

Volunteer Voice

Volunteer Connection has been engaging people as volunteers and strengthening volunteer-based programs, improving the quality of life in Boulder County since 1969.

Hundreds Turn Out for 5th Annual I Volunteer! Day

Volunteer Connection's 5th Annual **I Volunteer! Day** on April 19th was a huge success! Nearly 600 volunteers turned out on a beautiful Saturday morning to give something back to their communities. Enthusiastic volunteers completed projects for 33 non-



CU students gardened with residents at Frasier Meadows Retirement Community.

profit and service agencies across Boulder County. Collectively, they volunteered almost 2,400 hours - that's equal to \$46,000! What **I Volunteer! Day** accomplished in just four hours would otherwise take one person, working full-time, over an entire year to complete. Volunteers removed 100 bags of trash from Boulder Creek, decorated 200 meal bags for Project Angel Heart to deliver to people living with life-threatening illnesses, sewed 19 foster quilts for Project Linus to give to foster care children, planted 300 trees and shrubs at Bullhead Gulch with Lafayette Parks, Open Space and Golf, and painted and dry-walled an entire house for Habitat for Humanity. Ann Elizabeth Nash, Executive Director of the Colorado Reptile Humane Society and a four time **I Volunteer! Day** partner agency, understands the benefits of the event: "I Volunteer! Day volunteers attack our jobs with relish, accomplish everything we ask, and fire up shelter staff and regular volunteers. If that wasn't enough, Volunteer Connection organizes the whole thing, provides snacks and drinks, and our pre-event time commitment is minimal. This is a great event all around!"

*Thanks Again to Our
I Volunteer! Day Sponsors:*


Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado, Camera, Yellow Scene, Roche Colorado, Scripps Howard Foundation, Amgen, Jared Polis Foundation, Kingsbery Baris Vogel Nuttall, Longmont United Hospital, and White Wave Foods

Volunteer Opportunities added to Colorado Hometown Newspapers

Volunteer Connection and Colorado Hometown Newspapers, which publishes the weekly *Louisville Times*, *Lafayette News*, *Erie Review* and *Superior Observer*, have partnered to increase local volunteer involvement in East Boulder County. An additional 18,500 homes will now have access to Volunteer Connection's volunteer opportunities and volunteer profiles. Continue to look for volunteer profiles and opportunities in the *Colorado Daily* on Mondays and *Longmont Daily Times-Call* and *Camera* on Sundays.

A Purple Luau

to benefit

VOLUNTEER CONNECTION 

Presented by Boulder Independent Business Alliance (BIBA)

Poolside at the Boulder Outlook Hotel

*Date: Thursday, October 2, 2008
5-8:30pm*

*Silent Auction, Limbo Contest,
Hula Lessons, and Buffet*

Ticket Price: \$45

New Agencies

Volunteer Connection promotes volunteer opportunities for almost 400 non-profit, government, faith-based, grass-roots and educational agencies. The following agencies have recently become partner agencies:

Access Counseling
Anam Chara
Boulder County Legal Services
Boulder's Dinner Theatre Academy
Boulder Valley School District
Community Cycles
Family Hospice
Greenhouse Scholars
Kiwanis Foundation of Boulder County
Mountain View Southern Baptist Church
SCORE
Sky'z the Limit
The Bias Incident Hotline
The Wellness Initiative
WildEarth Guardians

MentorsMatter is Expanding!

MentorsMatter, an award-winning, collaborative effort to promote the benefits of mentoring and educate the community about the needs of at-risk youth in Boulder County, has recently expanded to include three new agencies: Boulder Valley School District's Community Access Mentoring (CAM) program, Boulder County's Boulder Enhanced Supervision Team (B.E.S.T.) Mentoring Organization, and The Mental Health Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield Counties' Youth Advocacy Program. Mentoring opportunities vary from a few hours a week to a few hours a month and don't require any specialized skills -- just the ability to have fun with a child, ranging in age from 5-17. For more information call Sue at 303.444 4904.



Volunteer Connection Assists with Disaster Management

As a member of the Colorado Volunteer Center Network (CVCN), Volunteer Connection can be called upon in the event of an emergency to set up a volunteer reception center and assist with unaffiliated, spontaneous volunteers. In response to the Alamosa Salmonella Outbreak in early March, the Colorado

Division of Emergency Management asked CVCN to assist with donations and volunteer management. Volunteer Connection staff assisted at the State Emergency Operation Center in Denver in tracking donations of potable water and monitoring volunteer needs. In April 2007, the CVCN, including staff from Volunteer Connection, managed the volunteer reception center in Holly, Colorado after a tornado disaster. In October 2007, Volunteer Connection recruited 125 volunteers to participate as victims in a 4 Point Stance Mass Casualty Exercise that involved Boulder County's five hospitals and Boulder County's Office of Emergency Management.

Volunteer Connection Welcomes New Board Members

Volunteer Connection welcomes four new members to the Board of Directors in 2008. Chris Nelson, new Board Treasurer, is Director of Finance for Webroot Software, and brings 10 years of accounting and finance experience. Shavonne Blades is the publisher and founder of Yellow Scene Magazine, located in Erie. Felice Harlow recently moved to Boulder from New Orleans, and brings with her a wealth of experience with volunteer management. Eli Vega, Employment Services Supervisor at the Center for Work Education and Employment in Denver, is rejoining the Board. Sue Ericson, Volunteer Manager at Community Food Share, has been elected as Board President after serving on the Board for five years. A fond farewell to Lisa Vander Vliet and Katy Chapman—thank you for your leadership.



Giving to Volunteer Connection is Easy...

Your contribution supports our important mission of promoting volunteerism.

Your generous donation can be made by filling out the enclosed card and returning it to us in the envelope provided.

New *Youth Connection Guide* Out in September

Volunteer Connection addresses the growing need for youth volunteer opportunities by publishing its annual *Youth Connection Guide*. This guide provides youth (age 16 & under) with appropriate volunteer opportunities in Boulder County. Increasingly, middle and high schools, Honor Societies, sports teams, and Scout troops are requiring volunteerism. Volunteerism is an excellent way to educate youth about community needs in Boulder County, as well as an opportunity to build self-esteem, explore career opportunities through service-learning and make new friends, all while giving something back and having fun. The guide is free to all interested youth and their families and is distributed to all Boulder County schools. It is also available on our website. Volunteer Connection is currently seeking a sponsor for the 2008 Youth Connection Guide. For more information contact Elle at 303.444.4904.



"I didn't realize that you could make a connection between volunteering and a career path. I've always been interested in science and my time at Eco-Cycle has helped me to decide on a future in Biology or Environmental Studies." - Julia Blocher, Eco-Cycle high school volunteer

Referral Counselors Available

With hundreds of nonprofit and service agencies in Boulder County, finding a meaningful volunteer opportunity can be confusing and time consuming. Volunteer Connection's experienced referral counselors are here to help. Based on your interests, skills, and time availability, they can provide personalized recommendations for agencies and opportunities that meet your interests. In 2007, 77 people benefited from personalized, one-on-one sessions with Volunteer Connection's referral counselors. Call 303.444.4904 to make an appointment today! Sessions are available on Wednesdays and Fridays.



Did You Know?

The estimated dollar value of volunteer time is \$19.51 per hour. Independent Sector, 2007.

Monthly E-Bulletin

Stay up to date with the latest volunteer opportunities in Boulder County! Subscribe to Volunteer Connection's monthly e-bulletin. Select Monthly Bulletin under the What's Going On tab at www.volunteerconnection.net.

VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

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Referral Counselors: Jean Barker and Jill Ertl
Webmaster: Bob Hofland

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*Where People
& Opportunities Meet!*

To be removed from our list, please call
(303) 444-4904 or email vista@volunteerconnection.net

**SAVE THE DATE:
VOLUNTEER CONNECTION'S THIRD ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
A PURPLE LUAU ▪ THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2**