



**Corporate Volunteerism Council-Twin Cities**

# **Annual Report 2008**



**CORPORATE  
VOLUNTEERISM  
COUNCIL** *Twin Cities*  
Promoting Workplace Volunteerism

## 2008 CVC Board

**President:** Dot Belstler,  
RBC Wealth Management

**Vice President:** Cheryl Thompson,  
Target Corporation

**Treasurer:** Phil Losacker,  
Memorial Blood Centers

**Secretary:** Zeeda Magnuson,  
HandsOn Twin Cities

**Past President:** Judson Tharin,  
The Toro Company

**Awards Luncheon Chairs:**  
Katy Friesz, Ameriprise Financial  
Erica Dolmar, Children's Home Society  
& Family Services

**Leadership Development Chairs:**  
Kris Kosek, Best Buy  
Judy Sharken Simon, MAP for Nonprofits

**Marketing & Communications Chairs:**  
Patty Jungwirth, Marquette Financial  
Companies  
Sheila Snapp, Thomson Reuters  
Beth Mammenga, Goodwill/Easter Seals  
Minnesota

**Membership Chairs:**  
Barb Alfrey, Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Donna Alberts, New York Life Insurance

**Program Committee Chairs:**  
David Jones, Thrivent Financial for  
Lutherans  
Tony Tolliver, Carlson  
Shannon Toren, Ecolab

**Special Projects Chairs:**  
Christine Page, Faegre & Benson  
Debbie Prince, Land O'Lakes

**Historian:** David Jones

## Committee Members

**Awards Luncheon Committee:**  
Tiffany Calderon, Ameriprise Financial  
Jenessa Jensen, U.S. Bancorp Foundation  
Rachel Schwalbach, BestPrep  
Mary Bachman, Catholic Charities of  
St. Paul & Minneapolis

**Leadership Development Committee:**  
Judson Tharin, The Toro Company  
Emma Mogendorff, Thrivent Financial for  
Lutherans

**Marketing & Communications Committee:**  
Eileen Chanen, Thrivent Financial for  
Lutherans  
Susan Schuster, Blue Cross and  
Blue Shield of Minnesota

**Program Committee:**  
Shelley Long, Cargill  
Meghan Morse, HandsOn Twin Cities

## Letter from the president

2008 was a busy and exciting year for CVC-TC. Our members continue to be very engaged; learning from each other and sharing best practices. Thank you to all who have attended an event or participated as a board or committee member.

It was exciting to see our members come together in the first ever CVC-wide volunteer event with Great River Greening, organized by our partners at HandsOn Twin Cities. More than 100 volunteers planted 338 trees and 140 shrubs, spread 138 yards of mulch, and constructed 100 wire cages in three hours on a beautiful September afternoon. We look forward to coming together again to make a difference in our community.

The new and improved CVC website became a reality in 2008; please visit [www.cvctc.org](http://www.cvctc.org) to check it out. The members-only pages put you in direct contact with other members and include a forum to discuss trends in volunteerism and continue the momentum of working together on community needs.

In 2008, the Twin Cities metropolitan area was again named the number one ranked community for volunteering in America by The Corporation for National and Community Service. It's not a surprise for CVC-TC; we know the community is engaged and connected. In 2009, our community will need volunteers more than ever before and we look to CVC-TC members to continue to lead the way.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Thompson  
Target Corporation  
2009 President



Dot Belstler  
2008 President



## 2008 Programs

May 2008, **Host: Ecolab**  
Engaging Your Employees in Community Service

July 2008, **Host: Amherst H. Wilder Foundation**  
How We Can Close the Gap

August 2008, **Host: Cargill**  
How Corporate Citizenship Affects the Bottom Line

September 2008, **Indian Mounds Park**  
CVC Volunteer Event with Great River Greening

October 2008, **Host: Goodwill/Easter Seals**  
Creating and Sustaining Retiree Volunteer Programs

December 2008, **CVC Holiday Event**  
Backstage Tour of the Guthrie Theater

February 2009, **Host: Best Buy**  
Annual Business Meeting, Maximizing Volunteer Resources  
in Tough Economic Times

## Community Partner award winner

Cummins Power Generation (Cummins) began working with the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC) in 2005 through Cummins' Every Employee, Every Community initiative, which strives to increase employee volunteerism in our communities. Through this developing partnership, Cummins Foundation funds and employees' skills and talents came together to support the Native American Parenting Traditions Revisited (NAPTR) program. NAPTR provides a traditional parenting curriculum for Native American families who are affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

To date the curriculum has been presented in the Twin Cities, to three outstate Minnesota Indian reservations and on the Rose Bud Reservation in South Dakota. NAPTR has the capacity to be replicated nationwide and can be adapted to other culturally specific populations. A Leadership Team was formed to provide support for the program and MIWRC. Team members served on the NAPTR Advisory Committee with other community leaders, created a marketing/communication plan, provided training and conducted hands-on-learning sessions.

A critical component of Cummin's Model of Engagement is its comprehensive approach in supporting its Community Partners. This is achieved by providing multiple levels of financial and volunteer support, using employees' skills and talents as well as Cummins' contacts and resources. The Leadership Team leads these ongoing efforts, which support a broad range of MIWRC programs.

## *Native American Parenting Traditions Revisited (NAPTR) Program – Cummins, Inc.*



## Employee Engagement award winner

Through the Heart of Blue volunteer program, Blue Cross encourages employees to take leadership in planning and organizing volunteer activities on their own. In late 2007, a trio of employees -- Joan Barrett, Susan Brousseau and Magda Surrisi -- approached Blue Cross' management about plowing up a section of lawn to plant a garden, with Blue Cross volunteers in charge of all planting, maintenance and harvesting. The plan was to donate all of the produce to Lewis House, a nearby domestic violence shelter, to benefit its residents.

In the spring of 2008, notices were posted throughout Blue Cross to gauge employee interest. The organizers quickly discovered how many of their co-workers were just as passionate about gardening and giving back to the community. Sixty employees contributed nearly 360 volunteer hours to help make the "Community Giving Garden" a reality. The project attracted a number of new volunteers, including Hmong and southeast Asian employees, who raised bok choy, jiu cai, and other vegetables reflective of their cultural heritage.

More than 500 pounds of fresh produce – including green beans, melons, squash, zucchini, carrots, potatoes and lettuce – were delivered to Lewis House throughout the growing season. At times the harvests were so plentiful that excess produce was also shared with a local food shelf.

With the success of the Community Giving Garden, Blue Cross has brought a whole new meaning to "grassroots" volunteerism.

## *The Community Giving Garden – Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota*



## Corporate Members

3M

ADC Foundation

Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America

Ameriprise Financial

Best Buy Co., Inc.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota

Boston Scientific Corporation

Bremer Bank

Cargill

Carlson Companies

CHS

Comcast

Cummins, Inc.

Delta Dental of Minnesota

Ecolab

Faegre & Benson LLP

G&K Services

General Mills

Graco, Inc.

HealthPartners

Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Marquette Financial Companies

Medtronic, Inc.

New York Life Insurance Company

Piper Jaffray

Prudential Financial

RBC Wealth Management

Target Corporation

Tastefully Simple

The Toro Company

Thomson Reuters

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

U.S. Bank - U.S. Bancorp Foundation

UnitedHealth Group

Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota

## Associate Members

Achieve!Minneapolis

Best Prep

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities

Catholic Charities of St. Paul & Minneapolis

Children's Home Society and Family Services

Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota

Greater Twin Cities United Way

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Memorial Blood Centers

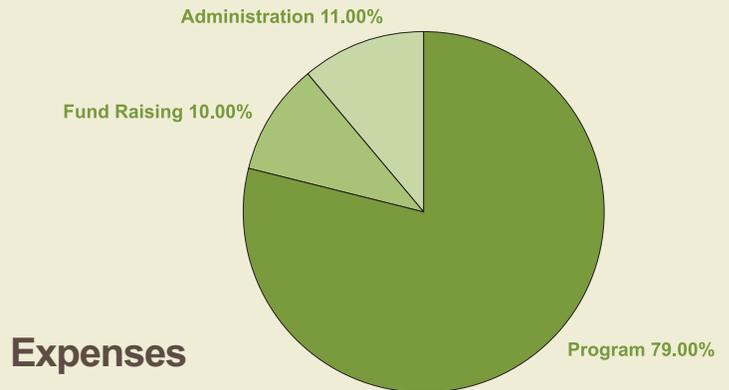
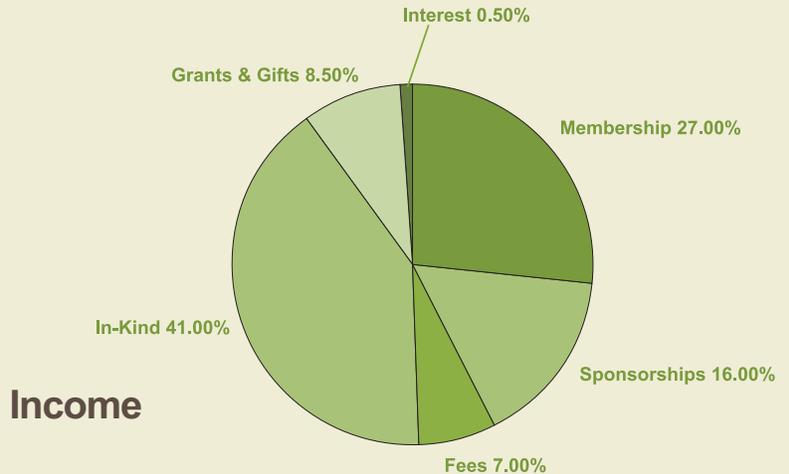
Metro Meals on Wheels

## Partner Organizations

HandsOn Twin Cities

Management Assistance Program (MAP)

## Financial summary



## In-kind contributors

Best Buy

Ecolab

General Mills

Great River Greening

HandsOn Twin Cities

Management Assistance  
Program (MAP)

Marquette Financial Services

National Park Service

RBC Wealth Management

Star Tribune

Thomson Reuters



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Promoting Workplace Volunteerism

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