

# Peak Press

Linking people, programs and services

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## Experience New VISTAs

### *Americorps VISTA Program Helps Pikes Peak Chapter Reach New Heights*

A grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service awarded the Pikes Peak Chapter two Americorps VISTA volunteers last spring, and in just four short months, John Memmer and Mary Lowery have brought new energy and insight into being *Red Cross Ready*.

Using the *Be Ready Cross Ready* program, modeled after the Mile High Chapter, the Pikes Peak VISTA volunteers are blazing new trails on the frontier of disaster preparedness education by presenting the public with the three steps in how to *Be Ready Cross Ready*: Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed.

The VISTAs will be with the chapter for one year, ending May 2008, in order to create a sustainable community disaster education (CDE) program which will be run by volunteers. Currently, the program has recruited 11 volunteers, three of which have already held presentations independently, and have created partnership with the Pikes Peak Library District to ensure a venue for future presentations. Thus far, 18 presentations have been held which reached a grand total of 1880 Coloradans.

## Each One, Reach One

### *Incentives for Volunteer Recruitment*

Volunteer applications have been revamped to include referral information in an effort to encourage current volunteer to promote volunteerism to others.

At the end of each quarter, the volunteer with the most referrals of successfully recruited new volunteers will receive two free movie passes to Tinseltown or Cinema Point theaters.

This project will begin with volunteers recruited on or after January 1, 2008. Referrals will be credited after a new volunteer completes the entire volunteer process and starts volunteering.

## What Do You Want to Know?

*Peak Press* is a new monthly e-publication intended to give volunteers and the community information. We invite you to e-mail Jaici Williams, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at [jwilliams@pparc.org](mailto:jwilliams@pparc.org) with suggestions for articles, formatting or information that you'd like to see in October's issue.

## News in a Flash

- September is National Preparedness Month! *Be Red Cross Ready* and take the three steps to protect your family: **Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed**. Next month look for tips on Home Fire Awareness!
- The Pikes Peak Chapter's Americorps VISTA volunteers have teamed up with Sam's Club and Bonfils Blood Services for a blood drive to be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 11a.m. to 2 p.m. at the S. Academy Sam's Club.
- Don't forget to take advantage of **DSHR Self Service**. Once you receive your login information, this pilot program will allow you to view your entire profile and make changes to address, emergency contact and availability information (limited fields).
- Planning is will begin for the next **Volunteer Recognition Breakfast** on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Let's start thinking about awards nominations! (Location to be determined.)