVC is formed for three purposes:

- 1. To exchange information about corporate employee volunteer programs among companies which are operating them and to give those companies in the community which are considering initiating such programs assistance in doing so successfully;
- 2. To provide a forum for member companies to learn about needs for employee volunteers and resources in the community. This is usually accomplished when a CVC invites a community agency or organization to present information and their needs for volunteers during a regularly scheduled CVC meeting;
- 3. To provide a way for member companies to work jointly on a community need or problem which has been identified and which is too large or complex for one company to handle alone, and/or to initiate a community-wide recruitment or recognition event for corporate volunteers;

Depending upon the need in the CVC's local community and the make-up of its members, the group may define only one of these as their main purpose, may expand that one purpose to encompass the other two as the need/opportunity arises, or may choose to take on these purposes "in stages".

What are the benefits of a CVC?

Currently operating CVCs describe the benefits gained from their "networking organization" in a variety of ways:

- promotes corporate volunteering
- · communicates information about the design and implementation of employee volunteer programs

- provides education and training opportunities for its members
- · promotes professional development of the individuals responsible for company program
- · provides recognition to corporate volunteers
- · improves understanding of the community and of the company's "stakeholders"
- · assists in recruiting volunteers and providing corporate resources to the community
- helps to coordinate responses to community needs and problems among member companies
- · promotes communication and partnerships between the business and volunteer communities

How did CVCs get started?

The idea for a CVC began in the early 1970's when several company representatives in New York City who were organizing their own corporate volunteer programs decided to meet informally to exchange ideas and information. The informal meetings of half a dozen corporations gradually became regular monthly meetings of the first Corporate Volunteer Coordinators Council and by 1980, when other such groups began forming across the country, it involved over 30 corporations.

How many CVCs are there?

As of 1987, there are operating CVCs in 30 communities and developing CVCs in an additional 10 communities across the country.

Who makes up the membership of a CVC?

Corporate Members: Since one of the main purposes of a CVC is to provide mutual support to and exchange of information among administrators of corporate employee volunteer programs, primary membership in a CVC is drawn from corporate representatives in those positions, or from corporate representatives interested in starting such programs. Generally, one representative per corporation becomes a CVC member. In those companies that divide or spread the responsibility for the employee volunteer program among several people, more than one person from each company can join a CVC.

Associate Members: Several CVCs have established an "associate member" category to include non-profit organizations that serve as "clearinghouses" for volunteering in the community and which promote volunteering. Volunteer Centers are the most common associate members; other associate members could include state or Governor's Offices on Volunteerism, Junior League Associations or the United Way. The nature of the associate member category varies, however, and is decided upon by the corporate membership of individual CVCs.

How large are CVCs and how often do they meet?

Currently operating CVCs range in size from 15 to 60 corporate members and from one to ten associate members. Often CVCs divide their membership between "active" members -- those who regularly participate in meetings, projects and programs -- and "list" members, who receive ongoing information about the operation of the CVC but do not regularly attend CVC functions. The average "active" corporate membership ranges from 10 to 30 company representatives.

Most CVCs meet on a monthly basis, rotating the location of the meeting among their members. Several of the currently operating CVCs meet bi-monthly.

How does the CVC work with the community?

In addition to providing information and support to their corporate members about the initiation and maintenance of employee volunteer programs, CVCs also assist community agencies and organizations by offering their non-cash resources and employee volunteers for specific needs or programs. Often these needs or opportunities to involve employee volunteers in community projects are communicated to the active CVC membership during their regular meetings. An agency or organization is invited to make a brief, formal presentation of its needs for employee volunteers and/or non-cash resources and to distribute information to corporate members. This practice increases communication between the businesses and non-profits about needs which may affect both of them. It also is an efficient way for the companies to learn about specific needs and for the agency/organization to solicit a number of companies at one time for non-cash/volunteer resources.

If the CVC has a program committee, it is responsible for screening and inviting agencies to make presentations. Suggestions also are initiated by the Volunteer Center or by individual corporate members. Unless specifically requested by CVC members, monetary needs should not be included in the presentation. Generally only one agency presents per meeting, although that agency can be a representative of a subject area (i.e. health) and present the volunteer needs of a number of related groups in addition to its own.

Is there a national CVC?

No, although the National Council on Corporate Volunteerism (NCCV) division of VOLUNTEER - The National Center helps to link local CVCs.

What role does a local Volunteer Center play in a CVC?

The role of a Volunteer Center (also known as Voluntary Action Centers in some communities) in the development and operation of a CVC has proved to be an integral one in almost every currently operating and developing CVC in the country. Volunteer Center staff and board members have been among the founders of most CVCs, have participated on the steering committees and assisted with the group's pianning, have provided staff support to assist it in "getting off the ground" and serve as advisory or associate members once the CVC is fully operational.

In all cases where Volunteer Centers are fully involved in initiating a CVC, they generally limit their roles to a "behind the scenes" facilitator, assisting the corporate members of the CVC to take on leadership positions in the group. This allows the Volunteer Center and the CVC to form a mutually beneficial partnership, while maintaining the CVC as a "corporate-owned and led" organization. In some cases, once the CVC is operating, the Volunteer Center takes on the role of providing administrative support and staffing for the group.

Are there resources which help CVCs develop?

In addition to organizations at the local level, such as Volunteer Centers, the NCCV division of VOLUNTEER, provides a variety of services to assist with the development and successful implementation of CVCs. These include information-sharing about the activities of other CVC,; technical assistance and availability of speakers and workshop leaders. VOLUNTEER has also published a booklet, *Developing A Corporate Volunteer Council: Some Guidelines for Success.* This is available from the <u>Volunteer Readership Catalog</u> for \$4.95 plus postage and handling.

For further information...about currently operating and developing CVCs and VOLUNTEER, contact:

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*VOLUNTEER-The National Center is the only national voluntary organization whose sole purpose is to stimulate and strengthen volunteer citizen involvement in addressing human, social and environmental needs. As a part of its overall mission, VOLUNTEER also works to build stronger partnerships between non-profit and business communities. Its NCCV division is the primary national resource supporting corporations and businesses seeking to involve their workers in the community as volunteers.

CVC Operating Councils

June 1988

Huntsville, Alabama

Corporate Volunteer Council of Huntsville & Madison County, Alabama

Contact:

Frankie Armstrong (President) 5607 Panarama Drive Huntsville, AL 35801 205-536-7148

Los Angeles, California

Corporate Volunteer Council of Southern California

Contact:

Suzanne Huffmon Esber (President) Director, Community Affairs Fluor Corporation 3333 Michelson Drive, H2-C Irvine, CA 92730 714-975-6797

Pleasanton, California

Valley Community Volunteer Council

Bonnie Moss (Chairperson) Community Service Representative Pacific Gas and Electric 35551 Arden Road Hayward, CA 94545 415-887-0449

Redwood City, California

Corporate Partnerships Program of

San Mateo County

Contact:

Barbara Noble Community Relations Liaison Ampex Corporation 401 Broadway, Mail Stop 3A-14 Redwood City, CA 94025 415-326-276856

San Francisco, California Bay Area Corporate Voluntarism

Contact:

Donald McGee (Chairman) Manager Pacific Bell 180 New Montgomery Street, Room 810 San Francisco, CA 94105 415-542-8472

San Jose, California

Corporate Council of Santa Clara County

Contact:

Anne McMullin Employee Volunteer Coordinator Corporate Grants Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 94014 408-973-2116

Stamford, Connecicut Corporate Volunteer Council

Richard Jones (President) Director, Community Affairs CTE One Stamford Forum Stamford, CT 06902 203-965-4203

Washington, D.C.

Corporate Volunteer Council of

Washington, D.C.

Contact:

Ronald B. Shepard Partner Arthur Young & Company 3000 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006 202-956-6334

Jacksonville, Florida

Corporate Employee Volunteer Council

Contact:

Georgia Reed (Chairperson) V.P. Marketing Sun Bank of North Florida General Mail Center 550 Water Street Jacksonville, FL 32202 904-632-2515

Orlando, Florida

Central Florida Council on Corporate Volunteerism

Contact:

Commander Tim Donihi (Chairman) Director of Family Services Center, NAC20 Naval Training Center Orlando, FL 32813 305-646-4213

St. Petersburg, Florida Pinellas Volunteer Corps

Contact:

Alex L. Allen (Chairperson) Manager, Community Relations Space and Strategic Avionics Division Honeywell, Inc. 13350 U.S. Highway 19 South Clearwater, FL 33546

Sarasota, Florida

Employer Volunteer Council (EVC) of Sarasota County

Contact:

Charlotte Damato (President) FP & L P.O. Box 1119 Sarasota, FL 33578 813-953-7142

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Tampa, Florida

Employer Volunteer Council (EVC) of Hillsborough County

Contact:

Commissioner Talley Pickens (President) Hillsborough County Commission P.O. Box 1110 Tampa, FL 33601 813-272-5730

Chicago, Illinois

Corporate Volunteerism Council of Chicago

Contact:

Karen Harrigan (Chairperson)
Public Affairs Program Coordinator
Washington National Insurance Co.
1630 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
312-570-5725

Montgomery County, Maryland Montgomery County Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact

Dr. Marjorie Costa (President)
Community Relations Coordinator
PEPCO
1900 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Suite 520
Washington, D.C. 20068
202-872-3490

Boston, Massachusetts Corporate Volunteer Council of Greater Boston

Contact:

Win Barnard (Co-Chairperson) Shawmut Bank, N.A. 1 Federal Street Boston, MA 02211 617-292-3748

Mankato, Minnesota CVC of Greater Mankato Area

Contact:

Connie Bertrand (President) First Bank Mankato South Second Street Mankato, MN 56001 507-625-9311

Minneapolis - St. Paul, Minnesota Corporate Volunteerism Council of Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Area

Contact:

Kimberly Roden (Chairperson) Administrator, Community Relations Minnesgasco 201 S. 7th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402 612-342-4821 St. Louis, Missouri

St Louis Corporate Volunteerism Council

Contact: LaCretia Faught Public Affairs

Contel 600 Mason Ridge Center Dr. St. Louis, MO 63141 314-851-9734

Albany, New York Albany, New York CVC

Contact:

Rhonda Childs (Chairperson) Community Consultant Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield P.O. Box 8650 Albany, NY 12208 518-472-8559

New York, New York Corporate Volunteers of New York

Contact:

Katherine Canady(President)
Community Relations
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Grand Central Station, P.O. Box 2724
New York, NY 10183
212-808-8196

White Plains, N.Y.
Westchester Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

Carol Monti-Barris (Co-Chairperson) Consolidated Edison 210 Westchester Avenue White Plains, N.Y. 10604 914-993-6353

Akron, Ohio Akron Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

Jerilynn Ferguson Great Northern Savings Co. 524 W. Park Ave. Barberton, OH 44203 216-753-8411

Cincinnati, Ohio Corporate Voluntarism Council

Contact:

Paula Long (Chairperson) Volunteer Support Programs Procter & Gamble Company P.O. Box 599 Cincinnati, OH 45201 513-983-3663

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Kansas City, Missouri Corporate Volunteer Council of Greater Kansas City

Contact:

Ann Jacobson (Deputy Chairperson) V.P., Volunteer and Community Resources Council Heart of America United Way 605 W. 47th Street, Suite 300 Kansas City, MO 816-531-1945

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Corporate Volunteer Council of Greater Tulsa

Contact:

Sharolyn Nance (President) Human Resources Specialist Metropolitan Life Insurance Company P.O. Box 500 Tulsa, OK 74121 918-252-8576

Portland, Oregon

Oregon Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

Elise Brown (President) CVC of Oregon P.O. Box 40187 Portland, OR 97240 503-220-8809

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact: (p= Ruth Drake (Chairman) Assistant Director CIGNA Cororation One Logan Square Philadelphia, PA 19103 215-523-5253

Memphis, Tennessee

Corporate Volunteer Council of Memphis

Contact:

Regina Allen Chairman, Employee Activities Dept. Memphis Light Gas & Water P.O. Box 430 Memphis, TN 38101 901-528-4245

Austin, Texas Austin in Action

Contact:

Toni Luttrell (Chairperson) Jack Brown Cleaners 3415 Northland #101 Austin, TX 78731 512-458-4147 Dallas, Texas Business Volunteer Council

Contact:

Susan Walton (Chairman)
Assistant to Trammell S. Crow
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3200 Trammell Crow Center
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214-978-4433

Houston, Texas

Corporate Volunteer Council of Greater Houston, Inc.

Contact:

Crawford B. Bunkley (Chairperson) Exxon Co. U.S.A. P.O. Box 2180 Houston, TX 77252-2180 713-656-3636 (effective June, 1988)

Salt Lake City, Utah Corporate Volunteer Council of Salt Lake City

Contact:

Isabelle Jensen (Chairperson)
Public Affairs Director
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Salt Lake City, UT 84111
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Fairfax County, Virginia Corporate Volunteer Council of Northern Virgnia

Contact:

Jim McKeever(Chairman) MAP, Inc. 10327 Democracy Lane Fairfax, VA 22030 703-691-1100

Richmond, Virginia Corporate Volunteerism Council

Contact:

Frances N. Johns (Chairman) Personal Banking Director First Virginia Bank-Colonial 700 E. Main Street Richmond, VA 23219 804-697-5200

CVC Developing Councils

June 1988

Hartford, Connecticut

Corporate Volunteer Committee

Contact:

Diane Kellsey (Co-Chairperson) Program Coordinator Northeast Utilities 1 Corporate Place, West Street Rocky Hill, CT 06067 203-721-2760

Bradenton, Florida

Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

Bud Douglas (President) GTE Florida 2508 75th St. W., MC-4069 Bradenton, FL 34207 813-792-5666

Detroit, Michigan

Southeastern Michigan Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

Mary Kennedy (Convener)
Manager of Personnel Planning
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Detroit, MI 48226
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Duluth, Minnesota

Duluth Corporate Volunteer Council

Contact:

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Cleveland, Ohio

Business Volunteerism Council of Greater Cleveland

Contact:

Bruce Akers (Chairperson) Coordinator Ameritrust Companny 900 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44101 216-687-5029

San Antonio, Texas

Business Volunteer Council

Contact::

Debbie Sprangler (President)
Community Relations Director
Southwestern Bell
P.O. Box 2780
San Antonio, TX 70299
512-222-6329

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Southeastern Wisconsin Corporate Volunteer Coordinators Council

Contact:

Mary Beth Malm (Exec. Secretary) Director, Corporate Services Greater Milwaukee VAC, Inc. 600 E. Mason, Suite 100 Milwaukee, WI 53202 414-273-7887