

Volunteer Coordinators Network
Minutes from Brown Bag, 9/20/04

Meeting Topic: Upcoming needs/plans for the Holidays

Holiday Needs:

CAP:

- Organized food drives
- Fresh food for food pantry
- Hygiene supplies

Youth Corrections:

- High school students are welcome to sort donations during the month of December
- 150+ socks are still needs for the incarcerated youth

Odyssey Helathcare

- Booties and hats
- Volunteers to participated in “Make and Take” nights where gifts are made for clients once a month

Utah State Library for the Blind

- During the month of December regular volunteers tend to help elsewhere, so substitute readers are in high demand

Ronald McDonald House

- Gift baskets for the parents with items such as, movie tickets, books, quality bath items, etc.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

- Snow shoveling
- Housekeeping
- Friendly visits, caroling, little gifts

Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Utah

- Clothing drive, trucks available to pick up donation

Upcoming Activities:

Indian Walk-in Center

- November 20, meal planned for 700, volunteers and food needed for this event
- Donated toys are placed in food boxes in December

Youth Corrections

- Coat drive currently in effect, coats will be delivered on October 23

Ronald McDonald House

- November 24, “The Producers” pre-show dinner
- Volunteer are needed for set-up, but will *not* be able to see show

OFFER

- Selling candy to fund research for fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue

Tips for managing holidays volunteers and beating the cynicism:

- Involve your own family and friends
- Plan fun stuff away from work
- Publicize list of “other needs” in a visible area for current volunteers to see while at your agency
- ASK for help
- Decorate for the holidays
- Make a calendar for volunteers for the upcoming year, including volunteer birthdays, agency closures, agency needs and activities
- Send card to volunteers
- Take the month off (ha, ha)
- Make rice packs/ hot packs for volunteers as a thank you
- Supply volunteers with snacks, treats and goodies while at your agency
- Prepare small gifts with inspiring quotes for volunteers
- Hit the pavement and recruit volunteers in the community directly surrounding your agency