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GiveCamp Grand Rapids 2009

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Overview

What it is

GiveCamp is a nationwide effort that brings together a community of volunteers to donate their time and talents to build the technical resources and capacity of local non-profit organizations. Since its launch in 2007, GiveCamp has spread to 10 communities throughout the United States.

During weekend-long GiveCamps in each community, software developers, designers, database administrators, and other technology professionals create web and software solutions for non-profit organizations. In the past, GiveCamp has helped organizations:

- Establish their web presence.
- Add a new section to their websites.
- Track volunteers for an upcoming event.
- Run a silent auction.
- Register visitors on a website.

How it began

GiveCamp began in Dallas, Texas in 2007 through the collaboration of the local developer community. Since that time, the initiative has spread to communities across the country, including:

- Ann Arbor
- Boston
- Chicago
- Grand Rapids
- Indianapolis
- Kansas City
- Lansing
- Minneapolis
- Richmond

Each GiveCamp weekend typically draws about 20 organizations about 75 to 100 volunteers.

Schedule

The media is invited to join us throughout the weekend to experience GiveCamp, interview participants, and gather photography and video. Nonprofit representatives are welcome and encouraged to support their team throughout the weekend, but we have identified some specific times when all participants are required to be present.

Work will happen throughout the weekend, including overnight, with the following scheduled times for all participants to meet:

Friday, November 13

4 pm: Registration begins
5:30 pm: Official kickoff and welcome
6 pm: Team orientation begins
7 pm: Food and working begins

Saturday, November 14

8 am: Volunteer "stand-up" meeting
8:30 am: Project meetings with nonprofit representatives
11:30 am: Volunteer "stand-up" meeting
Noon: Project meetings with nonprofit representatives
12:30 pm: Lunch
5 pm: Volunteer "stand-up" meeting
5:30 pm: Project meetings with nonprofit representatives
6 pm: Dinner

Sunday, November 15

8 am: Volunteer "stand-up" meeting
8:30 am: Project meetings with nonprofit representatives
3 pm: Closing ceremony begins

Location

GiveCamp will be held at the YMCA's downtown location:

David D. Hunting YMCA
475 Lake Michigan Drive NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

More details at <http://www.grgivecamp.org/2009/venue>

Access to the YMCA is restricted between certain hours throughout the weekend. The building will be open for public access during the following times:

- Friday 5AM to 9PM
- Saturday 7AM to 7PM
- Sunday 9AM to 5PM

Participants

In addition to about 125 volunteers who have signed up to participate, GiveCamp in Grand Rapids will involve the following nonprofit organizations:

Alliance for Environmental Sustainability
Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth
Center for Church Music
Community Spay/Neuter Initiative Partnership (C-SNIP)
Friends of Grand Rapids Parks
Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore
Good Samaritan Ministries
Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center
Grand Rapids Sister Cities International
Grand Rapids Urban Young Life
Haiti Needs You
Hillsdale County Senior Services Center
Institute for Global Education
Kent County 4-H Council
Living Water (Prison) Ministry Network
Neighborhood Ventures
North Kent Service Center
Paws With A Cause
Peer Choices Inc.
Restorers Inc.
The Gray Center for Social Learning and Understanding
Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo
YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

Sponsors

GiveCamp in Grand Rapids appreciates the support of these companies:

- Adam Bird, Photographer
- Biggby Coffee
- Brick Road Pizza
- Dreamhost
- DVQ Studio
- Experior Solutions, LLC
- Johnson Center at Grand Valley State University
- McGarry Bair PC
- Microsoft
- Mutually Human
- Pomegranate Studios
- TechSmith

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GiveCamp Announces Volunteer Weekend in Grand Rapids,
Invites Non-profits to Apply for Technology Support**

*The event, from November 13 through 15, will create
web and software solutions for at least 20 non-profit organizations*

July 29, 2009, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Michigan GiveCamp, a volunteer-run organization that brings together technology professionals to build the technical resources of non-profit organizations, is announcing a GiveCamp weekend to be held in Grand Rapids from November 13 through November 15, 2009.

During each GiveCamp weekend, about 75 to 100 software developers, designers, database administrators, web strategists, and other technology professionals create web and software solutions for about 20 non-profit organizations. In the past, GiveCamp has helped organizations create websites, track volunteers for an event, develop a donor database, run a silent auction, and more.

“Our hope is to connect the talent of our local tech community with the needs of non-profits,” said Chris Woodruff, coordinator of GiveCamp in Grand Rapids. “At times like these, there may be many projects on an organization’s wish list that seem challenging to tackle because of funding or staff resources. GiveCamp is one way we can give back to organizations that already give so much to our community.”

Non-profit organizations and volunteers are invited to learn more and apply to participate at www.GRGiveCamp.org. The deadline for non-profit applications is September 1, 2009.

GiveCamp is a volunteer-run organization that began in 2007 to connect technology professionals with non-profit organizations. Michigan GiveCamp is one of nearly a dozen participants in this nationwide effort to build the technical resources of non-profits. Learn more at www.MichiganGiveCamp.org.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Michigan GiveCamp to Provide Non-profits with Technical Support During Volunteer Event in Ann Arbor

The event, from July 17 through July 19, 2009, will draw over 75 volunteers

July 16, 2009, Ann Arbor, Mich.—Michigan GiveCamp, a volunteer-run organization that brings together volunteers to build the technical resources of non-profit organizations, is hosting the first of two GiveCamp weekends open to non-profits and volunteers throughout the state. The first weekend, in Ann Arbor, will be held July 17 through July 19, 2009 at Washtenaw Community College.

During the weekend, about 75 software developers, designers, database administrators, and other technology professionals will create web and software solutions for about 20 non-profit organizations. In the past, GiveCamp has helped organizations establish their web presence, create volunteer tracking solutions, run silent auctions, and add online registration to their website.

Fourteen organizations are participating in the GiveCamp in Ann Arbor, including The Leslie Science and Nature Center, All About Animals Rescue, and the Great Sauk Trail Council of Boy Scouts of America.

“At times like these, there may be many projects on an organization’s wish list that seem challenging to complete because of a lack of funding or staff capacity. GiveCamp bridges the gap between the technology needs of non-profits and the talent we have in our local developer community,” said Mike Eaton, organizer of Michigan GiveCamp.

The media is invited to attend the opening reception of GiveCamp, to be held on Friday, July 17, 2009 at 5 p.m. on the campus of Washtenaw Community College.

Media is also welcome to visit GiveCamp throughout the weekend to view project progress and interview volunteers and participating organizations. More details can be found at www.MichiganGiveCamp.org.

GiveCamp is a volunteer-run organization that began in 2007 to connect technology professionals with non-profit organizations. Michigan GiveCamp is one of nearly a dozen participants in this nationwide effort to build the technical resources of non-profits. Learn more at www.MichiganGiveCamp.org.

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GiveCamp in Grand Rapids Partners with YMCA for Volunteer Weekend of Tech Support for Non-profits

*The event, from November 13 through 15, has already
drawn applications from 40 non-profits and over 75 volunteers*

September 1, 2009, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Michigan GiveCamp, a volunteer-run organization that brings together technology professionals to build the technical resources of non-profit organizations, is coming to Grand Rapids from November 13 through November 15, 2009 and is pleased to announce a partnership with YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids for the weekend.

YMCA will be hosting GiveCamp at its downtown Grand Rapids location at 475 Lake Michigan Drive NW. During the GiveCamp weekend, about 100 software developers, designers, database administrators, web strategists, and other technology professionals will work around the clock to create web and software solutions for 20 non-profit organizations, at no cost to their organization.

“We are thrilled that the YMCA has offered to host GiveCamp. Their generosity is another example of the strong non-profit community we have in West Michigan. Thanks to the YMCA’s gift of space, we will help many non-profits complete projects that have been put on the backburner because of limited budgets or staff resources,” said Chris Woodruff, coordinator of GiveCamp in Grand Rapids.

“The YMCA is excited to host the inaugural GiveCamp in Grand Rapids. Many local non-profits will benefit from the free resources being offered, and we are proud to be part of the effort to connect their needs with the talents of GiveCamp volunteers,” said Cyndy Vogt, association director of marketing and communications at YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids.

Volunteers are still being accepted for the GiveCamp weekend. More information and registration are available online at www.GRGiveCamp.org.

GiveCamp is a volunteer-run organization that began in 2007 to connect technology professionals with non-profit organizations. Michigan GiveCamp is one of nearly a dozen participants in this nationwide effort to build the technical resources of non-profits. Learn more at www.MichiganGiveCamp.org.

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GiveCamp Grand Rapids to be Held November 13 – 15

November 6, 2009, Grand Rapids, Mich.—GiveCamp, which brings together volunteers to build the technical resources of non-profit organizations, is coming to Grand Rapids from November 13 through November 15, 2009. Over 100 software developers, designers, database administrators, and other technology professionals will work around the clock to create websites and other tools for 23 non-profits.

The media is invited to attend, beginning with the kickoff at 5:30 pm on Friday, November 13.

GiveCamp organizers, volunteers, and nonprofit representatives will be available for interviews.

When: Kickoff event Friday, November 13, 2009 5:30 to 6 pm
Closing ceremony Sunday, November 15, 2009 3 pm

Where: YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids
475 Lake Michigan Drive NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Who: Over 100 volunteers and the following nonprofits:

Alliance for Environmental Sustainability
Boys & Girls Clubs of Grand Rapids Youth Commonwealth
Center for Church Music
Community Spay/Neuter Initiative Partnership (C-SNIP)
Friends of Grand Rapids Parks
Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore
Good Samaritan Ministries
Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center
Grand Rapids Sister Cities International
Grand Rapids Urban Young Life
Haiti Needs You
Hillsdale County Senior Services Center
Institute for Global Education
Kent County 4-H Council
Living Water (Prison) Ministry Network
Neighborhood Ventures
North Kent Service Center
Paws With A Cause
Peer Choices Inc.
Restorers Inc.
The Gray Center for Social Learning and Understanding
Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo
YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

GiveCamp is a volunteer-run organization that began in 2007 to connect technology professionals with non-profit organizations. Michigan GiveCamp is one of nearly a dozen participants in this nationwide effort to build the technical resources of non-profits. Learn more at www.MichiganGiveCamp.org.

Frequently asked questions

How many organizations will be served?

In 2009, GiveCamp in Grand Rapids will serve 23 nonprofit organizations. Our goal is to provide enough volunteers to serve 20 organizations in each GiveCamp location. In Michigan, GiveCamp is hosted in Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, and Lansing.

How are organizations selected?

Each potential participating organization must submit a complete work plan proposal that describes a project appropriate for the time available during GiveCamp. Organizations will be selected based on their proposals. Once selected, an organization will be contacted to further refine the scope and requirements of their project with the help of one of our volunteers.

What types of support can be requested?

There will be many developers at the event with a wide range of skills, all working hard to complete the projects within the timeframe of the weekend. If skills and time allow, a variety of projects can be created, including web applications, Windows form works, mobile development, and other technologies. In the past, GiveCamp has helped organizations:

- Establish their web presence.
- Add a new section to their websites.
- Track volunteers for an upcoming event.
- Run a silent auction.
- Register visitors on a website.

Who volunteers at GiveCamp?

A wide variety of passionate people are involved with GiveCamp. We welcome a broad range of skills so we can best serve the diverse needs of participating organizations. We also welcome students as volunteers and pair them with more experienced professionals to ensure they can make contributions while also learning. Below are some of the professional backgrounds our volunteers bring to GiveCamp:

- Web and software development
- Database administration
- Web strategy
- Design
- Project management and business analysis

In addition to technology professionals, many other volunteers help GiveCamp run smoothly. These are the behind-the-scenes individuals who make the event possible, providing for details from set-up to food preparation to clean-up.

Logos

Logos are available at <http://givecamp.org/media>.

Contact information

Website National: www.GiveCamp.org
Michigan: www.MichiganGiveCamp.org
Grand Rapids: www.GRGiveCamp.org

Email media@GRGiveCamp.org

Twitter Michigan: @MichGiveCamp
Grand Rapids: @GRGiveCamp

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=112559611499&ref=ts>

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