

Tracks

Overview

The workshops, forums and immersion learning sessions during the 2012 National Conference on Volunteering and Service will focus on inspiring, equipping and mobilizing 21st century volunteers to give their time, money and voice to create change in their communities. More than ever before, volunteers are resolute in their commitment to the nation and the following tracks are designed to illustrate the innovation, capacity and culture of the organizations they serve to a national audience.

Tracks

Business	Business sessions will focus on new and current frameworks, tools and strategies to increase employee volunteerism and retain corporate participation in service, service-learning and community development.
Digital Mobilization	As citizens develop deeper connections to their communities, track participants will learn how to harness the time, money, voice and personal networks of these community members. The technology track will teach participants how to meet people where they are through hardware, software and online community building.
Economic Opportunity	Workshops will focus on proven methods and programs that help individuals and communities increase their financial stability and access to housing and employment opportunities.
Emergency Preparedness and Response	With an unprecedented number of natural and manmade disasters, and millions of families currently affected by them, this track highlights best practices and results-driven solutions in community-based disaster mitigation, preparation, response and recovery.
Environmental Sustainability	This track will focus on developing greener communities, reducing the use of fossil fuels, improving fragile ecosystems and protecting public lands.
Excellence in Education	Sessions will demonstrate how to use civic engagement, service and service-learning as part of a comprehensive strategy to increase graduation rates and improve students' academic performance.
Faith and Neighborhoods	Sessions in this track highlight new and current tools and strategies to strengthen relationships with and service through faith-based and neighborhood organizations.

Health and Wellness	As childhood obesity and other health risks continue to be a national discussion, this track focuses on strategies for using service and volunteering to improve access to healthy foods and to improve individual and community health through programming and education.
National Service Programs	National Service sessions are dedicated to strengthening programs funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service.
Nonprofit Capacity Building	Through data mining and management, meaningful volunteer experiences and innovative thinking, track participants will learn how to bolster the effectiveness of their organizations in any economic landscape.
Service Innovation	As the volunteer lifecycle continues to evolve, this track will focus on new ways to connect with and engage individuals in a meaningful way and how community leaders can adapt their practices and continue to meet their social missions. Track participants and thought leaders will explore issues and burning questions from across the service sector.
Veterans and Military Families	Sessions in this track include best practices, strategies, and proven program models to engage veterans and military families as volunteers.
Volunteer Management	Sessions in this track equip managers of volunteer programs to engage diverse volunteers, with a focus on effectiveness, impact and retention.
Youth Leadership	With a growing force of young people invested in the health of their communities, this track is designed to empower youth leaders to make their mark on the world. Sessions will provide youth with the tools and resources to respond and become part of the solution.