

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism



Open Government Report 2014

To institutionalize a culture of transparent and open government, accountability, and to expand opportunities for resident participation and collaboration, this Report describes how the Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism has and will continue to develop and enhance transparency, public participation, and collaboration. In accordance with Mayor’s Order 2014-170, this report addresses the following topics:

1) **Transparency**

- *Serve DC makes information regarding all funding opportunities available via the agency website, serve.dc.gov, posts in the DC registry, and the Office of Partnerships & Grant Services funding alert.*
- *Serve DC posts all scheduled meetings and the subsequent meeting minutes of the DC Commission for National & Community Service within the Board of Ethics & Government Accountability’s website.*

As an office within the Executive Office of the Mayor, Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism is working closely with the Office of the City Administrator (OCA) and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) to identify a significant number of datasets that OCA and OCTO expect to publish online later this year. If no dataset from Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism is selected to be included in this 2014 release, we will continue to work with OCA and OCTO to identify datasets appropriate to publish in 2015. In the future, requirements for open data reporting will be provided by the Chief Data Officer.

2) **Public Engagement and Participation**

- *Serve DC archives all resources and information about agency programs and initiatives on the agency website.*
- *Serve DC has taken major steps in 2014 to increase access to information about government volunteer opportunities via the creation of NeighborGood, the Districts volunteer opportunity search engine.*
- *Serve DC has made information available on all AmeriCorps grant funded organizations through serve.dc.gov and dcamericorps.org which is linked to the agencies main website serve.dc.gov.*
- *Serve DC actively utilizes social media via Twitter and Facebook to engage the public in agency programs and initiatives.*
- *As the District Government Agency dedicated to promoting volunteerism as a sustainable solution to meeting community needs, Serve DC is consistently*

engaged in efforts to involve the community in all agency programs and initiatives through outreach activities and events.

- *Serve DC utilizes the DC Department of Health's DC Responds communication system to notify volunteers, partners, and programs of important announcements and emergencies.*

3) **Collaboration**

- *In 2013 Serve DC Launched the District of Columbia Cities of Service Task Force bringing together volunteer managers and program staff from across District Government agencies to facilitate collaboration, communication, and coordination around how District Government is leveraging volunteer and pro bono services. These efforts continued throughout 2014.*
- *In partnership with the DC Department of Health – Health Emergency Preparedness Administration, Serve DC has launched the DC Vulnerable Populations Community & Health Care Coalition, bringing together government agencies, for profit, and not profit service providers to develop plans and strategies for ensuring the safety and resilience of seniors, residents with access and functional needs, and other vulnerable populations before, during, and after a disaster or emergency.*
- *In 2014 Serve DC launched partnerships with the DC Department of Employment Services and the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services to promote volunteerism as a pathway to employment exposing youth and other residents to careers within the emergency management and public safety sector.*
- *Serve DC convenes a monthly Service members, Veterans and Military Families brown bag bringing together government agencies and non-profits providing services to service members, veterans and military families in the District of Columbia.*