



Learning Goals

- Describe why recognition is important
- Identify recognition strategies that support volunteer motivation
- Select recognition activities that fit your budget, capacity, and needs of your volunteers

Why Recognition Matters

If they feel valued, they are more likely to:

- **Feel connected to your organization and mission**



Why Recognition Matters



If they feel valued, they are more likely to:

- Feel connected to your organization and mission
- **Become effective community ambassadors**



Why Recognition Matters



If they feel valued, they are more likely to:

- Feel connected to your organization and mission
- Become effective community ambassadors
- **Commit more time and energy**



Why Recognition Matters



If they feel valued, they are more likely to:

- Feel connected to your organization and mission
- Become effective community ambassadors
- Commit more time and energy
- **Take on greater responsibility**



Why Recognition Matters



If they feel valued, they are more likely to:

- Feel connected to your organization and mission
- Become effective community ambassadors
- Commit more time and energy
- Take on greater responsibility
- **Volunteer longer**



When Recognition Is Missing



Recognition beyond "thank you"



Share impact on mission with volunteers



Recognition beyond "thank you"



Discuss how the volunteer made a difference



Recognition beyond "thank you"



Develop or use new skills and strengths



Recognition beyond "thank you"



Build relationships and trust with your volunteers



Recognition beyond "thank you"



Having fun!



Get to know your volunteers



"How would you prefer to be recognized?"

Get to know your volunteers



"How would you prefer to be recognized?"

"What kinds of things are meaningful for you?"

Recognizing Your Volunteers



Considerations

- Budget



Recognizing Your Volunteers



Considerations

- Budget
- Your capacity



Recognizing Your Volunteers



Considerations

- Budget
- Your capacity
- Engaging other staff



Recognizing Your Volunteers



Considerations

- Budget
- Your capacity
- Engaging other staff
- **Recognizing volunteers you don't see regularly**



A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Personal thanks

*Dear Lila
 Thank you so much for the gift of your time and energy put into planning our annual auction. You did an amazing job in all aspects. As you know, this organization is so instrumental to our organization & clients. For cause of the great summer programs we have running for
 Sarah
 Jodie
 Viki*

A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Recognition/social activity

A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Monthly networking events or professional development trainings



A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Letter of Recommendation



A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Public thank you in newsletter, on website, local newspaper

A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



Certificate of thanks

A Few Great Ways to Recognize Volunteers



T-shirt, pin, or local gift card/treat

Volunteer Recognition



- Important to volunteers and the organization
- Takes many forms beyond a simple "thank you"
- Should match volunteer motivations and preferences
- Should be meaningful



Learn more





Thank you for your service


