IT’S A LEADERSHIP THING: PROMOTING PM LEADERSHIP THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

Presented by:
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Meet Jane. She’s a PM

But where does she get to lead?
ExECS

Portfolio Managers

Program Managers

Drivers of Change

Leadership
Office workers
But where does she get to lead?
A Pathway to Leadership…

…Through Volunteerism (PM style)
Why your skills are needed

- Project Managers and Non-Profit Organization (NPO) managers face a daily environment of “insufficiency.”
- Insufficient funds, insufficient time, insufficient staff resources to meet mission need
- In this environment PMs have so much to offer, so many ways to be agents of change.
Value of Volunteering

- Helping local community
- Proximity to the problems
- Giving back
- Bringing PM skills
- Motivating others
- Value in altruism & problem solving
- Professional Development – it’s a leadership thing.
Volunteering as Leadership Development

**Expanded Network**

- Meet new leaders making a difference in the community
- Meet new leaders volunteering from other professions
- Meet other PMs

**Skill–Up!**

- New Content, New Industry
- Exercising all the PM KAs
- PDUs
- Mentoring
- Managing Volunteers
In your association, on your board

Governance Board
- PM/Chair
- Assistant Vice Pres (AVP)
- Director-At-Large (DAL)
- Past Chair (adviser)
- COO/Vice Chair
- CEO/Chair
- Past Chair (adviser)

Operations Board
- PM/Chair
- Assistant Vice Pres (AVP)
- Vice President (VP)
- COO/Vice Chair
- CEO/Chair
- Past Chair (adviser)

Year 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
PMIWDC Volunteer Fair: Design

- Promoting engagement through Volunteerism

Activities

- Meet the board members across operations
- Find out about all the 2016 positions
- Give advice to students
- Hear about the role of volunteering in professional development
- Directed activities in networking
- Hear from colleagues on why they volunteer

Non Profit Organizations

- American Red Cross
- CNCS – Corporation for National Community Service
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Mary’s Center for Maternal and Child Care
- PATC – Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
- Smithsonian
- PM4Change
- Volunteer Fairfax
- BEST Kids, Inc
It’s a Fair!

- Raffle/Prizes
- Coaching Booth
- Passports
- Small Food
- Fairway for networking
- Barkers
Outcomes

• Increased member interest in exploring Community volunteer opportunities

• Enhanced level of understanding of Chapter and Board volunteer opportunities

• 96 percent of the entire chapter’s need outside of local communities was filled in one two-hour period

• Filling the need: 22 ARC, 20 Fairfax volunteers, 40 PM4Change, and connected the other NPOs with our members
Voice of the Volunteer Leader

Volunteering is the perfect way to get comfortable working with people you don’t know to achieve something awesome! Working toward a common goal with others will help you appreciate diversity, develop mutual respect and gain the cooperation needed to succeed.

How is being a volunteer leader different? It’s a humbling experience!

Volunteering levels the playing field. Will people still follow if they don’t have to?
Voices of the other Volunteer Leaders

Volunteering has helped me in my communication and collaboration skills with others, which in turn, helps me become a better leader. It also helps me build new relationships, helps me experience new and different experiences, and helps me improve my skills.

"I have found volunteering at PMIWDC to be the best way to stay connected to the world’s foremost PM community, both keeping me informed of new project management best practices and tools and enhancing my professional network."

Professional development through volunteering at PMIWDC
Volunteering at PMIWDC helps me to enhance my project management skills.
Meeting people working in different field and being a leader inspired me.
I really enjoyed supporting the organization in meeting its goals for improvement.

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Volunteering helps build leadership by expanding your opportunities. Challenging yourself in a new way and learning from new environments, putting yourself out of your comfort zone, and thinking outside of the box.
Volunteering is true leadership, because it gives back and pays forward; which will make a difference in someone’s life, someone who you have touched, inspired, or mentored.
Volunteer your path to leadership

- What causes are you interested in helping?
- What NPOs are active in your community?
- What gaps do you have in your leadership skills?
- What new skills do you want to learn or hone existing ones?
- What does your association or chapter do to help?
  - And if they don’t have volunteer opportunities, create them!
- The answers to these questions start you on your path
If you are interested in organizing a PM skills based Volunteer Program or in helping with the 2016 PMIWDC Volunteer Fair, let’s talk!

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