

# NEWS

## VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

64 Passaic Street Hackensack, NJ 07601 Phone: 201-489-9454 Fax: 201-489-1995  
[www.bergenvolunteers.org](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org)

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Contact: Tess Tomas Ext.114  
Maureen McCormick Ext. 126  
201-489-9454

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### **Volunteer Center Offers Free Training for Community Groups**

North Jersey – The Volunteer Center of Bergen County is offering a free **Neighbor Academy** training course, “Non-Profits 101—Organizational Structure”, on Monday, March 16, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Volunteer Center’s offices at 64 Passaic Street in Hackensack.

The workshop will focus on the “nuts and bolts” of non-profits. By using a fictional agency, participants will explore aspects unique to non-profit organizations, the roles of various non-profit stakeholders, the connection between non-profits and the greater community, and basic organizational structure.

**The Neighbor Academy** is a series of free introductory courses covering the basics of non-profit administration. The workshops are targeted specifically to community groups including newly-incorporated or yet-to-be incorporated non-profits, neighborhood associations, faith-based groups, and grassroots organizations.

**The Neighbor Academy** is part of the Volunteer Center’s long-running Non-Profit Training and Resource Center, a program geared toward non-profit professionals. “The Volunteer Center has been offering professional-level trainings for several years,” said Janet Sharma, Volunteer Center Executive Director, “But the Neighbor Academy grew out of our understanding that grassroots groups needed support in developing their efforts, that they needed those fundamental tools that will turn their ideas into action and that can grow their charitable efforts into formal organizations.”

There is no fee for **Neighbor Academy** courses. Pre-registration for “Non-Profits 101” is required, and can be done by calling (201) 489-9454 Ext. 114 or e-mail

[training@bergenvolunteers.org](mailto:training@bergenvolunteers.org). Deadline for registration is March 13<sup>th</sup>. More information on the Volunteer Center's Training Program can be found online at [http://www.bergenvolunteers.org/agency\\_services.htm](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org/agency_services.htm).

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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