



Tip Sheet *Volunteer Appreciation*

How to Use This Document

This is an accumulation of best practices and ideas that we have found to be helpful when appreciating your volunteers. We've developed a chart that matches intent with a volunteer appreciation idea. They should be used as a starting point and customized based on your organization's cause and values.



Tip Sheet

Volunteer Appreciation

“Matching Motivational Needs with Recognition Efforts” (derived from “Volunteer Administration: Professional Practice, Table 4: Matching Motivational Needs with Recognition Efforts”)

Motivational Need	Possible Recognition Activity
Values	Personal thank you letter from a client who benefitted from services
Understanding	Pay for attendance at a relevant conference
Social	Grant an award and present it in front of peers
Career Enhancement	Provide a promotion indicating more challenging tasks and responsibility, with associated trainings
Protective	Provide concrete evidence of the volunteer’s contribution to the cause
Self-Enhancement	Provide special commendation letter signed by the Board of Directors or other noted organizational leader

Seel, K., editor. *Volunteer staffing and development*. Volunteer Administration: Professional Practice. June 2010. pp. 206-207.