MARYLAND JUDICIARY 2024 GRANTS WORKSHOP

Hook, Line, and Sinker: Reeling in Amazing Volunteers

Presented by

Sheri Tardio, Ph.D. – Executive Director, Community Mediation Center of Calvert County

Dana Coles, Esq. – Program Director, Prince George's County Community Conferencing Program

Marcy Seitel – Volunteer, Prince George's County Community Conferencing Program

The Volunteer Landscape in 2024

- Fewer Americans are volunteering their time while needs of organizations are increasing
- · Pandemic exacerbated the decline but did not cause it
- Older volunteers impacted more by COVID risk
- Wørking from home
- Slow but steady decline in volunteerism for 13 years

Why Use Volunteers? • What goals/aspirations are you and your organization trying to achieve? • What skills and talents do you need?

Recruitment

- Where are you looking (social media, want ads, outreach events, word of mouth, etc.)
- Who are you trying to recruit (specific demographics)

Engagement

- Mission, values, and purpose aligned does the volunteer share and believe in your organization's M/V/P
- Fit does the volunteer fit your needs
 - > Skills and expertise
 - Mission, values, purpose aligned
 - > Ability to "unlearn" when necessary
- What does your organization offer them in return
 - Education/professional development
 - > Stipend/pay
 - > Community
 - > Leadership

Maintenance (Skills/Improvement)

- · Are volunteers kept busy when in service
- Does your organization offer professional development and additional training
- · Are you offering mentorship and coaching
- Are volunteers encouraged to be part of a broader community (regional and national)

Volunteer Feedback

- Do your volunteers feel empowered to offer feedback and suggestions to leaders and others in the organization
- How often do you seek their feedback, opinions, and expertise, how, what form?