



Community Involvement

How to give back and get noticed

PNWJETAA

Where to Start

- ▶ Start volunteering with organization that share similar interests/views
 - ▶ Collaborate with Consulate and JET Program
 - ▶ Support in Japan / Cultural related events (Bunka no hi)
 - ▶ Expand Members' interests
- ▶ Maximize opportunities to reciprocate
 - ▶ Funding is limited, but people power is free
 - ▶ Come to our event, we'll volunteer at your event
 - ▶ Promote each others' events



How to recruit your volunteers

- ▶ Start before they leave on JET
- ▶ Get to know your members (new and old)
 - ▶ Personal interests
 - ▶ Skills
 - ▶ Future goals
 - ▶ Current status
- ▶ Start early
 - ▶ Save the date
 - ▶ Define event responsibilities / expectations
 - ▶ Get feedback on willingness to get involved



How to recruit volunteers cont.

- ▶ Post via all social outlets. **OFTEN!**
 - ▶ Links and photos! Something eye catching
 - ▶ Follow up with individual correspondence
- ▶ Modes of communication
 - ▶ Social events / face to face
 - ▶ Mass email to gauge interest
 - ▶ Facebook / JETAA website
 - ▶ Texting! (for those who don't have Facebook)



Retaining Your Volunteer Pool

- ▶ Make the Volunteer experience as painless as possible
 - ▶ Don't overwork them
 - ▶ Define their duties clearly
 - ▶ Feed the hungries
- ▶ Always thank them during and after the event
 - ▶ Appreciation is always felt, but needs to be expressed
- ▶ FOJ's (Friends / Family of JETAA) are welcome and encouraged to join in the fun!



Increasing JETAA's Visibility in the Community

- ▶ Officially representing JETAA at Consulate Events
 - ▶ Give a speech!
 - ▶ Network with other community representatives
- ▶ Supporting the Consulate
 - ▶ Staffing information booths (talk about JET)
 - ▶ Assist with JET Program (interviews, training, pre-departure prog., send-off, etc.)
- ▶ Getting involved at the committee level in community organizations



Increasing JETAA's Visibility in the Community cont.

- ▶ Register / Participate in Community Events
 - ▶ 113 Project / Tohoku Tomo
 - ▶ Walk For Rice
 - ▶ Dragonboat Festival
 - ▶ From Hiroshima to Hope (Lantern Floating)
 - ▶ Opening Ceremony of Japanese Garden
 - ▶ Bunka no Hi
 - ▶ Kodomo no Hi
 - ▶ Sakura Con
 - ▶ Sakura Matsuri
 - ▶ Aki Matsuri
 - ▶ Seattle Buddhist Church Bon Odori
 - ▶ White River Buddhist Temple Bon Odori



Bringing Japan Home

- ▶ Create unique events
 - ▶ Washi Washoku
 - ▶ Incorporating Japanese culture into events
 - ▶ Undoukai at the summer picnic
 - ▶ Kakigori at the dessert table
- ▶ Support the local Japanese community
 - ▶ Oen shiou
 - ▶ Tokashiki Ramu, Seattle Storm
 - ▶ Iwakuma Hisashi, Aoki Nori, Seattle Mariners
 - ▶ Kashiba Shiro, Sushi Kashiba (Iconic Local chef)



Beyond Culture

- ▶ Membership Enrichment - Create event that connect members with the community

“PNWJETAA Transitions: Opportunities Forum and Networking Expo”

- ▶ Education - learn more about:
 - ▶ Graduate school - local colleges and universities
 - ▶ Japanese Government Scholarships
- ▶ Employment - we offer:
 - ▶ Introductions to local / Japan-related businesses
 - ▶ Resume workshop
 - ▶ Information about internships

