Volunteer Development Project

Interim Progress Update

Date: April 20, 2016

Work Group: Volunteer Engagement and Support

Work Group Members:

- Andrea Yenter, Chair, ACA, Wisconsin LCOL Chair
- Kim Aycock, ACA, Southeastern LCOL Member
- Brian Crater, ACA Southern California/Hawaii and National Council of Leaders Steering Committee Member
- Mark Orens, ACA, Chesapeake LCOL Chair
- Steve Sudduth, ACA, New England President
- Carla Weiland, ACA, Texoma LCOL Chair
- Susan E. Yoder, Staff Liaison

Assigned Tasks:

- Plans for regular communications and opportunities for networking for volunteers in like positions across the country.
- Develop plan/ideas/template for other opportunities for support to volunteers.
- Online resources to support work
- Planning for annual in person gathering
- Planning for connections quarterly between volunteers in proximity (perhaps by region)
- Volunteer TRACKING
- Investigate ACA National Day of Service

Progress: Items We're Ready to Make Recommendations About:

1. There should be quarterly LCOL Chair virtual meetings of LCOL Chairs that share the same staff; and an annual virtual meeting of all LCOL Chairs and Affiliate Presidents in years where there is not an in person gathering of this group (such as the 2015 Volunteer Summit). *(This is in addition to any meetings of the National Council of Leaders.)*
2. For all "like volunteer positions" there should be at least one virtual meeting per year and the staff/volunteers that work with that "position" can then determine the options for other opportunities.   Like positions might include the positions required in the LCOL Guiding Principles (Standards, Membership, Professional Development) and any others where there are a number of people in that position across the country (e.g., Public Policy, EPIC, Awards, etc.)
3. The LCOL Chair list serve and Facebook Group are not considered relevant at this time and thus, we don't recommend spending time right now trying to revitalize them. Instead the group recommends that time be spent really strengthening the online resources for volunteers section of the ACA Web site – including a roster of LCOL Chairs and Affiliate Presidents so they can contact each other directly. Further, instead of a

"toolkit" we like the idea of an online "Volunteer Resource Center." (See below section below on ideas to be directed elsewhere further information.)

4. There should be fall 2016 meeting (like the 2015 Volunteer Summit) of the Board of Directors, LCOL Chairs and Affiliate Presidents. (The Board Chair has approved this and we anticipate announcing a "save the date" at the April 25, 2016 webinar.)

5. Going forward, there should be a cycle of every three-years for an in-person meeting of the Board of Directors, LCOL Chairs and Affiliate Presidents (with flexibility to adjust where appropriate.)

6. We should be taking advantage of people already being together at ACA National and Regional Conference and convening an in-person meeting of those LCOL Chairs and Affiliate Presidents in attendance where possible.

7. For other "like" volunteer positions, opportunities for in-person meetings should take advantage of people already being together (such as at the ACA National and Regional Conferences), but that this work group recommends that the leadership of those "like" groups be charged with determining in-person meeting protocols, budget and frequency.

8. It was the consensus of the group to not pursue an ACA Volunteer Day of Service at this time.

Progress: Items We Are Still Working On:

1. Regarding volunteer tracking, instead of tracking hours, we will recommend that we begin by getting a handle on who all of our volunteers are and tracking them first. We like the idea of starting this collection of volunteers by piloting in areas of the country that are agreeable – with something simple such as all the volunteers at an in-person professional development event.

Progress: Items That Have Surfaced That Will Be Directed Elsewhere For Consideration

1. In order for engagement and support efforts to be successful there needs to be a more permanent volunteer group that helps oversee this and other volunteer development strategies and plans. We understand that the task of considering a recommendation for a more permanent group has already been assigned to the committee of the whole and we will help craft that recommendation.

2. While discussing the idea of a "toolkit" for volunteers, we instead liked the idea of an online "Volunteer Resource Center." It would have all the elements that might have been in a literal toolkit, but instead would be online, easy to navigate through an excellent outline (table of contents), and interactive. We will bring this to the committee of the whole to further develop this idea.

Other Comments:

We recognize that engagement and support efforts must be flexible and change as the needs of volunteers change. Communications tools and their effectiveness change over time and with new people. Our goal is to be nimble.

Attachments:

None