



THE NEW YORK CITY COMMITTEE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS 2001

Dear Colleague,

Volunteers for a Better New York!

As part of our program for International Year of Volunteers we have implemented a Volunteer of the Month campaign. Volunteers have been selected and are now being promoted in order to draw attention to volunteer excellence and diversity in New York City.

Please find enclosed black and white copies of Volunteer/s of the Month case studies for January – April 2001 for your information and onward distribution. We hope that you find them interesting and useful and that you will help us to extend the reach of IYV in New York City by forwarding this letter and the case studies to your colleagues and relevant contacts.

Electronic copies of the files are available in Microsoft Publisher. Please contact Susan Angus at CVSA for more information (cvsa@bway.net). Details also appear on the NYC/IYV web site at www.nyciyv.org.

If you would like more information for press purposes please contact Rustie Brooke at 212 788-7555, email: NYCIYV@aol.com.

We are now approaching the mid-point of IYV 2001 and each and every one of you still has a crucial role to play in helping us to meet our objectives. Please consider if you are doing all you can to promote, encourage and foster volunteerism during this special year and be sure to look out for the 'Volunteers for a Better New York' street banners across the City.

To date our website has recorded over 136,000 hits! The site is designed to help promote and record your IYV events and to assist you, if required, in recruiting new volunteers. If you would like to include information on the site please contact Liz Smith at Big Apple Greeters (esmith@bigapplegreeter.org).

Thank you all for your support to date!

*Communications & Publicity Team
New York City Committee for International Year of Volunteers*

PS Thank you to both Susan Angus at CVSA & Jonathan Greengrass at Learning Leaders for making this mail out possible.

January 2001 Volunteer of the month!

The New York City Committee for
International Year of Volunteers



Name: Floyd Bowen

Profession: Retired Cable TV
Engineer

Agency: Visiting Nurse
Service of New York -
Community Outreach to
Adolescents of Parents with
HIV/AIDS Program

Hours donated: 4/5 hours per
week

Length of service: 6 Years with
VNSNY

Placement : Mr. Bowen was
recruited, interviewed and
placed by RSVP

(new volunteers welcome,
please visit: www.cssny.org)

**To find out more about
International Year of
Volunteers in New York City
please visit:
www.nyciyv.org**



Photo: Charlotte Catto

Once a week Floyd Bowen works as a volunteer on a program in the Bronx which supports families affected by HIV/AIDS. He provides safety, structure and discipline for the children of these families, many of whom have only known dysfunction and chaos in their lives. Mr. Bowen's dedication, commitment and focus on personal growth makes him a positive role model for all of those who attend.

As part of his work Mr. Bowen helps to organize a popular photography club for the children and using his own resources, also makes sure that birthdays are properly celebrated.

The Visiting Nurse Service of New York provides Floyd with supervision

and practical support.

"The assistance provided is determined by the nature of the program as well as the needs of the volunteer," states Rhoda White, Director of Volunteer Services. "We not only ensure that the volunteer's job description is clear but also that they have the management support they need to be really effective in the role - whether that means guidance, training or moral support."

"I like to be busy and to help," said Mr. Bowen when asked what he gets out of his volunteering. "I also enjoy seeing the children making progress each week and knowing that I was part of that."

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Merrill Lynch

The New York Times



February 2001 Volunteer of the month!

The New York City Committee for
International Year of Volunteers



Name: Carol Ambrose

Profession: Certified Nurse
Midwife

Agency: Girl Scout Council of
Greater New York, Inc

Role: Brooklyn Volunteer Troop
Leader, Council Member,
Member of Older Girl Program
Committee, Former National
Program Committee Member &
Women's Health Issues Expert

Hours donated: 10-12 hours
per week

Length of service: 19 Years

Introduction to GSCGNY:
Through her daughter's
involvement with the
organization

**If you would like to volunteer
with GSCGNY please email:**

info@gscgny.org

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Carol Ambrose, far right, pictured with Frances A. Resheske, Vice President at Con Edison and Kendra Hadiya Barber (far left), one of her girl scouts who was named the GSCGNY's Future Woman of Distinction in October 2000. Photo: Teri Bloom

Carol Ambrose has provided leadership to hundreds of junior and senior high school girls in Brooklyn. As a Girl Scout volunteer leader, she has supported them through successful community service projects such as food and book drives, as well as aid work abroad including a trip to Cuernavaca Mexico, where they built houses for the homeless and Africa.

At a strategic level she has also made a significant contribution to the organization in both her former role as Brooklyn Borough Volunteer Chairperson and currently, as a member of the Council's Older Girl Program Committee, a policy maker on the Council Board of Directors, and former member of the National Program Committee.

In addition, Carol is becoming a popular speaker on health issues, putting her professional medical skills in service at the New York Life Foundation Girl Scouts Scholars Program at Barnard College.

"Adolescents can be a difficult group to work with," she acknowledges. "But I get immense satisfaction from exposing them to experiences and possibilities that they might not otherwise enjoy, including travel to new places, both in the US and abroad."

Carol believes that her excellent relationships with GSCGNY Executive Directors and Brooklyn Borough Directors, helped her to enjoy her volunteer activities with the Girl Scouts and she wants to expand them even further in the future.

"Carol is an excellent role model," stated Executive Director, Susan M. Greenbaum. "Her service to the girls and women of New York City is commendable. We feel that it is only fitting that Carol is being honored during 2001, the International Year of Volunteers."

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Merrill Lynch The New York Times



March 2001 Volunteer of the month!

The New York City Committee for
International Year of Volunteers



Name: Atu Marshall

Profession: Student
Veterinary Technician

Agency: Prospect Park Zoo

Role: Volunteer Wildlife Guide
providing visitors with important
information on animals &
conservation issues as well as
ensuring animal & visitor safety

Hours donated: 2.5 hours
per week

Length of service: 3 Years

Introduction to role:

Encouraged to apply for
volunteer position by family
member

To find out more about volunteer
opportunities at Prospect Park Zoo
please visit: www.wcs.org

or call (718) 399-7324

To find out more about
International Year of Volunteers
in New York City please visit:
www.nyciyv.org

Atu Marshall's aim is to make sure that each visitor to Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn has a rich and rewarding experience. Whether he is answering questions about animals, talking about their natural habitats or introducing conservation issues to children, Atu takes great pride and care in his work.

In addition to helping the Zoo to provide education and entertainment, Atu also provides hands-on care for animals behind the scenes in the education section: cleaning, caring and exercising animals as diverse as a chinchilla, fennec foxes and a prehensile-tailed porcupine.

Atu's love of animals has shaped both his volunteer work and his career as a Veterinary Technician.

"I really enjoy facilitating interaction between humans and animals," Atu comments. "The people and atmosphere at the Zoo are great and that makes it a highly rewarding place to volunteer."



Atu & Aggie (Dexter Cattle). Photo courtesy of
Prospect Park Zoo

Atu's experience, flexibility and attention to detail make him a highly valuable volunteer.

"If he was not as good at his job as a volunteer then Atu would not reach as many visitors as he does," said Director, Lewis Greene. "He directly supports us in the achievement of our mission to provide a safe, interactive environment for children in which they can learn about animals, habitats and conservation."

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The New York Times



April 2001 Volunteers of the month!

The New York City Committee for
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Name: Anne Davis

Profession: Retired Attorney

**Agency: National Multiple
Sclerosis (MS) Society,
New York City Chapter**

**Role: Founder of Legal Services
Program, providing clients with
consultations & referrals.
Member of Government
Relations Committee**

**Hours donated: 10 hours
per week**

Length of service: 13 Years

Introduction to role:

**Through the suggestion of her
doctor**

**To find out more about volunteer
opportunities with the MS Society
please visit www.msny.org or call
(212) 463-7787**

**To find out more about
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please visit:
www.nyciyv.org**

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Retired attorney Anne Davis has used her unique skills and experience to establish and manage a successful Legal Services program for fellow MS Society Members in New York City. Her objective is to provide much needed advice and support on issues ranging from housing and workplace discrimination, to social security disability denials.

The program, established in 1988, as part of the New York City Chapter's Programs & Services Department currently provides consultations for approximately 400 members annually as well as referrals to interested attorneys. In addition, Ms. Davis organizes an annual Legal Day where members can receive a free half-hour consultation with an attorney on a wide range of issues.

Diagnosed with MS herself in 1978 she knows only too well the challenges her clients face on a daily basis but credits her own doctor for suggesting the creation of a legal services program.

"I think that the combination of my legal background and my experiences as a person with MS, has given me a special understanding and ability to assist the clients who call our Chapter seeking legal information, advocacy or referrals," comments Anne. "After thirteen years I still find it challenging and immensely rewarding."

New York City is currently the only chapter of the MS Society in the country



offering its members this type of legal support.

"It is Anne's commitment and expertise which makes this possible," states Carol Kurzig, Executive Director. "Just as importantly she is also an extremely positive role model and serves as a source of inspiration for everyone she comes into contact with - both the disabled and able bodied."

Ms. Davis' commitment to advancing the rights of people with disabilities in the City goes well beyond her work with the MS Society. She is currently Board President of the Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York (CIDNY) as well as Board member and Chair of the Access Committee of Big Apple Greeter.

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The New York Times
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April 2001 Volunteers of the month!

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Name: Dr. Susan Massad

Profession: MD, Medical
Director of Ambulatory Care,
Long Island College
Hospital, Brooklyn

Organization: All Stars
Project Inc.

Role: Chair of Board of
Directors, Fundraiser, Volunteer
Recruiter & 'doctor in the house'
at youth activities

Hours donated: 20 hours
per week

Length of service: 20 Years

Introduction to role: As director
of a medical clinic in Harlem Dr.
Massad endorsed & helped to
establish the All Stars program

To find out more about volunteer
opportunities with All Stars Project
Inc. please visit www.allstars.org or
call (212) 941-9400

To find out more about
International Year of
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please visit:
www.nyciyv.org

*Volunteers for a
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For the last 20 years Susan Massad has believed in and witnessed first hand, the power of grassroots activism to transform people's lives. As a fundraiser for the All Stars Talent Show Network she has spent the majority of her free time over two decades building awareness and gaining support for a program which uses performance to counter the culture of violence and crime in which many inner-city youth live.

Whether she is talking to people on the street or attending auditions Susan Massad has remained focused on building new relationships between diverse audiences - from affluent corporate donors to the poorest inner-city youth. Her commitment, energy and enthusiasm has enabled the program to become a strong force for social change in New York City.

Dr. Massad states that her family has been an important influence on her work, "I come from three generations of volunteers and feel wonderful about carrying on the family tradition."

"I deeply believe that giving to others is what builds our world," she explains when asked about her own motivations. "All Stars makes it possible for everyone involved to have that experience and it is a privilege to be able to contribute to this human growth process."

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The program Susan Massad helped to found and develop now reaches over 20,000 young people every year from New York City's poorest neighborhoods and continues to grow year after year. Not only do youth produce and perform in the All Star neighborhood talent shows, they can also enroll in the Development School to prepare for the business world.

"Thanks to Susan's volunteer leadership we have been able to create a leading development program for inner-city youth," says Gabrielle Kurlander, President of All Stars Project Inc. "She personifies development in action and the philosophy and spirit of our organization."



Merrill Lynch *The New York Times*

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