

NEWS

Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Members Welcome at Upcoming Business Volunteer Council Meeting

North Jersey: The next meeting of the Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council (BVC) will be Wednesday, March 18, 2009 from 8:30 to 10:00 am at IKEA, 100 Ikea Drive in Paramus. Call (201) 489-9454 Ext. 114 to reserve a space at this free presentation.

This will be a hands-on meeting in which “Skills-based” volunteering will be discussed. Topics include how to match volunteer’s background, experience, and knowledge to appropriate activities that help the community and enhance the volunteer experience. Skills-based volunteering can also be used as part of a well rounded employee training program, because employees can learn and practice new skills at a volunteer assignment, which may benefit them on the job.

The BVC, which is sponsored by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County, is a group of 31 companies whose mission is to provide leadership in meeting community needs by mobilizing employee volunteers.

Founded in 2000, the BVC gives more than 35,000 employee volunteers the opportunity to impact the lives of low-income children and families by addressing the issues of literacy, hunger and education and the needs of foster children. In nine years,

the BVC has raised and distributed almost a million dollars in resources to families in need.

Corporate community service is becoming a critical element in affecting a company's bottom line. Employees, investors, consumers and the public in general are placing more emphasis on how a company demonstrates ethical business practices, safety of products, treatment of employees, and commitment to improving community conditions, and they are offering their loyalty and dollars to those companies who do make a difference. The successful companies will be those who can communicate their commitment to community service and effectively engage their employees in projects that will have significant impact on the communities where they live and work.

Membership in the BVC can allow companies to achieve this goal by providing turnkey, easy to implement projects; networking; the opportunity to share best practices in community involvement with other members; information on a wide variety of options for corporate involvement including local and national initiatives, group volunteer projects, and calls to action for critical, emergency needs.

The BVC provides members with the tools necessary to succeed in community involvement, thereby positioning them as community leaders and good corporate citizens.

The Northern New Jersey Business Volunteer Council welcomes new members and encourages interested companies to attend this March 18th meeting. Attendance at the meeting is free, but pre-registration is required. To reserve a space, contact Tess Tomasi, BVC coordinator, at ttomasi@bergenvolunteers.org, or call (201) 489-9454, Ext 114. To learn more about the BVC, visit www.nnjbvc.org.

The Volunteer Center of Bergen County strengthens the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.

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