

Engage and Succeed When You Empower Your Workforce:

Unveiling the Advantages of Employee Volunteerism!

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National Volunteer Month is April in the U.S., and it's a time of year dedicated to volunteering. It's also a unique opportunity for employee volunteers to support nonprofits that matter to them and to their organizations. In today's post, we will look at how you can encourage your employees to volunteer in National Volunteer Month or any other time of year.

According to our corporate volunteering statistics, employees who volunteer in the community (with time sponsored by their company) agree that volunteering increases their loyalty, satisfaction, pride in being part of a company that allows them to volunteer during work hours and that their community becomes stronger as a result. This in turn leads to increased employee retention, which is a key factor for many employers these days. Volunteer service opportunities also help to build your corporate reputation in the community as a responsible company. This may be attractive to job seekers.

According to a 2016 article in Fortune, "When employees are actively engaged in giving back, they tend to feel more engaged and connected to the work," Elizabeth Stocker, consultant for Great Place to Work, says. "I'm not surprised that the sentiment was so much higher when people were actually engaged in the work rather than just getting a corporate gift."

How to Determine What Volunteer Opportunities to Connect to Your Company or Industry.

One important consideration as you look for volunteer opportunities for your employees is to study which causes connect to your people and where they like spending their time and skills volunteering. Consider surveying your employees to learn where they are already volunteering to determine if there are charitable organizations important to your staff. Another consideration for corporate volunteer programs might be causes that connect to the industry you work in or with the type of work your company does. If you work in a healthcare organization, for example, you might connect with nonprofits that focus on providing healthier communities, either through food, health screenings, or other related areas.

Inspire your team to make a difference by encouraging them to participate in volunteer work.

Employee engagement can be achieved in a variety of ways, including volunteering with a non-profit, schools, or community partners. All that is required is a commitment on the part of the company and its employees to create volunteer opportunities. Some organizations even create an employee volunteer program to formalize these efforts. Allowing for ongoing volunteer opportunities for employee engagement provides meaningful service opportunities to help in the community, while assisting nonprofits or other organizations to accomplish their missions. A win-win for both!

How to Organize Your Events

Organizing offsite or team building events can often be a great way to volunteer, especially if it's part of National Volunteer Month but can be done at any time of the year. When incorporated into these types of initiatives, volunteering can increase employee morale, demonstrate the company's commitment to giving back and enable management and leadership to volunteer alongside front-line employees.

Of course, employee volunteering isn't limited to corporate events. You may offer a volunteer experience on a regular basis, or at specific times of year, such as National Volunteer Month.

But, of course, it doesn't require a special corporate event to engage in employee volunteering. You might offer a volunteering experience regularly, or at certain times of the year, like National Volunteer Month.

How to Empower your team with impactful employee volunteering opportunities

While there's no one-size-fits-all solution, Feeding America Backpack Program - Backpack food programs offer families free groceries for weekends and school breaks. Food backpacks include healthy, easy-to-prepare food for kid-friendly meals.

Food banks partner with schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and community centers to distribute backpacks to kids.

You can go to Feeding Americans Website <https://www.feedingamerica.org/our-work/hunger-relief-programs/backpack-program> type in your zip code and find a program local to your area. Summers are often a time of food scarcity for school age children as they no longer have access to the schools food programs. During the summer, many of these programs host summer meal programs.

Now is the Perfect Time to Start a Employee Volunteer Program!

Whether you have a formal corporate volunteer program or are looking for informal ways to get involved, volunteering builds engagement that benefits your business and one or more non-profit organizations. National Volunteer Month is the perfect time to continue building on your existing employee volunteer efforts or launch a new initiative for your teams!