

The Heart Line: Taking the Pulse

Covering Volunteerism and Service Throughout the Commonwealth

August 2010 Edition

Welcome

Welcome to the August edition of the Heart Line newsletter, a publication by the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS).

Wow, summer 2010 sure went fast! We had plenty going on this summer too, such as attending the National Conference on Volunteering and Service, a new training officer joining our team, following up on Make A Difference Day 2009 and announcing the 2010-11 Kentucky AmeriCorps programs. August isn't over yet, so there is still a chance to participate in the KCCVS strategic planning process and AmeriCorps grants at our 2010 Community Forums.

Also, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions about any of our community service programs, such as AmeriCorps, the Governor's Volunteer Awards, the Volunteer Insurance Program or the Volunteer Recognition Program.

2010 Community Forums



It's not too late to provide your opinion or to register for the 2010 Community Forums!

The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service is seeking statewide input this summer for the State Service Plan and for 2011-12 AmeriCorps grants.

Participation is needed from nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, local government entities and state agencies.

Five community forums were scheduled throughout Kentucky; three of which are next week. The meetings are four hours in length and lunch is provided.

Registration is required and registration closes 48 hours prior to each forum.

Learn more and register through Eventbrite, <http://kccvsforum.eventbrite.com>.

Are you unable to attend a forum?

No problem, you can still provide your input. Just respond to the state service plan questions and e-mail your responses to Carrie Stith-Webster at carrie.stith-webster@ky.gov.

Kentucky State Service Plan questions (Word), <http://tinyurl.com/ksspqwd>

Kentucky State Service Plan questions (PDF), <http://tinyurl.com/ksspqpdf>

For more information, please contact Carrie Stith-Webster at carrie.stith-webster@ky.gov or (800) 239-7404.

Apply for 2010-11 Kentucky AmeriCorps Programs



Follow the link to learn more about the 2010-11 Kentucky AmeriCorps programs, which begin in September 2010, <http://chfs.ky.gov/dfrcvs/kccvs/ameriCorps/programs>.

If you are interested, apply online at www.AmeriCorps.gov.

If you have questions, contact Sister Andi Sieloff, KCCVS program officer, at (800) 239-7404 or andrea.sieloff@ky.gov.

New Training Officer: Carrie Stith-Webster

By Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS Media and Publications Specialist



After Melissa Newton left the position as Training Officer in April to go into the private sector, we at KCCVS were at a loss, wondering if anyone could fill the impressive shoes she left behind. We are very fortunate that Carrie Stith-Webster has stepped up to take on this challenging role, challenging not only because of the job itself, but also because of the high expectations left by Melissa.

The KCCVS Training Officer is responsible for coordinating training and development activities for all AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps program staff, KCCVS staff and commissioners. With almost double the amount of AmeriCorps members that served in 2009-10, Carrie is tasked with training more than 600 AmeriCorps members serving in 16 programs across Kentucky, five of which are new programs.

Also, since the passage of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, the role of the Training Officer has expanded to include all streams of national service: AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve.

Luckily for KCCVS (and AmeriCorps in Kentucky), Carrie is not easily intimidated, loves AmeriCorps and loves training; so, it's perfect match!

When asked what her goals are as the new KCCVS Training Officer, Carrie said, "I want to further the mission of KCCVS by building upon the talent and skills of all of Kentucky's service programs, and by strengthening the network of shared resources between the organizations."

As a former AmeriCorps program director for the Build Corps, Carrie has worked in the nonprofit sector for 25 years, focusing on the issues and challenges of our most vulnerable citizens. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky in agriculture and a master's degree from UK in vocational education.

She grew up in the small town of Camillus in New York, but Carrie has called Kentucky "home" for more than 30 years. She lives on a small farm in Waddy with her husband of 12 years, Dr. Tom Webster, a biologist at Kentucky State University, and their two children, Colin, who is 10, and Martin, who is 8. Carrie also has a 26-year-old son named Andy who lives in Lexington.

Carrie is a member of the Lexington Friends Meeting and a Quaker. She also is on the board of directors of the Sunshine Center, a local child abuse prevention and intervention agency; and is part a group of community members who support the Franklin County Women's Shelter. She raises sheep for their wool and is learning how to spin it into yarn. Her next challenge is to learn how to knit. Besides her sheep, Carrie also has a goat, horse, pony and plenty of cats. In her limited spare time, she enjoys horseback riding, kayaking, reading and listening to Bruce Springsteen.

Carrie cites her parents and family as her life's influences. "My father taught me that if I'm going to do a job, do it well, or don't do it at all. My mother has taught me that life is too short to hold grudges, and to just accept people as they are. My Aunt Betty gave me my love of horses, swimming in ponds and living in the country. And my children helped me realize that miracles can and do happen."

Carrie strives to be someone who makes a difference and to live a life true to her convictions. She finds the AmeriCorps slogan "Your world. Your chance to make it better." incredibly empowering!

We have no doubt that she will effectively convey that empowerment to all she trains, especially Kentucky AmeriCorps members. We here at the KCCVS could not be more excited about Carrie joining our close-knit team. Welcome aboard!

2010 National Conference on Volunteering and Service



The National Conference on Volunteering and Service was held June 27-30 in New York City. The annual conference, convened by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Points of Light Institute, is the world's largest gathering of volunteer leaders from the nonprofit, corporate and government sectors. Four representatives from Kentucky attended this year's conference: KCCVS Commission Chairman Aaron Anderkin, KCCVS Disabilities Coordinator Lanny Taulbee, KCCVS Media and Publications Specialist Shannon Ramsey and Kentucky AmeriCorps Disabilities Inclusion Advisory Council (KADIAC) member Oyo Fummilayo.

Follow the link to read what some of the participants thought about the conference and the city, <http://tinyurl.com/2010ncvs>.

Follow up on Make A Difference Day 2009

State employees representing the top-donating agencies in a Cabinet-sponsored food drive were honored recently.



From left to right: Melissa Woodrum and Jennifer Franklin, Office of Vital Statistics (OVS); Terry Magel, president of the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry; Diane Freeman, OVS; and Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS.

Vital Statistics and the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities are the two Cabinet for Health and Family Services agencies that collected the most food in last October's statewide Make A Difference Day food drive, sponsored by the Kentucky Commission for Community Volunteerism and Service (KCCVS) and the Kentucky AmeriCorps programs. For this effort, citations signed by Governor Steve Beshear were presented at the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry.

Make A Difference Day is a national day of giving and helping others. The KCCVS traditionally sponsors an annual campaign to collect as much canned goods and other nonperishable food as possible as part of its Make A Difference Day observance. Food is donated to food pantries and emergency feeding centers in the communities where it is collected.

Department for Community Based Services offices and AmeriCorps programs always participate, but this was the first year that all state agencies were officially involved as part of a friendly competition.

Overall, Kentucky collected 123.27 tons of food, enough to feed 493,087 Kentuckians an 8-ounce serving. The effort also was named one of USA WEEKEND Magazine's top 10 projects in the country and won a \$10,000 award. Part of the award -- \$2,000 -- went to the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry.



From left to right: Terry Magel, president of the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry; Stacey McClellan, Economic Development Cabinet; and Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS.

Representatives from the top-performing agencies presented checks to Terry Magel, president of the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry. Stacey McClellan, Economic Development Cabinet, and Sara Brooks, Finance and Administration Cabinet, presented the checks as the contacts for their respective Cabinets.

"The food drive made a tremendous difference in our collections," Magel said. "We appreciate all the state employees who contributed to help so many families."

Magel said the award money will buy more food for families in need.

Learn more about Make A Difference Day and volunteering on the KCCVS website, <http://chfs.ky.gov/dfrcvs/kccvs>.



From left to right: Terry Magel, president of the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry; Alicia Tobin, Department of Behavioral Health, Development and Intellectual Disabilities; and Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS.

The Economic Development Cabinet, with 96 employees, finished first in the state agency competition by collecting slightly over 806 pounds of food for a total of 8.4 pounds per employee. The Finance and Administration Cabinet was second, gathering 6,125 pounds from 1,869 employees for a total of 3.3 pounds per employee. The Economic Development Cabinet was recognized at the KCCVS Governor's Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service ceremony in June.



From left to right: Terry Magel, president of the Franklin County Emergency Food Pantry; Sara Brooks, Finance Cabinet; and Shannon Ramsey, KCCVS.

Dates:

Sept. 6 – Labor Day

Sept. 11 – Patriot Day

Sept. 11 – 9/11 National Day of Service, www.911dayofservice.org

Sept. 12 – National Grandparents Day

Sept. 23 – Fall Equinox

“Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve. America was targeted for attack because we are the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep that light from shining.”

-- President George W. Bush, September 11, 2001

Download the print version of this newsletter and past editions on the KCCVS Newsletter page on our website, <http://chfs.ky.gov/dfrcvs/kccvs/newsletter>.

Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service

275 E. Main St., Mail Stop 3W-E

Frankfort, Kentucky 40621

Local: (502) 564-7420

Toll-Free: (800) 239-7404

Fax: (502) 564-7478

E-mail: kccvs@ky.gov

Website: www.volunteerKY.ky.gov



Editor: Shannon L. Ramsey
shannon.ramsey@ky.gov