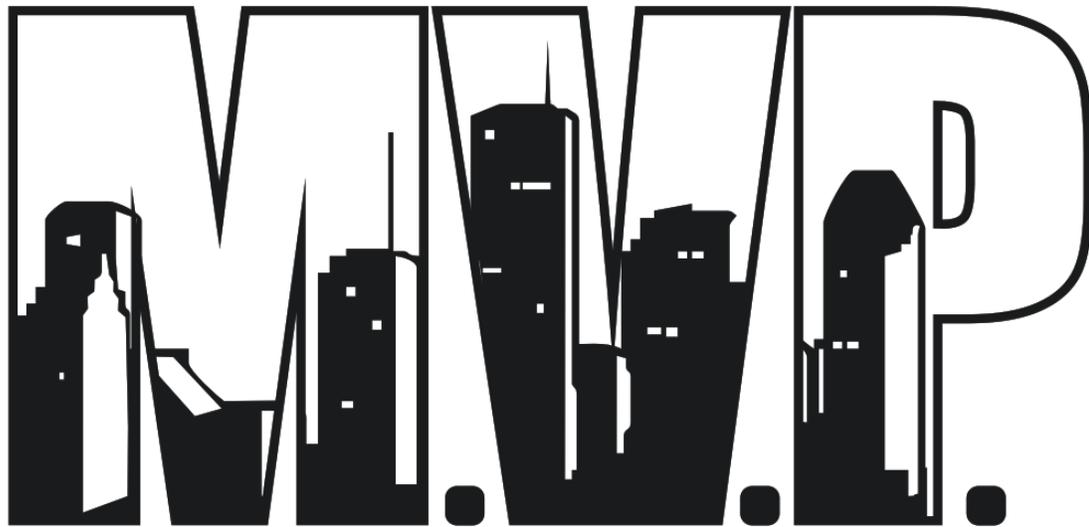


UNIVERSITY *of* HOUSTON



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Metropolitan Volunteer Program

SFAC Report FY 2012

Fy2012 Program Questionnaire for SFAC

1. Please provide a one-page executive summary of your questionnaire responses. This summary should include, in brief terms: your units mission, how you accomplish your units mission, and a justification of your unit's student fee allocation in terms of benefits for students.

Our Mission:

- Nourishing the spirit of volunteerism
- Enhancing educational experiences
- Affirming human dignity
- Advocating equality of opportunity
- Striving for social justice

MVP works to achieve these objectives through education, recruitment, referral and commitment to service.

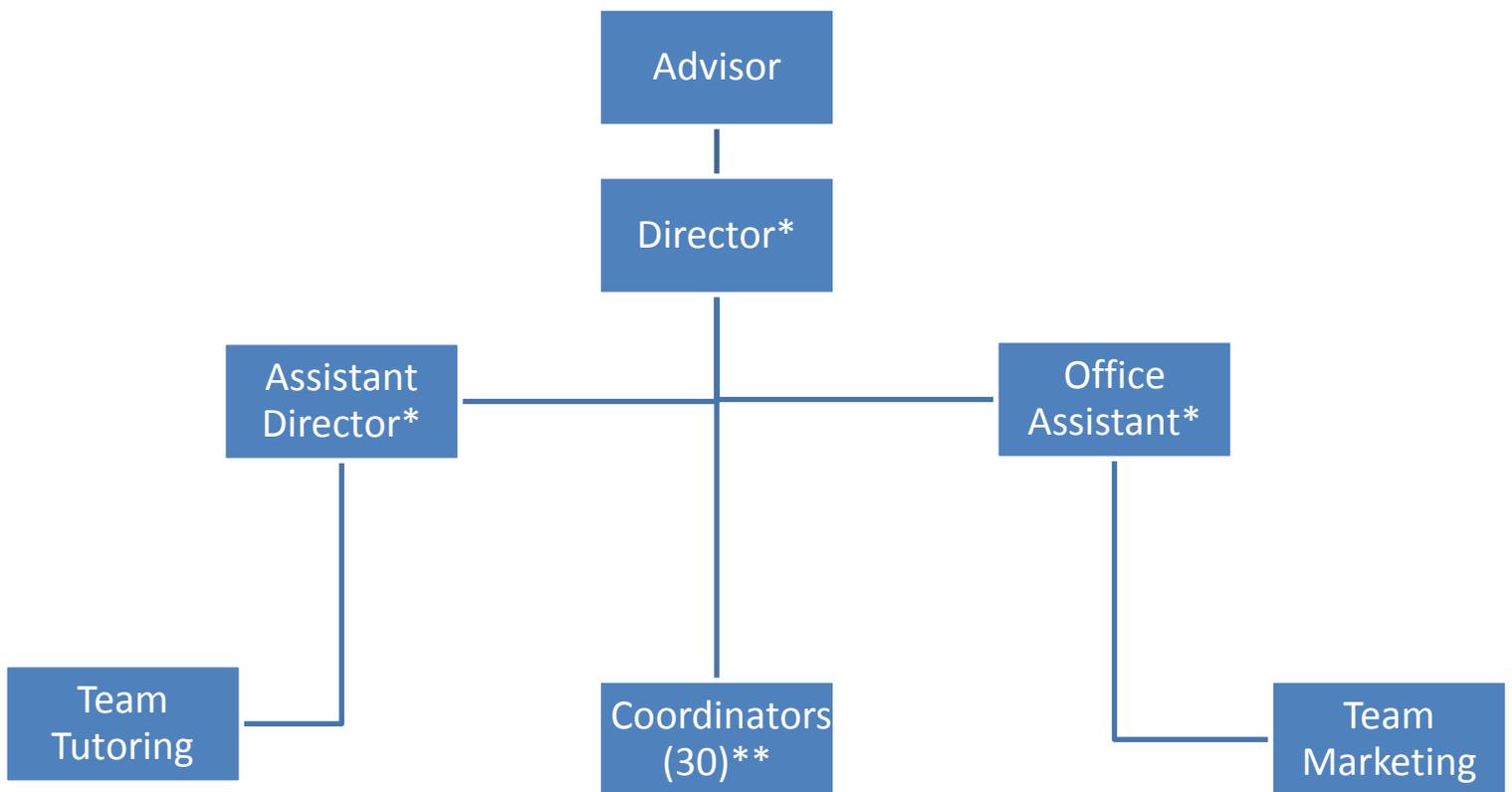
We accomplish our organizations goals by:

This year one of MVP's primary focuses is to increase awareness of the organization both at the University and in the community through advertising, maintaining our involvement with student organizations, non-profits agencies, and community centers. We have drastically enhanced the appeal of MVP to motivated students who enjoy helping their community. Our commitment to service this year entails hosting at least four programs per month and partnering with other student organizations and departments as well as non-profit organizations outside of the University.

MVP benefits the University of Houston and its students by:

Acting as the official volunteering clearinghouse. We take pride in being a primary source of information on agencies and programs citywide. University of Houston departments, well-known non-profit groups, and any agency needing volunteers, rely on MVP to coordinate volunteers and activities for them or for a particular events they are hosting. We provide the volunteer opportunities required by students for their various reasons, whether it be for internships, Greek requirements, or required by the state. We strive to enhance the public image of the University by showing our strong commitment to community service and the betterment of society.

2. Provide an organization chart of your unit. Large units may need to have an overview chart and then more specific charts for each program. Where you have multiple staff in the same position (e.g. counselor, custodian, etc), not this on your chart. Student employees should be cited on the chart and identified as students.



* Compensated Positions

** Environmental, Residential Life, Children and Youth, Arts and Culture, Tech/Media/Website, Special Events, Healthcare, Nutrition and Fitness, Education and Literacy, Family Issues, Social Justice, After-School, Senior Citizens

3. List the objectives that you provided with your 2009-2010 SFAC requests. Please comment on your success in achieving these objectives. If an objective changed during the year, please not this and explain. Also list any new objectives, the rationale for the addition, and comment on your success in achieving these objectives.

Objective: To become the premier student organization at the University of Houston

Achieved/On-going

MVP increased the involvement of University of Houston students by providing more volunteer opportunities on the campus and in the community. MVP increased its awareness among students, faculty and staff. MVP has had over 2,600 students sign-up and join the organization since June 2009. MVP maintained high quality service programming for both the university and the city. This organization has grown tremendously over the year, and is continuously growing.

Objective: To become an umbrella organization for student organizations who strive to get involved in the community.

Achieved/On-going

We have done this by increasing the awareness of our organization. Whether it's providing volunteer opportunities for other student organizations, or being the organization that officially logs-in their hours, we are in the forefront of everything having to do with volunteerism at UH. We assist volunteer and community service based registered student organizations and allow them to have the ability to carry out activities that could not be accomplished alone, due to size, experience or lack of support.

Objective: Create new MVP annual programs

Achieved/ On-going

MVP created a mentoring event for the students at Jack Yates High School. Since Jack Yates freshman class has 43% drop out rate, MVP took the initiative to create a mentoring event to spend a day with freshman and sophomore students. During the event, MVP was able to really connect with the students and explain the importance of graduating High School. Since the event was a complete success, MVP will be making this event an annual event. MVP worked again with Jack Yates High School on 10/23/10 and is establishing a tutoring program there,

Last year, MVP held an event at Texas Children's Hospital and went back again this year to interact with the families that had children in long-term care. MVP provided breakfast for the families on 10/16/10 and gave them an opportunity to interact

with the other families and with our student volunteers to spread a little bit of joy during a stressful time in their lives.

Rock the Campus is an event MVP hosted last year to clean up the University of Houston main campus. Because of the success of the event in 2009, MVP decided to make this an annual event. This year, Rock the Campus had even more participation from our students who wanted to help beautify their campus on 10/9/10.

Feed the Homeless raised awareness about the homeless population in Houston and the community surrounding UH. MVP made sandwiches and delivered food directly to people living on the streets. This event had a great impact on our volunteers and this year MVP will continue to raise awareness about homelessness through a combined MVP week/Homeless Awareness Week where MVP will be conducting the same sandwich making event, but adding on a canned food drive. The non-perishables will be donated to local homeless shelters and will raise more awareness of how UH students can assist the homeless population in Houston.

Pencils for Ghana is another event that is continuing this year and will continue to be an annual event. See more details below.

4. Please discuss the means that you are utilizing to evaluate both your success in achieving the aforementioned objectives and their importance as compared to other objectives that you might pursue. Where data exist, discuss the number of persons served by each of your programs and the satisfaction level of those served. Please provide the method for collecting these data.

Volunteer Information

MVP strives to evaluate the success of our organization by keeping records of accomplishments and soliciting feedback from program participants. To document service hours, we have publicized our service reports and created a database for entry. These forms can now be found online at the all-new MVP website, making the documentation of these service hours easier for students. We have sign-in and sign-out sheets to track volunteer attendance and time at MVP events. We have created databases to track participation in MVP. One database that we maintain keeps a record of community agencies that we have worked with in the past. We currently have over 150 agencies and organization in the database. After starting a new database June 2009, MVP received 1500 new members after the first 3 months and we currently have 2600 members.

Recruitment

Our greatest period of recruitment occurs during organization fairs held during freshman and transfer orientations and periodically throughout the year. MVP strives to recruit students who have the spirit of volunteerism and want to be involved in the community.

Rock the Campus

Various organizations and students teamed up with MVP to clean the campus. MVP coordinators and the University of Houston Greeks made this event very successful.

Rock the Block

To conclude another successful MVP year, we will be hosting the 4th Annual Rock The Block event. Spring '10 Rock the Block reached phenomenal new levels. This year we are looking forward to the same outcome. We are teaming with various Third Ward organizations to involve the community and bring attention to the event. During the event, we will be cleaning up the Third Ward communities surrounding the University of Houston. We will be providing food and entertainment at the event as well in celebration of the service we provide to the community. Various sponsors have donated house supplies that will be disturbed to families in need at Rock the Block.

Pencils for Ghana

Students dropped off pencils to the MVP office throughout the school year to give to the less fortunate students in Ghana. Two of our coordinators traveled to Ghana and personally took the pencils to needy students.

Hurricane Relief

MVP has a supply of over 700 water bottles for the sole purpose to distribute to the campus in the event of a hurricane.

The All-new MVP Website

MVP wanted a more professional website to market MVP and inform students of upcoming events and made improvements to the website to accomplish this goal. Improvements include creating an appealing template with UH colors to attract volunteer members to our exciting events, customized layout with flash based count-downs to each event and flash based photo album with pictures from the current and previous years in MVP. Readily available contact information was added for user-friendly access for volunteers and coordinators. Forms for each event and hours of volunteers and coordinators for fast check in were also added.

We have a Java based pop-up on home page with news and information and the website can be located at uh.edu/mvp and uhmvp.com. Information added to the website includes a list of all upcoming events on homepage, calendar of events provided by Google integrated into MVP website, and a downloadable weekly newsletter on homepage. The website is updated daily with any new information. Additional information that would be helpful to students includes a contact page with mission statement, address, phone numbers, email addresses, and office hours. For new volunteers step by step instructions on how to volunteer with the Metropolitan Volunteer Program.

We are currently working with a web designer to make our website compatible with the University of Houston fee-funded organization lay-outs.

Documentation

In order to document the number of students at a particular event we email students prior to the event, send out newsletters, and Facebook messages to estimate attendance and then provide a sign in sheet at the actual event to calculate attendance. We do have a survey to evaluate success, which is collected after our larger events from both volunteers and non-profit agencies if applicable. MVP is currently in the process of revamping the survey to be more inclusive in order to provide more information.

We are also beginning a process of assessing the effectiveness of our events from the perspective of the populations we serve, the agencies we work with, and the volunteers who serve at the events.

5. Please discuss any budget changes from your last (FY2010) SFAC request, their impact on your programs, and your reason for implementing them. SFAC recognizes that some programs did not receive the funds that they requested, that some programs were impacted by additional expenses after the conclusion of the budget cycle, and that some programs may be ahead of or behind their self-generated income projections. In addition, if your unit concluded FY2009 with a Ledger 3 Fund Equity balance, please describe the conditions which caused the fund balance.

-MVP requested a \$6,000 one time allocation Spring '10 which financed the entire Rock the Block event, without the funding MVP's biggest event would not have been possible.

-MVP concluded FY2009 with a Ledger 3 fund balance of \$1,698. This is due to a discrepancy in MVP's accounting ledger, compared to the real balance remaining.

Secondly many of MVP's aims and efforts during FY10 were at no dollar expenses such as informational programs, and drives.

-MVP is requesting the same amount of funding as last year for operations, fringe, and travel. MVP is requesting an additional paid position to provide assistance with the workload in a steadily forward moving organization.

6. Please list your 2011-2012 objectives in priority order. Larger units may wish to group your response by subprogram. Under each objective, state the specific programs, activities, and/or services that you plan to implement to meet your objectives.

NOURISHING THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM

Maintain the status of one of the premier student organizations on The University of Houston campus

- Increase involvement of University of Houston students
- Increase awareness of MVP among students, faculty and staff
- Continue to maintain high quality service programming for both the university and the city
- Keep accurate records of volunteer hours and volunteer agency contacts.
- Continue to collaborate with other student organizations on campus
- Continue to host effective events
- Increase membership of MVP to include more volunteers that serve on a long-term basis and work to further the organization

ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Reach out to surrounding schools for mentoring and tutoring opportunities

- Have at least one mentor event for the surrounding schools.
- Contact surrounding schools for various mentor/tutor opportunities
- Create a weekly tutoring program at 3 local schools
- Continue to mentor to Jack Yates High School students because they have the highest dropout rate.
- Continue to attend various Third Ward Community meetings to maintain community awareness.

ADVOCATING EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Expand the number of coordinators and programs

- Enhance MVP by adding an additional number of coordinators to allow students to work hands on with MVP
- Encourage coordinators to partner in order to create quality programs that have a lasting impact on the community we serve
- Increase the quality of MVP programs
- Have at least one annual program for every coordinator position

7. What are the other possible sources of funding available to your unit and what efforts are being made to access them (e.g. grants, donations, etc.)?

MVP currently does not have any additional sources of funding available to the organization. MVP currently seeks free entertainment, food and prize giveaways for various events. MVP currently does not have any additional sources of funding available to the organization for operational purposes. MVP is currently planning to apply for independent grants that fund student-run community service organizations with the new partnership with The Center for Leadership and Fraternity and Sorority Life.

A few on-campus academic departments house volunteer outreach as a part of the department. While MVP fosters learning and is not attached to an academic unit, MVP will seek out partnerships for service-learning to allow students to gain valuable experience that will be applicable real world experience.

- 8.** Please describe any overlap between your unit and any other unit(s) providing services to students and the rationale for the overlap.

MVP understands that there are other organizations that include volunteerism in their mission, but none solely serve as a clearinghouse for Houston non-profit agencies and the University of Houston community. It is the desire of MVP to work hand-in-hand with many service organizations and departments to foster the spirit of volunteerism at the University of Houston. In fact, many service-based organizations come to MVP for co-sponsorships and ideas for volunteer opportunities and service projects. Therefore, MVP will continue to remain vital to the University of Houston community and the City of Houston at large.