

# Lagniappe

"a little something extra"



## Champions of Service

Convened by:

POINTS  
OF LIGHT  
INSTITUTE

Corporation for  
NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE

## 2011 National Conference on Volunteering and Service

## WELCOME EDITION

### Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler

Welcome to the [2011 National Conference on Volunteering and Service](#) in the historic city of New Orleans. You are gathered here with more than 3,500 service and volunteering leaders from across the country to hone your skills, be inspired and develop strategies to address the critical issues facing our nation.

This week you'll hear from luminary figures in media, government and entertainment including civil rights leader **Ruby Bridges**, entertainers **Rosario Dawson** and **Branford Marsalis**, journalists **Soledad O'Brien** and **Deborah Roberts**, and government officials **Governor Haley Barbour** of Mississippi and **Melody Barnes**, assistant to the president and director of the Domestic Policy Council.

You will be motivated, challenged and engaged by leaders like **Wendy Kopp**, CEO of Teach for America; retired U.S. Coast Guard **Admiral Thad Allen**; California Secretary of Service and

Volunteering **Karen Baker**; and **Cliff Burrows**, president of Starbucks Coffee U.S.

Speakers will appear throughout the conference's more than 150 workshops, immersion learning sessions, forums, book clubs and general gatherings.

If you're looking for resources, stop by the **Community Champions Quarter** where more than 50 exhibitors will provide tools, learning and best practices and services. The three editions of Lagniappe, the conference newsletter, will provide you with latest conference news.

We hope you leave the conference renewed in your efforts to strengthen your community.



*Let the good  
(and the good times) roll!!*



## Key Events

### Skills-Based Volunteering Corporate Mentoring Forum (5564)

**Sponsored by:** Microsoft  
**Monday, June 6, 8 - 10:30 a.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center 343  
*Wondering how to help move the "Billion + Change" initiative forward in your company? This session is uniquely designed to help businesses understand best corporate practices around SBV.*

### America's Service Commissions and Points of Light Institute Public Policy Update (5558)

**Monday, June 6, 1 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center 255-257  
*America's Service Commissions and Points of Light Institute host a public policy panel to discuss the future of national and community service programs. The session will provide an update on national service legislation and Congressional appropriations.*

## Robert Velasco, II, Named Acting CEO of CNCS

President Barack Obama has designated Robert Velasco, II, acting CEO for the Corporation for National and Community Service. Robert has served as CNCS' Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Program Operations for the last eight months. He comes to CNCS with 17 years of federal experience and a proven record in management, program and regional operations at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Robert has a deep commitment to national service, which has its roots in the time he spent as a youth volunteer where he experienced first-hand the impact of service and its ability to change lives. "I am deeply honored to serve in this role at time of great need and opportunity for national service, and I am excited to meet service leaders from across the country at this important national convening," he said.

### Public Participation in the Wake of Disaster (5048)

**Sponsored by:** The UPS Foundation and eBay  
**Monday, June 6, 1 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center 344-345  
*Join us for a discussion framed by Admiral Thad Allen on the importance of public participation in the wake of disaster. Admiral Allen will discuss his experience in being U.S. Coast Guard commander during Hurricane Katrina and the 2010 Gulf oil spill.*

### Welcome to Our World! Feds, Veterans and Military Family Service Organizations, Meet Community Volunteers (5590)

**Sponsored by:** Bank of America  
**Monday, June 6, 1 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center 238  
*Federal agencies, veteran and military family service organizations, volunteer service organizations and national service project representatives will come together to get acquainted, build partnerships and strengthen existing relationships.*

### Opening General Session: Champions of Service, Innovation and Solutions (5669)

**Sponsored by:** Target  
**Monday, June 6, 3:30 - 6 p.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center Hall C  
*Join Mayor Mitch Landrieu and title sponsor Target for a tribute to New Orleans and its cultural heritage. We'll celebrate and learn from the Champions of Service who have been at the forefront of innovation that is creating local impact through service and volunteering.*

### "Only In New Orleans" Reception

**Sponsored by:** Motorola Mobility Foundation  
**Monday, June 6, 5 - 7 p.m.**  
**Location:** Convention Center Hall B2  
*You are invited to a very special celebration where you will experience the magic of New Orleans through an event filled with passion, spirit, soulful vibes and artistic grandeur.*

## News Round-Up

### Free Disaster Response Training from FEMA

For the past two years, the NCVS has been held in cities that have benefitted from the amazing American spirit of service.

In 2010, New York City played host to NCVS. The city will never forget the outpouring of support it received after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. This year, we gather in New Orleans, a city that has even more recently welcomed the support of millions in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the Gulf oil spill.

As we now turn our collective attention to those affected by recent floods and tornadoes, we encourage volunteers – both leaders and those looking to assist those in need – to take advantage of free disaster response training provided by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#). The training focuses on the right way to work efficiently and effectively in the face of a natural or manmade disaster.

Visit the [online catalog](#) of programs to determine what is right for you. We encourage you to sign up and promote awareness of this free training to those within your community.

### L'Oréal Women of Worth

During your time at the National Conference on Volunteering and Service, L'Oréal Paris invites you to nominate a Woman of Worth, a champion of service who is making an exceptional difference in her community.

L'Oréal Paris will select 10 honorees, each of whom will receive a \$10,000 grant for the nonprofit of her choice. In addition, one grand prize of \$25,000 will be awarded based on public voting. Visit the L'Oréal Paris Women of Worth booth (#516) to enter your nomination and have the chance to win special prizes. Also, join us at the "Only In New Orleans" party on Monday, June 6, to meet previous Women of Worth honorees.

# Road to the Gulf Rolls into New Orleans

The Road to the Gulf, a program of HandsOn Network and University of Phoenix, was conceived as New Orleans was announced as the host city for the 2011 National Conference on Volunteering and Service. The city was an inspiration for the approach it has taken to solve the problems associated with both manmade and natural disasters. By calling on grassroots leaders to affect change in its own communities, New Orleans has rebounded and built an even stronger culture.

The Road to the Gulf has used that model to train and activate volunteer leaders, build nonprofit capacity and mobilize volunteers across the country during events in Atlanta, Charlotte, San Francisco, Phoenix, Washington, D.C., Chicago and Kansas City.

To date, the Road to the Gulf has:

- Engaged 9,000 volunteers
- Trained 2,500 volunteer leaders
- Assembled 10,000 meal kits
- Delivered 950 school supply kits
- Donated 650 books
- Packed 500 emergency preparedness kits

With the time, talent and resources of up to 700 NCVS participants, local volunteers and the continued support of University of Phoenix, 25 parks and recreation centers across the city of New Orleans will be revitalized. Four signature park restoration projects will be held at Sam Bonart Park, Bunny Friend Park, Village de l'est Park and Evans Park. At each park, volunteers will install new playground equipment, repair basketball courts, install sideline benches, build soccer fields, install lighting and beautify the parks so they become jewels within their neighborhoods.

While the Road to the Gulf program ends in New Orleans, the road doesn't stop there. The "road" is a civic pathway, a mindset towards self-sufficiency and sustainable action in communities. Your road could include packing backpacks with books and healthy snacks for elementary school children in hard-hit Gulf areas. Or, your civic path might start with service leader training and tools and resources to manage high-impact service projects in your own neighborhood.



As a matter of fact, the cities of New Orleans and Gulfport have diverted 2,000 food boxes packed during the Road to the Gulf's tour stop in Kansas City to the central Alabama neighborhoods that were so devastated recently by tornadoes.

Whether you use your time, talent, voice or resources to create change, we hope you'll hit the road with us to a stronger future.

## Make It a Digital Conference



The official website of the National Conference on Volunteering and Service, [www.VolunteeringandService.org](http://www.VolunteeringandService.org), is the hub for updated information about the conference's proceedings and home to our digital activities. Discover the most updated conference schedule, room changes, and a complete listing of events and speakers. Make sure to tell friends and colleagues back home to visit the site to watch live webcasts of the general sessions and the National Service Plenary.

Don't miss out on the conference social media channels. Check out the latest news on Twitter hashtag [#NCVS](https://twitter.com/NCVS) and like our [Facebook page](#).

You'll also find NCVS on:

- [LinkedIn](#) - connect with your colleagues
- [YouTube](#) - watch conference videos
- [Flickr](#) - view conference pictures
- [Eventbrite](#) - create events and invite conference attendees
- [FourSquare and Gowalla](#) - check into conference sessions
- [Delicious](#) - see content tagged as relevant to NCVS participants



## HandsOn Network Announces Innovation Hubs

The volunteer sector is evolving rapidly with dramatic changes in how and why people engage. To keep up with these changes, HandsOn Network has launched a focused investment strategy called the Innovation Hub initiative. The goal of the initiative is to help HandsOn Network affiliates stay on the cutting edge of innovation, creating new ways to connect with individuals and create change.

The first 10 Innovation Hubs are: Boston Cares, Chicago Cares, HandsOn Central Ohio, HandsOn Greater Portland, HandsOn Twin Cities, New York Cares, Seattle Works, Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc., Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County and Volunteer Marin/Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership.

Innovation Hubs will be learning labs for community engagement. They will be predisposed to innovation and have strong leadership ready to advance the

mission of HandsOn through newly acquired skills and knowledge. The initiative will provide 30 Innovation Hubs (10 per year for three years) with grant funding and executive leadership focused on innovation. This innovation framework will incorporate the five elements of the David La Piana's "new social sector" including:

- Redefining participation due to demographic shifts
- Abounding technological advances
- Organizing of work in new ways through networks
- Rising interest in civic engagement and volunteerism
- Blurring of sector boundaries

At the end of three years, the practices and learning emerging from the Innovation Hubs will form the blueprint for evolving the model of engagement across our network to meet 21st century needs of both volunteers and the communities in which they engage.

## Forums Feature Innovative Formats

Don't miss out on critical discussions at this year's conference forums (all are scheduled for 2 - 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday).

Three of the five forums use interactive technology to engage audiences. In the session **Change When Change is Hard: the College Completion Agenda**, critically acclaimed speaker and author **Peter Sims** discusses the concepts in his recently published book *Little Bets: How Breakthrough Ideas Emerge through Small Discoveries* with representatives of the Lumina Foundation for Education, the U.S. Department of Education and CNCS. Audience members will then be asked to tweet their ideas of "little bets" for creating societal change. Get there early because the first 200 participants seated will receive a copy of Peter Sim's book.

In the Interactive Strategy Forum, more than 20 technology innovators from organizations such as the **Craigslist Foundation**, **TechSoup Global**, and **The Case Foundation** will each host a "roundtable" demonstrating and discussing tools to help you advance your work in everything from recruiting and retaining volunteers to managing projects and donors. Participants can rotate and visit as many tables as they wish. **The Leaders Make the Future Forum: Leadership Skills for an Uncertain World** will feature **Max Stier**, president of the Partnership for Public Service, **Wendy Kopp**, CEO and founder of Teach for America, and **Hal Coston**, executive director of the Vermont Commission on National and Community Service responding to challenges submitted by participants via tweets and cell phone texts.

## National Service in the Gulf

After Hurricane Katrina, 110,000 National Service participants served in the Gulf Coast and volunteers assisted 3,000,000 people.

## Pick-up Resources in the Community Champions Quarter Exhibit Hall

Learn about the latest computer software, discover best practices and pick up marketing resources at the exhibit hall.

Don't miss the CNCS booth, where you'll find fact sheets, videos, brochures and giveaways. At the Points of Light Institute booth, you'll be able to record your service story, take a fun photo with friends and learn how the organization inspires, equips and mobilizes action that changes the world. The exhibit hall stage features a wide array of events throughout the conference, including a fashion show where volunteers show off the latest in national service gear; launch of the Service for Peace video; and demonstrations on how to be prepared for disaster.

The Cyber Café, located in the exhibit hall, provides internet access so you can check your email and visit the conference website for the latest updates.

## Exhibit Hall Hours

Sunday, June 5, 1 – 5 p.m.  
Monday, June 6, 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
*Exhibit hall will close during opening plenary*  
Monday June 6, 5 – 7pm



### CNCS Leadership Meet and Greet

Visit the CNCS booth during the "Only in New Orleans" reception on Monday, June 6, from 6-7:30 p.m. to meet the CNCS leadership team including the acting CEO, Board of Directors, agency management team, program directors and focus area leads.

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