
TEASER CHECKLIST: ARE WE DOING THE BEST WE CAN WITH VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT?

Test your understanding of our volunteer involvement by indicating your opinion next to each item below: **Y = Yes** **N = No** **? = I don't know**

Our organization...

- Has access to highly skilled volunteers as on-call consultants or advisors.
- Lists current volunteer opportunities with free Internet registry sites.
- Participates in local National Volunteer Week celebrations.
- Has a volunteer corps that reflects the diversity of our community.
- Knows what volunteers are saying about us to their friends.
- Provides training for staff who work with volunteers.
- Is tapping into the new trends in volunteerism such as singles and families as volunteers, online service (virtual volunteering), and student service-learning.
- Invites financial donors to participate as volunteers to increase their long-term loyalty.
- Fulfills legal requirements for screening volunteers.
- Benefits from national and local days of service like "Make a Difference Day."
- Is implementing the best practices of volunteer management.
- Sees the connection between direct-service volunteers, fundraising volunteers, board members, student interns, loaned executives, and other people who contribute time and talent to us without going onto our payroll.
- Gets and uses input from volunteers on how we might improve our services.
- Can create useful assignments for volunteers who offer us unexpected skills.
- Has a vision for what we would like the volunteer program to look like in ten years.

Do these questions make you wonder if you are maximizing volunteer involvement on behalf of your agency? They should! Volunteerism is all about tapping the community to help meet agency needs. The only limits are imagination and not providing effective support once volunteers have been recruited. (If you answered **N** or **?** to more than half the questions, a *Volunteer Management Audit* may need to be in your future!)