



Volunteer Leaders Shaping the Professions

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Who said this?

Though government has an important role to play in meeting the many challenges that remain before us, we are coming to understand that no organization, including government, will fully succeed without the active participation of each of us.

Volunteers are vital to enabling this country to live up to the true promise of its heritage.



William Jefferson Clinton

US President



Who said this?

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.



Dr. Albert Schweitzer

1952 Nobel Peace Prize in 1953 for his
philosophy of "Reverence for Life"



Who said this?

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is sort of a splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to the future generations.



George Bernard Shaw

Irish Playwright



What did he say?

- the famous missionary and writer Étienne de Grellet or better known as Stephen Grellet



And the answer is....

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall no pass this way again.



Who said?

In American society today, we need to have volunteerism. I truly believe that it is the glue that will hold us together and it will be the energy that will take us into the 21st century.



Barbara Miklulski

U.S. Senator from Maryland



One day someone will say:

“We’d like you to serve in a leadership role in your state/national professional association.”



They are thinking:

- You have good skills to bring to the task
- You will bring a valuable perspective
- They respect your work
- You have the knowledge to do the job
- They perceive you as one who accepts responsibility
- They think highly of you as a



You are thinking:

- How can I get out of this?
- I don't have anything to offer.
- Everyone else knows more about this than I do.
- I need to focus on my:
 - Job
 - Family
 - Other responsibilities



You are thinking (still...)

- My supervisor doesn't want me to take on outside commitments
- They don't let me take time off work for volunteer activities
- There is not a budget to support this work

And #1 on the Excuse List:



I am just TOO busy!!!



So let's look at your "reasons"

- How can I get out of this?
 - Why do you want to get out of it?
 - Is it important work?
 - Can someone else do it as well as I can?
 - Is it something I have always been interested in?
 - Am I going to complain about the way it is done if I don't do it?



Your reasons

- I don't have anything to offer
 - The people who asked you think that you do
 - Do you have a history with the issue that says otherwise?
 - Do you have larger skills (good organizer, logical thinker, good with budgets) that you can bring to the task?
 - What specific skills/knowledge do you have that will apply?



Your reasons

■ I need to focus on my

_____.

- What are you doing when you aren't focused on those things?
- Would this be a better use of your time?
- Would having this opportunity make me a better _____?
- Will this provide a good role model to those whose lives I want to influence?



Your reasons

- My supervisor doesn't want me to take on outside commitments.
- They don't let me take time off work for volunteer activities.
 - I can use the skills I gain to make my employer's life easier/better
 - I can bring new knowledge to the workplace
 - Is this going to take time away from work hours?
 - If yes, then can you make up the hours?
 - If no, then will your supervisor really care?



Your reasons

- There is not a budget to support this work
 - Can the expenses be deducted as a professional expense?
 - Is the requirement for financial commitment manageable?
 - Will your employer help?
 - Does this job require time or money or both?



I'm TOO busy.....

- You will always be too busy
 - Early career – children & family
 - Middle career – getting ahead in the workplace
 - Late career – caring for the older generation and a history of not volunteering
 - There is no perfect time
 - There is no really good time—it is a matter of priorities



What does, “I’m too busy,” mean anyway?

- Overworked
- Productivity demands are too high
- Hard work doesn’t result in increased pay
- Lack of fulfillment
- Burnout
- Supervisor is always bossing me around



Volunteer activities offer

- An opportunity to choose what you want to do
- A chance to focus energies on making something about your job, world, or profession better
- The prospect of feeling that you are making a positive difference



When you go to work tomorrow, how would you feel if...

- You got to choose what you wanted to do?
- You did something that really had a positive impact on someone or something?
- Someone said “thank you”



Volunteer Leadership Offers

- Volunteering is a way to get the kind of control over some of your activities that these things can happen
- People who feel that they have some control in their work activities also feel more successful, useful, and fulfilled



External Rewards for Volunteering

- More energy goes into your work which results in more positive evaluations...and ultimately more \$\$\$
- Patients get more or better services which makes them tell others and increases the visibility of your services
- Improves your professional reputation



Internal Rewards for Volunteering

- You like your job more because the job includes things you “choose” to do
- You feel less burned out
- You “like yourself” as a professional more



Secondary Results – Transferable Skills

- Goal setting
- Organization
- Negotiating
- Meeting deadlines



Transferable skills

- Debating in a reasonable way
- Collaborating
- Accepting/Giving Recognition
- Leadership skills

Where is your commitment?

■ State organization

- May have less support/infrastructure
- Work with people you know
- Have an impact you can see immediately

■ CSAP

- Larger good for professionals with whom you relate
- Opportunities to work closely with the “younger” generation
- Opportunities from early in your career





ASHA

Captivating Vision:

Making effective communication a human right, accessible and achievable for all



How can I turn that down?





Some other thoughts

- We are seldom too busy to do what we value
- We are seldom so burned out that we have nothing left to give
- We are seldom without an idea that will make things better



Martin Luther King, Jr.

- The time is always right to do what is right.

Margaret Mead

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



Winston Churchill

- We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.





Booker T. Washington

- If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.

Leonard Nimoy (Dr. Spock)

- The miracle is this—the more we share, the more we have.





Who said

Volunteering is a fundamental building block of a civil society. It brings life to the noblest aspirations of humankind – the pursuit of peace, freedom, opportunity, safety and justice for all people. At the dawn of the millennium, volunteering is an essential element of all societies.



International Association for Volunteers



Thanks and Credit go to

- Sue T. Hale
- Marion Hammett
- Mary Dale Fitzgerald

For Use of the I'm too busy
portion of this presentation