SERVICE SUMMIT  April 14, 2010      Terrace Café, SUNY New Paltz

In Attendance:

• See attached Participants List

Evaluations from participants:

• 22 forms filled out:

What part of the Summit did you find most useful/relevant?

- “listening to Michael Berg: Panel brain storming”
- “all the speakers were most informative, great to learn what is happening in Ulster Cty-gives me hope”
- “information shared, energy, optimism (‘anything can happen’), networking, at the table and across the room, great exchanges sharing during Round Table – really productive”
- “panels were excellent; survey useful”
- “networking and table discussions”
- “I really appreciated the opportunity ot see all of the different agencies represented – I am not from this area. Ther passion was invigorating”!
- “panels and roundtable discussions”
- “panel discussions / sharing ideas @ table; promotion of collaboration”
- “the two panels”
- “all over inspiration – hearing speakers & various points of view. Possibilities of the future; opportunities for networking
- “working with other agencies”
- “great panel discussions; roundtable; networking”
- “roundtable”
- “the break at group was helpful & the panel discussion speaking what is working in the field of volunteerism”
- “Listening to best practices / successes from veterans in this field”
- “I arrived late but just in time for the roundtable discussion, which was a perfect opportunity to learn and network”
- “Developing a better ‘sense’ of what UlsterCorps is all about; sharing/partnership strengths/networking”
- “exchange of info and ideas; networking; panels”
- “networking – table discussion”
- “panel presentations”

What part of the Summit did you find least useful/relevant?

- “everything most useful”
- “none –sincerely”
- “lessons learned – most of it was common knowledge: what can/will UlsterCorps do about it”?
- “everything was useful”
- “I experienced some trouble finding parking and the event itself”
- “nothing”
- “N/A”
- “ – “
- “ 2nd panel”
- “least but not irrelevant: survey”
What additional topic areas related to volunteerism and/or collaboration would have been helpful for us to cover today?

“see below regarding Vol. Coordinators”...
- “burnout of staff; time management; to oversee volunteers”
- “how can UlsterCorps help agencies/organizations assist to improve/enhance/promote volunteer activities”
- “more about how people recruit/look for volunteers”
- “volunteer selection criteria & age & cultural disparity issues”
- “everything was great”
- “in the three hours – much ground was covered”
- “materials on orientation, recognition, etc”
- “would be interested (perhaps future topic) to hear more about what others are doing w/ recruitment/retention
- “clear breakdown of Barrier vs. possible solution/action, i.e. volunteers show up @11:15 vs. they wash dishes: this activity would have been helpful”
- “it would be good to get into the mechanics of how agencies can hook up with UlsterCorps”
- “ways to get an already overworked staff to commit more time for volunteer development”
- “how to manage volunteers (traits and strengths)”
- “volunteerism vs. paid staff…are we replacing paid for staff(i.e. jobs) with the volunteers”
- “case study-written up with a map/structures on process of collaboration”
- “work groups prepare complete listing of skill sets for volunteers”

To what extent do you expect the information shared today will make a difference in the way you work with volunteers?

- “huge difference. Thank you”
- “a great extent”
- “just further ‘ignited’ and energized to continue to have students involved w/ agencies in Ulster County!”
- “helpful definitely; to be educated @ other organization’s use of volunteers”
- “improve the matching of those youth interested in volunteering with organizations”
- “I feel more committed to inspiring our students & staff to work in the community in meaningful ways – it is part of our curriculum”!
- “it is always nice for me to meet new contacts. It allows me to send students to new opportunities”
- “informational sharing + networking is always wonderful – probably won’t change”
- “I found it all helpful and much of it reassured me”
- “very useful”
- “we will use the ideas asap. I plan to present several ideas to the board”
- “Some”
- “We plan to work with UlsterCorps in the future; we really were not aware of it prior”
- “the biggest help was the motivation the Summit gave me, not actual skills / practices discussed”
- “it was a great networking event”
- “additional insight into the right ‘fit’”
- “many ideas presented + exchanged were inspiring and we’ll see what can be done to integrate them into our agency”
- “I’ll spend more time thinking of ways to recognize them”
- “More recognition for volunteers; ways that RCAL can interact with other agencies that haven’t previously been done”
Please provide any additional comments you’d like to share to help us strengthen or improve the Summit

- “a multi-agency database”
- “I would like to see more diversity”
- “also organize a Volunteer Coordinator Summit to support, energize, etc. each other; like the idea about international work – can explain why another [couldn’t read next word, then a ‘smiley face’, rf] change as well as broaden perspective”
- “perhaps switching tables half way through so we can network with more people”
- “needed a time keeper to inform speakers and panelists of 2 more minutes, 1 minute, done – otherwise, perfect. Thank you”
- “add 1? For survey: Where did you grow up”? ; “help to understand emerging worker volunteer skill development as well resources applied”
- “Thank you”
- “Thanks for organizing this summit. Great idea – hope there will be others”
- “please send better directions. Other than that, it was welcoming and relevant”
- “keep doing them”
- “very well organized and well done. Thanks”
- “I’d like to run a series of articles to talk about volunteer opportunities for Latinos and the importance of volunteerism to raise awareness in the Hispanic communities about volunteerism. I will be in touch”.
- “database link between agency and volunteer online”
- “thank you. It was an honor and an inspiration to be here”
- “Local food. Not Sodexo; More time in discussion at tables; more time in discussion at tables; more structured panels (facilitator of panel); UlsterCorps individual assigned to each table to start discussion & table notes; shorten time on wrap up; provide contact info for participants”
- “include on survey question about volunteering for resume building (from volunteer perspective) as a motivating force. How can UlsterCorps and agencies assist in giving people full range of experience.

• Other, anecdotal remarks mentioned:
  - reference to ‘Ulster in the World’:
    “So interesting this came up: my daughter just recently said she wanted to volunteer to work with children in Peru. I said ‘no way! You’re not going anywere like that unless I know something about it, it’s safe, etc.’ But if I knew someone in my community that was involved and she (or I) could talk about it, I would probably be okay with it...at least could find out if it was a good match”

- wants to be on our newsletter list and Alerts. Wants to creat a Service Learning list of students with their skills to connect to agencies.