

## Conference on Volunteering and Service

June 21, 2013

### The Future of Service and Community Blueprint

The closing plenary today on the “Future of Service” brings New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, Frans Johansson, author of “The Medici Effect,” and more to the stage.

General Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, headlines the afternoon session, “Converting Good

Intentions to Greater Impact for Veterans and Military Families.” Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn more about the Community Blueprint, a Points of Light initiative that provides an integrated framework of tools and resources that creates a comprehensive, communitywide program to help service members and their families.



### Senators Laud Service

At Thursday’s National Policy session, Michelle Nunn, Points of Light’s CEO, laid the groundwork for a robust discussion between two U.S. Senators about the national problems confronting Congress and the volunteer sector’s role in helping address those problems.

“The budget realities are profound,” Nunn noted. “It is obvious that we have to do more with less. Our challenges as a nation don’t disappear as our public resources shrink.”

Sen. Dan Coats of Indiana and Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, who joined Nunn on stage, discussed the vital role nonprofits play in partnership with government to meet critical needs. They emphasized how important it is that members of Congress hear the stories of impact from volunteer-driven interventions around the country. “We as public policy people need to be more connected to the stories,” Kaine said.

(Pictured above, from left: Nunn, Kaine and Coats.)

### Join the #1America Party!

Join our One America Twitter party Friday, and you could win a free registration to next year’s Conference. Just tweet using the hashtag [#1America](#) between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

For each tweet you send you will be entered into a drawing.

Tell us what One America means to you – or which rivals you’d like to see us unite through service.

### The Science of Giving

“This is the 10th anniversary of me becoming a Points of Light groupie,” Wharton Professor and New York Times best-selling author Adam Grant told the audience at Thursday’s Business Track luncheon. “Points of Light has done more important work on corporate volunteering than all the universities in the world combined.”

Sponsored by UnitedHealth Group and KPMG LLP, the event posed the question, “Can giving make you healthier, happier, more productive and successful?” According to Grant’s research, and a 2013 study sponsored by UnitedHealth Group, the answer is yes.

In a study measuring productivity and error rates in engineering, grades in medical school and revenue in sales, Grant found that givers were the best performers across

the board – except when they gave too much. Grant cautioned that whether it’s in the workplace or the community, givers need to take care not to sacrifice themselves to the point of neglecting their own interests or burning out.

“Givers can be extremely successful, but we need to screen out the takers,” Grant said. “We need to create organizations that build people up versus cutting them down.” The luncheon also honored companies that have made giving a part of their culture. Points of Light Chairman Neil Bush and CEO Michelle Nunn presented the award for the 2013 Corporate Volunteer Council of the Year to the CVC of Montgomery County (Maryland); the 2013 Fast Start Award to the CVC of Orange County (California); and the Corporate Engagement Award of Excellence to HP and The Ritz-Carlton.

### Conversation and Song at Sunday Supper

“What inspires students to do their best?” Seated at long tables, sharing a family-style meal on red cafeteria-style school lunch trays, attendees at Thursday night’s America’s Sunday Supper sponsored by Target talked, tweeted and shared answers to questions like this one. The lively conversation and panel discussion on education reform was capped off by a special message and performance by education activist and Grammy-winning R&B artist John Legend.



“As it stands, a good education in the United States of America remains a gift for some. It should be a right for all.”

- John Legend