



# volunteer centre

Ionad Cheantar Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas do Shaorálaithe  
DUBLIN CITY SOUTH

Spring 2010

## 1. News

### Volunteering Trends

Since the start of 2010, Dublin City South has had over three hundred people register their interest in volunteering. This means we now have over 3300 people registered with the Centre who want to volunteer their time and skills to help others. You might be surprised to hear that our statistics show that 67% of volunteers are under 36. There is a huge range of skills on offer so we encourage you to think about how you could involve volunteers in your organisations in new and varied roles. As always if you want a hand with this, please contact Edwina ( edwina@volunteerdublin.ie or 01 473 7482).

### Hands Up who needs a Hand?

Are your premises in great need of a facelift? What about that jungle of a garden out the back you really want to transform into a community space? Would your clients be bowled over at the prospect of being taken out bowling for the afternoon?

The Volunteer Centre receives ongoing calls from corporate groups who would like to do something in their communities. The majority of these requests are for once-off projects for a group of people to do such as painting, clean-ups, gardening, environmental tasks, taking people out for a social activity, assisting with an event etc. However, there is no reason a project couldn't be something else if you can think creatively!

Every month we update a list with any new projects organisations tell us about and we pass them on to interested companies. In many cases the corporate groups have a budget to cover basic materials required. If you would benefit from a group coming in to your organisation to help out please do contact us and we'll try to find a suitable partner for you. Contact Edwina@volunteerdublin.ie

### Graphic Designers Available

Do people know about your organisation and the work you do? Do you need any fliers, brochures, leaflets, or posters to promote your services or to recruit volunteers? If so, let the graphic design students from Roslyn Park College volunteer their skills and time for you! Contact us for more information.

### We need some space!

Do you have accessible low-cost or free meeting/training rooms that we could avail of? The Volunteer Centre is often in need of training or meeting rooms around the city centre area and would be delighted to hear from you. If you can help us out please email Edwina@volunteerdublin.ie



### Dates for your Diary

- 25th May European Neighbour's Day
- 27th May Volunteer Evening
- 1st October The National Day of Volunteering - Give it a Swirl
- 5th December International Volunteer Day

## 2.Events

### Calling all events...

Does your organisation have any events coming up that you would like us to promote on our new and improved website? Any volunteer information evenings, training, fundraisers, exhibitions etc. that volunteers might be interested in? Tell us and we will tell our volunteers! Email Kim@volunteerdublin.ie

### DCSVC Events

#### Volunteer Evenings

Every quarter Dublin City South hosts a Volunteer Evening at which a few organisations get the opportunity to talk about and promote their work in relaxed cafe-style conversations. These events are always extremely popular with our volunteers with constant requests for more! If you require volunteers and would like to be considered for our next Volunteer Evening on May 27th please contact Kim@volunteerdublin.ie

#### European Neighbours Day

European Neighbour's Day will take place on Friday 28th May and is simply a chance for people to get to know their neighbours better. Last year it was celebrated by over nine million people in 29 countries. In Dublin people participated in activities like tea dances, walks and had open houses with tea and scones. If you are interested in doing something (perhaps an open house) or in collaborating with another organisation in your community please let us know. Maybe it is something a volunteer could organise for you... [www.european-neighbours-day.com](http://www.european-neighbours-day.com)



**DON'T FORGET :**  
2011 is the European Year of Volunteering. Watch this space for more updates!





# volunteer centre

Ionad Cheantar Bhaile Átha Cliath Theas do Shaorálaithe  
DUBLIN CITY SOUTH

Spring 2010

## 3. Volunteer Management

### Volunteer Management Training

Our next Volunteer Management Training course starts on 8th April in Pearse Street Library. The course, which is interactive and practical, covers the A-Z of planning for, recruiting and retaining volunteers. Due to huge demand the course is now full but we hope to run another one after the summer and would be happy to add your name to the notification list when it comes round if you're interested in attending. Contact [Edwina@volunteerdublin.ie](mailto:Edwina@volunteerdublin.ie)

### Volunteer Management Tips

If there's a particular area of volunteer management that you'd like to see tackled let us know and we'll feature it in the next edition. You can find articles and resources in the Resources section of our website, which is under the Training tab.

### One-Day Volunteer Projects

According to *TheNonProfitTimes* episodic or once-off volunteering is increasingly appealing to potential volunteers. In order to help you get the most out of these one-time volunteers *TheNonProfitTimes* have come up with a number of tips for organising once-off projects.

Physical labour. It is true that volunteers who come once for a few hours are often willing to expend elbow grease on jobs that group effort makes more enjoyable -- and where the results are evident.

Physical labour "plus." Why ask a group to do only one part of a job? Let the volunteers take some ownership of the project -- with your approval.

Help client families. Rarely do you have time for your client's loved ones. Have a party to acknowledge their role in the well being of the client.

Build your public relations file. Get volunteers to take pictures to build a photo file for publicity.

Community outreach. Schedule one-day projects that coincide with another community event. Have the volunteers host a display and hand out informational material about the organisation.

**Organisational Support Pack**  
Dublin City South Volunteer Centre is part of a national working group with Volunteer Centres Ireland that is developing an Organisational Support Pack to assist local groups with best practice in volunteer management. The work is still in progress, but we do have the first 11 guides ready if you would like a copy of any of them. Topics are:

“Why Organisations Should Consider Involving Volunteers?”  
“Steps for Setting Up a Volunteer Programme”  
“How Can Your Local Volunteer Centre Support You?”  
“Step-by-Step Guide to Registering Your Organisation & Volunteer Opportunities Online”

“How to Develop a Volunteer Role Description”  
“Sample Volunteer Role Description”  
“Creating a Volunteer Application Form”  
“Designing a Successful Volunteer Recruitment Advertisement”  
“Garda Vetting”  
“Reference Checks”  
“Sample Reference Check Template”

## 4. Organisation Profile

### The Anchorage Project

Joe Donnelly, coordinator of The Anchorage Project in Ringsend, draws on the time and skills of about 1,000 volunteers per year and knows he could not maintain a high level of service to the community without them. He states, **“The number of ways in which any organisation can involve volunteers is literally endless! An organisation that has not yet embraced volunteerism really needs to think about this question and ask themselves why not.”** To read the full article please go to the Case Studies section of our website.

Please send us any information leaflets/fliers on volunteering within your organisation for our information display stand

