

KCAO CHANGING LIVES

ACTION ORGANIZATION

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Volume 2

AUGUST 2011

Issue 8

MISSION STATEMENT

To advocate, educate and provide a wide range of quality services that empower, promote self-sufficiency, preserve dignity and improve the quality of life for the individuals and communities of Kings County.

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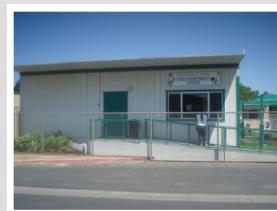
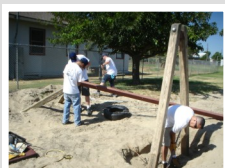
FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR FOR
QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS, PLEASE
CONTACT 559-589-6068

KINGS UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING

Kings United Way, Fourth Annual Day of Caring was a huge success this year for KCAO. Day of Caring is an event where volunteers give their time and services by volunteering to work on one-time service projects for community benefit organizations. The event began with the United Way appreciation breakfast at the Tachi Palace Hotel. Then the volunteers went off to their sites where they volunteered for a minimum of 4 hours.

For KCAO's Day of Caring volunteers, they reported to Rosa Parks Learning Center, Preston Green Learning Center, Child Enrichment Center, and Early Head Start Center. At Rosa Parks the volunteers removed a tire swing from the play ground because it became unsafe due to the wood frame splintering. KCAO had 5 volunteers remove the swing by digging holes around the post, and taking apart the frame. Preston Green had 3 volunteers clean out the gutters and patch a section of the gutter. These volunteers were outstanding and stayed until 5 PM to finish the project. They also stayed an additional hour to help an employee with her car that did not start. The Child Enrichment center had 7 volunteers paint the trim and rails around the building. And lastly, the Early Head Start center had volunteers organize the shed and clean around the center.

Thank you to all the Day of Caring volunteers!!!



STANDOUT VOLUNTEER



Michael Hopson is the August volunteer of the month and has been serving KCAO clients since early June. Michael was a key volunteer this summer at KCAO's Home Garden Opportunity Center. He helped in the community garden with the irrigation, maintenance, planting, and harvesting. Michael also helped with the 20 plus youth that came into the Opportunity Center this past summer. He served meals for the Summer Food Program, assisted with sport activities, and most importantly was a positive role model. Michael has also helped with special events and at the shelter this summer. KCAO would like to thank Michael for his hard work, dedication and commitment to service to his community.

Thank you Michael!!!

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

The process to volunteer at KCAO is simple. All volunteers must fill out a volunteer application packet, participate in a 1-on-1 screening, and attend a volunteer orientation. After the volunteer application is turned in, the Community Relations Coordinator will contact the volunteer for the 1-on-1 screening and then schedule the volunteer for an orientation. If you have any questions please contact Savino Perico at (559) 589-6068.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Preschool Support

Off ice Assistant for Home Garden

Receptionist for Main Office

Date Entry & Data Researcher

Community Garden

Quotes of The Month

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

~Margaret Mead

"Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare."

~Japanese Proverb

TOTAL HOURS FOR 2011
61,752

IF INTERESTED IN ANY OF THE ABOVE OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CALL
(559) 589-6068

EXPLORE A CAREER

by Susan J. Ellis

Use Volunteering to Try Something New

Are you looking to start a career or to change jobs? Volunteering is a marvelous way to explore possible career options. It is relatively risk-free in that you can sample a work field or setting without making a long-term commitment to it. This allows you to discover whether or not you like the work or are good at it. On the other hand, if you find the work exciting, you can increase your volunteer commitment so that you learn even more about this new job field and your talent for it. Eventually, volunteering can lead you to a paying job—by providing contacts, references, and something tangible to show on your resume.

For new graduates, volunteering can place you a notch above your fellow students who may only be able to show prospective employers that they studied in the classroom and held minimum-wage summer jobs. Your volunteer work will demonstrate that you have practical skills, can function in a work environment, and care about your community.

For those who are tired of their present job, volunteering is a welcome change of pace. It allows you to test yourself in new situations and to see what truly interests you. It gives you the luxury to fail – the chance to risk doing something you've never done before and to learn from it even if it doesn't work out. Community service shows prospective employers that you not only want to make a change in your job, but that you have already made a change and now want to expand your "extracurricular" activities into a full-time career.

If you have been out of the work force while raising a family, or took a leave due to illness or bereavement, volunteering is a way back into the work place. It gives you the opportunity to develop self-confidence and prove that your skills are still alive.

For the active retiree, volunteering is a second (or third or fourth) career – the chance finally to do what you thought was closed off to you because of job choices you made long ago. Experiment with volunteering and keep your talents youthful.

Volunteering is only career exploration if you consciously select assignments that place you in the type of setting you want to learn about, let you work side by side with professionals you can observe and who can answer questions you may have about their career, and you will learn the most by involving yourself in causes and agencies you want to help succeed. So while you gain career exploration, the agency gains a great volunteer – a win-win situation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 9 - MOVIE NIGHT AT FREEDOM PARK; HANFORD

September 17 - INDEPENDENCE DAY; KETTLEMEN CITY

September 24 - DAY OF THE FAMILY; AVENAL

September 24 - CRIME PREVENTION & AWARENESS EVENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MARKETING DEPARTMENT AT
(559) 415-7205