

Lessons from 10 years of investing in volunteerism.

Data shows that volunteers provide added value and leveraged dollars to nonprofit organizations, yielding cost savings & increased returns.

CAPACITY BUILDING IN VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

Investing in volunteerism shows increased capacity in nonprofit organizations.

Increased capacity in practice:

- Volunteers created new programs and materials, and even trained other volunteers
- Organizations responded to community needs in new or creative ways
- Staff managed volunteers more effectively by utilizing new database software
- Organizations met new requirements from funders in order to retain essential grant funding

EFFECTIVE VOLUNTEER PRACTICES

*Nonprofits with substantially improved volunteer program capacity demonstrated **four key volunteer management practices:***

- An improved understanding of the volunteer experience
- An ability to match volunteers' skills and/or interests with the organization's needs
- The development and use of a written volunteer management plan
- The collection & use of data in volunteer programs with deliberate, strategic intent

IMPACT ON ORGANIZATIONS

*Nonprofit leaders are able to better **integrate volunteerism** throughout their organizations.*

They did this by:

- Budgeting volunteer program costs within other organizational programs
- Engaging program staff to inform/improve the volunteer experience
- Including volunteers as a component of the organization's strategic plan

Strategic investments in volunteer programs have outsized effects on a nonprofit's ability to meet its mission.

Take action to engage the power of volunteerism in your own community.

Explore HALO Award Stories to learn more about investing in volunteerism.

Reach out and have a dialogue with Deutsch Foundation staff or trustees.