

2009 West Central Illinois Volunteerism Conference

Session and Presenter Information

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Presenter Biography:

Scott K. Niermann, MPA, has worked with the Serve Illinois Commission since 2005. Prior to working with Illinois' state service commission, Niermann gained public service experience through coordinating a multi-county healthcare grant consortium in Missouri as well as fundraising at a small faith-based nonprofit organization in Indiana. He also worked in the state and federal policy arenas for a short period of time, and as a career development counselor while in graduate school. Having completed a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Illinois at Springfield (2006), he currently serves as the Commission's Volunteer Programs Manager and works with volunteer programs and nonprofit organizations statewide.

Session 3C: National Service Panel Discussion: AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Peace Corps and More!

With the recent passage of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, National Service and volunteerism has received quite a bit of press and media interest during the first part of 2009. It is important that the nonprofit and public sectors understand what National Service is, and how they can benefit from the resources leveraged from such partnerships. Facilitated by Serve Illinois Commission staff, a distinguished panel of your peers will be available to present basic information, propose strategies for collaboration, and answer questions about the various forms of National Service present in West Central Illinois, and throughout the state. Panelists include representatives from the following organizations and programs: AmeriCorps*State, AmeriCorps*VISTA, AmeriCorps*NCCC, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Learn & Serve America, Serve Illinois Commission and the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Objectives

Objectives of this panel include:

1. Understanding of National Service and its benefits to community-based organizations
2. Understanding of how to partner with National Service organizations in Illinois
3. Understanding of how to leverage resources or apply directly for a National Service grant program
4. Knowledge of National Service programming present throughout West Central Illinois in particular

Outline

- I. Overview of National Service structure in Illinois and Introduction of Panelists
 - a. Corporation for National and Community Service
 - b. Serve Illinois Commission
 - c. Programs and Collaboration
- II. Overview of National Service programs present (includes 5 minute CNCS video)
- III. Individual Presentations by Panelists
 - a. Who they represent
 - b. How to partner with them
- IV. Questions and Answers

This workshop best fits the professional experience level checked below. Check all that apply.

Basic

Intermediate

Advanced

Members of the Panel Include:

Karen Mauldin-Curtis, Western Illinois University/IIRA Peace Corps Fellows program (AmeriCorps*State representative)

Mary Kubasak, Western Illinois University/Volunteer Services (AmeriCorps*VISTA representative)

Cheryl Lefler, formerly of Illinois Coalition for Community Services (AmeriCorps*NCCC representative)

Alana Svenson, Corporation for National and Community Service - Iowa NCCC Campus (AmeriCorps*NCCC representative)

Carla Gosney, John Wood Community College (RSVP representative)

Dr. Mary Loken, Springfield Regional Office on Education (Learn & Serve America representative)