

Annual Volunteer Activity Report 2007-2008

Volunteers served the City of Sacramento in many ways and provided 322,281 hours of service for fiscal year 2007-2008. The volunteer hours were valued at \$6,287,702.



Sacramento Hotel Association volunteers paint over graffiti in Southside Park.

[More Details](#)

Alternative Spring Break—University of Alabama

Not all volunteers are local. With the rise of “voluntourism” and the broad reach of the internet, volunteers arrive from near and far. Ten University of Alabama students and staff traveled cross country to volunteer in Sacramento. With a program called Alternative Spring Break (ASB), these participants performed work in a series of projects with an urban environmental theme.

Newsletter Spotlight

Sign up for email alerts when new volunteer opportunities are posted:
www.sacvolunteers.org

[More Details](#)

VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program



Volunteer Leilani Gammon assists a client .

The City of Sacramento’s VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program offered free tax services at 7 sites in 2008. This was an expansion of 2 additional sites over the previous year. An AmeriCorps*NCCC team joined community members as volunteers in the VITA program and planned and presented a community resources fair attended by over 160 members of the public. The event provided information about services and assistance available to low to moderate income residents. Fun activities were provided to the children including face painting and t-shirt decorating. The IRS presented the City’s Department of Human Resources with a crystal award on May 7th recognizing the program “for exceptional community service through the volunteer return preparation program.”



AmeriCorps*NCCC VITA tax team enjoys a cultural break after tax season.

[More Details](#)

Annual Volunteer Activity Report continued from page 1:

The departments with the highest utilization of volunteers were Convention, Culture and Leisure, Parks and Recreation and Fire. Below are the total hours served by department:

Convention Culture and Leisure	144,449 hours
Parks and Recreation	76,057 hours
Sacramento Fire	53,396 hours
General Services	32,625 hours
Sacramento Police	7,949 hours
Human Resources	4,481 hours
Mayor/Council	1,278 hours
Neighborhood Services	800 hours
Information Technology	550 hours
Transportation	255 hours
Utilities	158 hours
Development Services	138 hours
Planning	126 hours
Finance	19 hours

VITA—continued from page 1:

The VITA volunteers consisted of a team of community members ranging in age from college students to retirees plus a full-time team of 11 AmeriCorps*NCCC members. The Silver 5 AmeriCorps*NCCC team volunteered at the City’s sites: Pannell/Meadowview Community Center and the South Natomas Community Center. Tax preparation was also provided at the Hart Senior Center, Kennedy Estates, and Robertson and Oak Park Community Centers utilizing community volunteers. New this year was hosting a training class at the Pannell/Meadowview Community Center and utilizing returning volunteers to open new sites such as the Joe Mims Jr., Hagginwood Community Center location.

With the help of the AmeriCorps*NCCC team, service was expanded beyond the Saturday schedules to include weekday and evening hours to better serve the public.



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VITA team assists client in South Natomas.

Volunteer Recognition Honored Volunteers

The volunteers listed below are part of a dedicated corps of people who generously give of their time and talents to the City of Sacramento and its affiliated non-profits. Each month, approximately 2,800 volunteers donate more than 26,000 hours of service to our citywide volunteer program. These individuals were selected by their supervisors as “Honored Volunteers” and invited to attend the annual City Picnic as our guests. We thank them for their caring service.

Access Leisure

Jolene Rohr
Wheelchair Sports Instructor

River Cats Independence Field
Youth Baseball League Coaches

Hart Senior Center

Nicola Shammass
Advisory Committee

Julia Gonzales
SWAT Team

Mark Carroll
Lunch Server, Deliveries

James Rowland
Lunch Server

Merry Geil
Instructor, Lunch Volunteer

Barbara Sakamoto
Computer Instructor

Mary Sammaron
Advisory Committee, Events

Barbara Weldon
Lunch Server

Eunice Constantino
SWAT Team, Events

Faye Madalora
SWAT Team, Events

Old Sacramento Living History Program

Ken Knott
President, Instructor

Catherine Hanson-Tracy
Newsletter Editor

Doug Peterson
Web Master

Greg Tracy
Living History Days

Jan Bullard
Executive Board, Writer

Penny Adams
Vice President

Jill Quinn
Secretary

Roger Quinn
Treasurer



Members of the City's MS Walk Team

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Honored Volunteers continued from page 3:

Old Sacramento Living History Program—Continued

Jeff Bush
Visitor Information

Parks

Clay Dukes
Sacramento Northern Bike Trail

George Thompson
Sacramento Northern Bike Trail

Allison Dabney
Bannon Creek

Helen Rosenblit
Bannon Creek

Safari Tours

Marge McCreary
Coordinator

VITA -Human Resources

Chi Cheng
VITA – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Michael Miller
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Veronica Cohn
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Leo Warmolts
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Shin Sirizandar
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance



Dung Tran assists tax client at the Pannell/ Meadowview Community Center

Dung Tran
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

John Czekaj
VITA-Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

National Family Volunteer Day



VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, continued from page 2

The AmeriCorps*NCCC team presented a community resources fair at the South Natomas Community Center on March 22, 2008 from 10 am to 2 pm. Focusing on the current economic climate, Congresswoman Matsui's office provided information to families seeking to refinance their home as well as help for families in foreclosure or behind in their mortgage payment. Cover the Kids provided information about health insurance for children at no or low-cost and the Franchise Tax Board provided information on how to file for the homeowners and renters assistance credit, and property tax postponement.



A child enjoys the fun activities at the Community Resources Fair.

Organizations which hosted a booth included:

Greater Sacramento Urban League
Office of Congresswoman Doris Matsui
AmeriCorps*NCCC
Cover the Kids
Sacramento Public Library
ScholarShare
START
The Green House
2-1-1 Sacramento (Formerly InfoLine Sacramento)
Sacramento County Senior and Adult Services
Girl Scouts Heart of Central California
Child and Family Institute

Braille and Talking Book Library
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
Franchise Tax Board
Sacramento Food Bank
Y-ME Northern California Affiliate
Nia, The Birthing Project Clinic
Children's Bereavement Art Group



Congresswoman Doris Matsui's staff participate in the Community Resources Fair.

The VITA program for the City of Sacramento was a complex network of resources at sites located primarily at the City's community centers. The resources included IRS training, certification support, and employee volunteers, Franchise Tax Board

training, support and employee volunteers, community volunteers, non-profit organizations, Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance staff volunteers and an AmeriCorps*NCCC team of 11 corps members.



Franchise Tax Board staff provide information at Community Resources Fair.

Volunteers assisted in preparing 609 returns providing \$539,430 in refunds.

Alternative Spring Break—University of Alabama Continued from page 1

Included on the students' agenda were the Discovery Museum, the William Land WPA Rock Garden, the city's forest services division, the community gardens, and the Historic Old Sacramento Foundation. The team of students helped to paint kiosks, signs and railings at the Discovery Museum as well as assisted



UAB students help develop the Fremont Community Garden

with erosion control and beautification efforts on the museum's grounds. At the WPA Rock Garden in William Land Park, the team helped to clean out the natural streams that run through the garden after winter buildup of debris, replenished decomposed granite pathways for accessibility, removed plants, pruned, removed weeds from flower beds and planted new items as well as mulched the planter beds.

For the Urban forest service the team helped to plant trees in a park and at the Fremont Community Garden, they helped with the development of that new community garden. For the Historic Old Sacramento Foundation they surveyed attractions in Old Sacramento and gave a critique to staff from the point of view of out-of-town visitors seeing the exhibits for the first time. Michael Hallman, the University's Alternative Spring Break co-coordinator, stated, "We wanted to extend the classroom experience into the real world. The students not only contributed to the community we were visiting, but they also learned life skills and broadened their view of the world. I also think they had a lot of fun!"



University of Alabama volunteers create the vegetable plots for the new Fremont Community Garden.