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**Welcome** to the first issue of *Volunteer Connections*, a quarterly newsletter highlighting the remarkable volunteer service contributions to the Alameda Point Collaborative (APC) community.

We are truly grateful that so many volunteers dedicate their valuable time and skills to our community. Each year, volunteers spend more than 10,000 hours at APC. Their contributions enrich our daily programming and help us to provide the high-quality services that help our residents to reach their fullest potential.

In the upcoming months, we look forward to sharing new opportunities and celebrating the contributions of our amazing and generous volunteers.

Thank you for your past contributions and we hope that you will continue to be a part of our unique community!

#### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

##### VANESSA LEE: DO SOMETHING YOU LOVE

It's 3:30 on a school day and APC youth are rocking out to Guitar Hero at the Education Center. After the impromptu concert concludes, Vanessa Lee, gets the students to attack their homework with the same enthusiasm as the rock n' roll cords.

Vanessa, a recent college graduate, started volunteering with APC's Children "&" Youth Services in August of 2012 because she enjoys helping others, teaching kids and giving back to the community.

"Definitely, do something that you love doing," said Vanessa. "That's why I keep coming here every single day."

[Read more of Vanessa's story>>](#)



#### DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Huddled around tables with laptops open, a group of Walmart Global eCommerce employees engaged in a spirited debate around improving the functionality of the APC website.

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the walls, the coding began.

Inspired by a challenge to think of creative ways to use her team's considerable professional skills, Anna Smalley of Walmart Global eCommerce worked with APC's volunteer coordinator to design projects that ranged from web engineering to photography.

[Read more of Anna's story>>](#)

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#### JOIN US IN SERVICE

Have you been inspired by our volunteer profiles? There are many ways for individuals and groups to get involved. Join us in service, and discover how you can help to empower an entire community to reach its fullest potential!

[Volunteer Opportunities>>](#)

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#### GARDEN PARTY

The 3rd annual Not Your Mother's Garden Party is right around the corner. Save the date for Sunday, May 19 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at [Ploughshares Nursery](#).

More than tea and crumpets, this is a great event! This year guests will enjoy a farm to table tasting menu showcasing produce grown by APC resident trainees from the [Farm2Market](#) project. There will also be many volunteer opportunities in support of APC's largest event.

[For More Information>>](#)

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#### About Alameda Point Collaborative

Alameda Point Collaborative is a supportive housing community that uses all its resources to help families and adults break the cycle of homelessness and poverty. We are the largest supportive housing provider for homeless families in Alameda County, and our wide range of services give residents the tools they need for long-term success.

Main Office 677 W. Ranger Avenue | Alameda, CA 94501 US

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