



Welcome & Keynote Address

2020 Governor's Conference on Volunteerism

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Volunteer NH hosts the annual **Governor's Conference on Volunteerism** in partnership with the Governor's Office.

The purpose of the conference is to educate, enhance skills, and provide professional development that will support and strengthen New Hampshire's volunteer programs and organizations.

Learn more by visiting VolunteerNH.org

Session Chat

09:44:54 From Larissa Striga : Hi everyone! I am so glad to be here!

09:45:08 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Welcome! Please share your name and an example of a situation, task or role in which you felt genuinely empowered. What was the context? What allowed you to feel that sense of empowerment?

09:45:16 From Nancy Neu to All panelists : Good Morning Everyone

09:45:20 From Karen Simmons : Good Morning all! Hello Larissa!

09:45:31 From Kim White Feather-Altomare to All panelists : Hello All from Kim White Feather Altomare

09:45:38 From Renee Perreault to All panelists : Good Morning All!

09:45:39 From Matt Wilhelm : Good Morning from Manchester!

09:45:54 From Sara Varela to All panelists : Good morning, Sara from Portsmouth

09:45:55 From Patricia Paola to All panelists : Good morning from Central VT.

09:46:04 From Megan Brabec : Good morning from Newmarket! Excited to be here with you all!

09:46:06 From Jeannette Mendez to All panelists : Good morning all, Jeannette Mendez CT / FGP

09:46:19 From Linda Morehouse to All panelists : Good morning from Keene area!

09:46:21 From Vanessa Blais to All panelists : The housing alliance group I am part of worked with Mayor Craig in Manchester to announce that she would form a housing task force.

09:46:30 From Anne Ostberg : Hello everyone! I'm Anne Ostberg in Concord, NH

09:46:31 From Deb Gardner to All panelists : Deborah, When I graduated from college many years ago.:)

09:46:32 From Margaret Taylor to All panelists : good morning from Nashua NH. :-)

09:46:35 From Lynne Walsh to All panelists : Being assigned to a project as the representative from my dept. I was the sole person from my dept and was given full range of our depts. interaction. I would report back to my group as to the update but no one felt compelled to jump in and oversee how or what I was doing. They fully supported my perspective and my decisions on how to interact and resolve issues

09:46:36 From David Soddors to All panelists : I ran across an organization in Idaho that makes beds for kids who do not have beds of their own. I knew there was a need here in NH, so I felt empowered to go out and do something about it!

09:46:43 From Victoria Barger to All panelists : Good Morning! So happy to be here with everyone this morning! I am in Manchester.

09:46:45 From Sfortin to All panelists : Good morning - Sharolyn from Franklin NH - I feel empowered when I learn new things!

09:46:45 From sue to All panelists : Good Morning all, excited to join you all!

09:46:48 From Gene Kuczewski to All panelists : Gene K. Good morning from Souhegan CERT and NH DBHRT

09:46:48 From Hilary Stark to All panelists : good morning I'm Hilary from Laconia !

09:46:54 From Mary Roberge to All panelists : Good morning!. I am Mary Roberge from Manchester.

09:46:55 From DeAnna Rice to All panelists : Good Morning... and Hello from DeeDee in Loudon.

09:46:55 From Sara Varela to All panelists : I feel empowered when I know I can fail and the world isn't going to end. I mean, I need to know I have room for failure to try new things.

09:46:58 From Danielle Plumlee to All panelists : Good morning, my name is Dani joining from Holderness!

09:47:06 From Kimberly Cartier to All panelists : In my role as an adult education counselor, I felt empowered from the beginning because the program was small and I had the autonomy necessary to jump right in and do my job and assist colleagues as needed in order to achieve the mission of the program.

09:47:18 From Ellen Green to All panelists : President of the Rutland Education Association (400 members) what empowered me was the trust of my Exec. Bd. and members and the ability to delegate responsibilities to them with trust. When that wasn't the case, I felt disempowered.

09:47:30 From Rebecca Ayling : Becky Ayling - I have been in a job when I was able to make choices, do the work and received trust from leadership. This was through my work. I felt empowered because I was trusted by leadership, I knew what I was doing and how to do it, I had support and resources.

09:47:37 From Priscilla Matos to All panelists : Priscilla Matos I felt empowered during my first Pride Parade I was able to represent my organization and had a place in the parade we decorated a car and all dressed up and I felt truly proud of what we accomplished that day,

09:47:37 From Anne Ostberg : I feel empowered every day in my job supporting national service programs in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont

09:47:58 From Carol Raymond to All panelists : Hello! I'm Carol in Holderness. Answers to the icebreaker are: Being awarded a fellowship. I was chosen as one of the candidates, and the education I received was excellent.

09:48:08 From Nancy Malone to All panelists : Nancy Malone, Coos County RSVP,TCCAP Berlin NH....my volunteers empower me!

09:48:09 From Riché Colcombe to All panelists : I'm fortunate to say there are many. My most recent is in my role with the Greater Hillsborough Area Chamber of Commerce. There was a need for business outreach and communication and I initiated some ideas. The Chair and Vice chair must have appreciated this and gave me the greenlight to continue as I saw fit.

09:48:23 From Amanda Powell : Good morning all! Amanda Powell in Bedford. I feel empowered when I am able to create and share a new training with volunteers and share an "aha!" moment with them!

09:48:26 From Erica Fuller to All panelists : In a past role I served with an Upward Bound program where we worked with over 100 high school students to aid them in their path to college. The entire experience was empowering as it provided a real chance to make a difference in these students lives. Plus we would take the students on education trips and there is nothing more empowering than leading a large group of students from various rural towns down the streets of Washington D.C. in mid June.

09:48:50 From Mary Roberge to All panelists : I feel empowered in my volunteer work because I am part of the team helping to plan and lead

09:48:53 From Donna Hepp to All panelists : Receiving approval for a grant application that allowed us to make a difference in restoring streams.

09:48:54 From Sara Varela to All panelists : I also feel empowered when I can make the decisions instead of being micromanaged. I assume the risks and leadership trusts me on that.

09:48:55 From Margaret Taylor to All panelists : I feel empowered when I can help someone get to a goal they have.

09:48:57 From Deborah Mashibini-Prior : Good morning -- This is Deborah from Visions for Creative Housing in Enfield! I feel pretty empowered daily in my position here

because the director's management style is one of partnership. When I refer to her as my boss, she corrects me saying we are colleagues -- that she isn't anyone's boss.

09:49:03 From Joseph Bates to All panelists : I was called to help someone get to a safe station in Manchester NH I brought them down to the fire house and now he is in a sober living community and has been clean and sober for almost 7 months I feel empowered when I can help someone and they stick with it

09:49:11 From Renee Perreault to All panelists : In my role managing a federal program, AmeriCorps VISTA for Catholic Charities NH; I feel empowered everyday having the opportunity to work with amazing, talented and dedicated individuals wanting to make a difference in NH communities.

09:49:17 From Linda Quebec : I feel empowered when I'm given a project and the latitude to accomplish it in the way I determine to be most effective. Feedback after a project is how I grow, and the empowerment to tackle a project gives me a great feeling.

09:49:20 From sue to All panelists : I feel empowered when I can read an interns transcript and decide where a good placement is in my organization and if they can or cannot be placed.

09:49:20 From Matt Shiebler to All panelists : Good morning to you all from the Northern Berkshires of Massachusetts! Very happy to be here. I'm Matt Shiebler, neighborhood development associate for the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition. I feel empowered by many of the young people with whom I've crossed paths over the years, and who have let me know the impact that I've had on their lives.

09:49:24 From Danielle Plumlee to All panelists : I feel empowered when I can gain control in unexpected situations

09:49:28 From Victoria Barger to All panelists : I have felt genuinely empowered when I have the knowledge and tools needed to perform a task well. I work best in the context of a supportive team, where we all feel passion for a common mission and the safety to make and learn from mistakes.

09:49:29 From Amanda Storace to All panelists : I feel empowered in my job when leadership trust me to make the hard choices and stands behind me and supports me. For example, I noticed that our volunteer management system was lacking in ease of use for

the volunteers and they allowed me to research and find a new one that would work better for our needs.

09:49:44 From Kim White Feather-Altomare to All panelists : I feel empowered every day. I am and was trusted in my capacity as a role model for volunteerism, as a teacher of Native American crafts and Native American living, I was a very important to the organization I volunteered for, before my AmeriCorps ended.

09:49:46 From Patricia Paola : After serving as an AmeriCorps Member for only a couple of months, I organized and supervised the Thanksgiving meal at the Good Samaritan Haven in Barre, VT so the supervisor could have the day off...she hadn't been able to do that in several years.

09:49:50 From Sarah Boelig to All panelists : I feel the most empowered working as a nurse when I can make a patient smile even on one of their worst days!

09:49:54 From Stephanie Romero : Good Morning! This is Stephanie Romero in Nashua. I feel empowered when I am able to create new processes for my department and am able to share that with my peers.

09:50:04 From Teresa Volta to All panelists : Teresa Volta: In 1994 my mentor encouraged me to develop a website for our local RSVP, even when others said, " Seniors aren't using the internet. "

09:50:20 From Molly Plummer to All panelists : Good Morning!
Molly Plummer Americorps member serving at Revive Recovery Center in Nashua NH... I feel empowered when helping participants coming into the center seeking help with their recovery

09:50:30 From Eliza Zarka : Good morning, I'm Eliza Zarka working up in Concord. I feel empowered through my work as an AmeriCorps VISTA addressing issues I am passionate about

09:50:50 From Jon Lemitelamy : Good Morning, I feel the most empowered when I see that I've inspired someone to do something for themselves and others

09:50:58 From Cleora Ohar : Good morning everyone! I'm Cleora Ohar and I am serving as a VISTA at Nashua Community College. I don't have one situation in particular,

but I feel empowered any time I help with brainstorming ideas or come up with better ways of doing things.

09:51:06 From Michael Banks to All panelists : Michael Banks AmeriCorps member at Revive recovery center and felt empowered helping people find recovery

09:51:27 From Lesley Rossi VNH : www.volunteernh.org

09:51:50 From Katie Pazienza : Hi Cleora! Glad to see you here :)

09:52:01 From Moses Shafer to All panelists : Hello, I'm Moses. An instance I felt empowered was when I got the opportunity to study plants and drought in the Southeast of the US where I got to work with Fish and Wildlife and NPS.

09:53:12 From Justin Purvis to All panelists : Becoming an AmeriCorps VISTA. It was my first step into nonprofit. Empowerment came from the ways I was reaching families my organization serves.

09:53:38 From Margaret Taylor to All panelists : here from revive recovery center. thank you for being here.

09:55:54 From Nora Moreno-Cargie : You inspire us all!

09:56:20 From Mikayla Collins (VNH) to All panelists : Thank you, Nora!

09:57:04 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Learn more by contacting Bryan Bessette - bryan@thefreedomcafe.org - or visiting www.thefreedomcafe.org

09:57:33 From Constance Archambault-OLLI-Granite State College to All panelists : Connie Archambault, I am The Volunteer Coordinator for OLLI of Granite State College We seek to help 50 yr. and older adults continue to lead fulfilling lives by sharing their expertise and life skills in a stimulating and learning environment with other adults throughout New Hampshire. Ps Via zoom I am able to continue to participate in NH from Florida where I am confined at the moment.

09:57:36 From Lesley Rossi VNH : I am here to help with any technical issues!

10:04:18 From Amanda Lewis to All panelists : It's great to see how many people are willing to help if they're stepping outside their comfort zone!!

10:04:45 From Peggy Verney to All panelists : My name is Peg Verney, hi everyone. I feel most empowered when I can support an individual while allowing them to accomplish their personal goals independently

10:05:44 From Kim White Feather-Altomare : I am empowered every day, especially when I can help others achieve their goals.

10:06:03 From Peggy Verney to All panelists : Hey there Kim

10:06:52 From Mikayla Collins (VNH) : Hi everyone! Make sure that you have selected "All panelists and attendees" if you'd like to send a message to the whole group (:

10:07:28 From Amanda Lewis : It's great to see how many people are willing to help if they're stepping outside their comfort zone!!

10:09:40 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Check out this video for an introduction to the Freedom Cafe: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jzol3ew-Lvg>

10:12:24 From Larissa Striga : What questions do you have for Bryan and/or about volunteer empowerment? Let us know in the Q & A!

10:15:29 From DeAnna Rice to All panelists : when I am inspired... I feel empowered to act.

10:17:16 From Rebecca Ayling : how can we support individuals to accept empowerment - some people are timid or unsure about accepting leadership but we know they're ready and capable!

10:18:05 From Larissa Striga : Thanks Rebecca!

10:20:05 From Kim White Feather-Altomare : how can we assist others in becoming more empowered? How can we help people to feel more confident in themselves.

10:21:11 From Lesley Rossi VNH : We have some great questions coming in! As you think of them, please post in the Q&A and Bryan will spend time at the end of his presentation answering.

10:30:46 From Lisa Zhe : Our organization underwent a merger a few years ago and I lost several long-term volunteers. Basically their roles changed and were no longer needed. I still feel bad about that. Is there anything I could have done? Talking about empowerment, they not only didn't feel empowered, they felt not needed or wanted.

10:34:58 From Mikayla Collins (VNH) : The book referenced was "Volunteer Management, Mobilizing All the Resources of the Community" by McCurley & Lynch

10:36:53 From Lorin Durand to All panelists : Can you elaborate on the questions to share with volunteers to promote their empowerment (from your last slide).

10:37:07 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Slides will be shared with all registered attendees.

10:40:13 From Lorin Durand to All panelists : Thank you!

10:40:19 From Jeannette Mendez to All panelists : This was great and very helpful.

10:40:32 From Megan Brabec : Thank you for sharing, Bryan, and for being such a leader for our community :)

10:40:33 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Contact Bryan by emailing bryan@thefreedomcafe.org or visiting www.thefreedomcafe.org

10:40:35 From Ellen Green to All panelists : Thanks so much - this was really helpful, and what you are doing is so important!

10:40:51 From Molly April to All panelists : Thank you, Bryan!

10:48:41 From Larissa Striga : Brian is continuing to answer questions in the Q & A. Learn more by contacting Bryan Bessette - bryan@thefreedomcafe.org - or visiting www.thefreedomcafe.org

10:48:50 From Lesley Rossi VNH : Don't forget to let your friends and colleagues know that registration is still open. Visit www.volunteernh.org. And tag us in your social media posts #VNHGovConf2020 #NHSpiritofService @volunteer_nh

10:49:00 From Larissa Striga : #NHGovConf2020