



NeighborImpact

Attention NeighborImpact Volunteers:

Who: NeighborImpact is holding staff training called a Poverty Simulation and **we need volunteers for this special event!** This is a great opportunity to give back to an organization that gives!

What: The Poverty Simulation training gives participants a taste of what a month in poverty might be like. Whether playing the role of a single mother on TANF, a retired older couple, an undocumented worker, a teen in a low-income family, a banker, teacher or welfare caseworker, participants walk away with a truer sense of reality of being low-income and trying to get social service assistance. Those who have experienced poverty in real life report that the experience triggers some of the anxiety and frustration of the real thing. Facilitators for this event are from Oregon State University.

How: Staff and community members participate in one of three sessions (max 50 participants per session). During each session, **we will need a total of 13 volunteers**. We will also need one person to serve as a session floater (back-up).

Volunteers may sign-up for one, two or all three sessions by contacting Jamie Fehly at jamief@neighborimpact.org. Please contact Jamie with your session preference no later than 03/20/09. If you do not have a volunteer application on file and would like to participate in this event, please print the volunteer application from the volunteer page on our website and submit it to NeighborImpact. Volunteers will help set up each session, play a role of one of the session stations, and then minimal clean-up after the session. Volunteers will be given a description of their jobs and all the supplies/equipment needed to fill their roles during their session. Refreshments will also be provided for volunteers.

Why: The goal of the Poverty Simulation is to assist NeighborImpact in providing the highest quality services in accordance with our agency's mission, vision, philosophy and core values. We strive to serve our community with compassion, respect, leadership, partnership, accountability and the utmost excellence. Although the simulation is not equal to an experience living in poverty, it is designed to help us tune-in to some of our own values and perspectives about persons living in poverty. This assists us in setting aside our assumptions and extending empathy to others. It is our hope that each individual will find this experience of personal and professional value.

When: **Friday, April 10th**
Session 1 (Early Bird) 7:00 am - 10:30 am
Session 2 (Mid-morning) 9:45 am - 1:15 pm
Session 3 (Afternoon) 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

(Time overlaps because volunteers participate in an orientation prior to each session. However, if the volunteer signs up for more than one session, they will receive a break during the other orientation times.)

Where: **Bend Community Center**
1036 NE 5th Street
Bend, OR 97701