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facebook

myspace

change.org

Shanti has sent you a friend request

Volunteer Services is pleased to announce that we now have pages up and running on facebook, myspace, and change.org. You can check out the links above to be redirected to our pages or you can paste the URLs below into your web browser.

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1137405828>

Myspace: <http://www.myspace.com/shanti1974>

Change.org: <http://www.change.org/shanti>

Join our network to connect with other volunteers and stay updated on Shanti events! Also, if you are interested in making a contribution to our blog—*Voices of Shanti*, written by Shanti Volunteers and staff—please email your submission to Anne. This is a forum for us to share our experiences with one another; we would love to hear from you! You can check out the blog at <http://www.shantivolunteers.blogspot.com>.

Check out Page 3 for this month's community spotlights!



Celia



Alex



Elaine

Share an Evening with Shanti Founder Charlie Garfield: A Special Volunteer Continuing Education Event

Volunteer Services invites you to join Charlie Garfield as he takes "An Inside Look at the Shanti Model and Working with our Clients." This very special Volunteer Continuing Education Event will take place on Thursday, April 24th at Shanti from 6pm to 8pm and dinner will be provided.

Volunteers often tell us how meaningful it is for them to hear Charlie speak on the first night of the Peer Support Training. This is an exceptional opportunity to share an evening with Shanti's founder and take a deeper look at the invaluable and profound work of supporting someone facing the challenges of a life-threatening illness.



Shanti Founder, Charlie Garfield (left), with friend and fellow colleague at the Metta Institute, Ram Dass © Metta Institute

Please RSVP and address any questions to Anne.

Save the Date! The 2008 Volunteer Appreciation Gala will be held at 111 Minna on Thursday, May 29th!

Celebrate the Ongoing Legacy! Each year, Volunteer Services throws a gala as a small token of our appreciation for all of the incredible work Shanti Volunteers do every day! The Volunteer Appreciation Gala is free to all active volunteers, and all volunteers may bring one guest. We heard back from many of you that you enjoyed the space at 111 Minna last year, and we're excited to be having it there again! It will be a catered affair with a complimentary bar for beer, wine, and soft drinks. Cocktails will be available for purchase.

You can check out the pictures from last year's Gala on our myspace site at www.myspace.com/shanti1974. Invitations will be arriving shortly so please let us know if you have recently changed your address. We are looking forward to sharing a wonderful evening with all of you! Please contact [Anne](#) with any questions.

Shanti Events Calendar March–May 2008

March

3/30/08 from 1-4pm Shanti in the Park!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Shanti Picnic in the Park!	31					

April

4/24/08 from 6-8pm Volunteer Continuing Education with Charlie Garfield

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Volunteer Continuing Education	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

5/4/08 People Paddle for AIDS
5/16/08 Shanti Training begins
5/29/08 Volunteer Appreciation Gala!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 People Paddle for AIDS	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Next PS Volunteer Training 6-9pm	17 Training Continues 9am-6pm
18 Training Continues 9am -6pm	19	20	21 Final Training Session 6-9pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Volunteer Appreciation Gala!	30	31

SUPPORT Shanti AT "PEOPLE PADDLE FOR AIDS III"



Fresh air, fun, exercise, camaraderie -- what more could you want on a beautiful summer day? Shanti is one of the beneficiaries of this year's "PEOPLE PADDLE FOR AIDS III" to be held on **Sunday, May 4th** and we're looking for "paddlers" to help raise money to support our agency.



So what is "PEOPLE PADDLE FOR AIDS"? Think 200 paddlers and 25+ AIDS service agencies coming together for a day on the Bay in kayaks to raise dollars for the HIV/AIDS community. If you've participated in AIDSWalk, it's much the same concept except instead of walking, you'll be paddling along the spectacular San Francisco waterfront. Kayakers launch from Pier 40 and outriggers launch from Pier 54. If conditions allow, we will paddle up under the Bay Bridge then into McCovey Cove and back to Pier 40, or if conditions aren't perfect, we'll paddle directly into McCovey Cove, then back to Pier 40. Either way, all kayaks and outriggers will raft up in McCovey Cove for the mother of all kayak photo ops from Lefty O'Doul Drawbridge. After the paddle, join us for our big awards ceremony and after-party at Pier 40 and South Beach Harbor. Paddlers will launch at 10am and finish by noon.



Don't know how to kayak? You're in good company: most participants have never been in a kayak. No worries: we offer training classes to show you how to paddle before you hit the water. City Kayak offers training to all pre-registered People Paddle paddlers for the rock bottom price of only \$25 (regularly \$75+). That includes all boats, life jackets, paddles, and professional instruction. Bring your own kayak or rent one from People Paddle/City Kayak for just \$20/single or \$25/double.

The best part is that 85% of pledges goes directly to Volunteer Services. (Healing Waters applies 15% of all pledges and registration fees to cover insurance/permits/other expenses).



To register for or get more information about "PEOPLE PADDLE FOR AIDS III" [click here](#) to go to their website. Be sure to select Shanti as the agency you are supporting. Then just tell your friends and associates to log on and select your name to make their pledge.

Don't want to paddle but want to support Shanti at this event? Become a corporate sponsor! Sponsorship levels begin at \$500 and include numerous benefits. Best of all, 100% of your sponsor dollars comes back to support Shanti. For more information about levels and benefits of sponsorship, [click here](#).

Shanti Community Spotlights on . . .

Volunteer, Alex Rivera



How did you hear about Shanti? Having grown up in San Francisco, I have always known of Shanti and was familiar with

the work they do in our city. It was not until 2004 that I really got an opportunity to understand what Shanti was all about. I was invited to attend a volunteer appreciation party by a close friend who at the time was a Shanti volunteer. I met some amazing people--volunteers, staff and Shanti clients. I was very impressed by their commitment and passion. Later that evening I heard Charlie Garfield speak. I was moved by what he had to say and soon after chose to become a volunteer.

A San Francisco native! For you, what's the best thing about San Francisco? The best thing about San Francisco is its diversity and openness. I love this City! There is no other place like San Francisco!! A little known Gem I would like to share is something very touristy but I hope you appreciate it. Take the ferry to Alcatraz on a clear sunny day (yes, Alcatraz) for one reason: the view of the San Francisco Sky Line is amazing - especially as the sun starts to set.

What do you do outside of Shanti? Outside of Shanti, for fun I enjoy going to the movies, and spending quality time with my partner and our good friends, eating out at our favorite restaurants or Salsa Dancing at El Rio on Sunday afternoon. Professionally I am a Real Estate Agent. I help people buy and sell their homes in San Francisco.

What attracted you to join the Volunteer Outreach and Advisory Board? I enjoy volunteering at Shanti and I like sharing my experience as a volunteer with people who are thinking about becoming a volunteer. Being a member of the advisory board gives me the opportunity to do this so I was immediately attracted to becoming a member.

I was once mistaken for . . . I was once and some times still am mistaken for David Schwimmer of the T.V. show *Friends*.

LifeLines Peer Advocate, Elaine Kuang



Tell me a little bit about your background. What were you doing before you came to Shanti?

Before I came to Shanti, I worked for Contact Lens Expo for approximately four years as a senior contact lens consultant.

My duties included a variety of items, such as providing professional customer service and advice and utilizing my analytical skills on clinical problems. In addition, I actively participated in interviewing candidates for positions at the business as well as providing clinical trainings to other employees.

What do you do at Shanti? What is your favorite thing about working with your clients? Participating in outreach to Chinese clients, providing active referrals to meet clients' needs, and assisting clients in accessing services are my major responsibilities at Life Lines. I follow up with clients through home visits and telephone calls to provide emotional support and practical assistance. Moreover, I travel to medical appointments along with clients to assist them in accessing their medical services. I also promote and participate in wellness classes as well as maintain documentation and client records. In addition, I offer translation services to Chinese-speaking clients on a daily basis. The greatest reward from my work is the feeling of satisfaction every time a client smiles at me sincerely and thanks me for what I have done in their lives.

What do you like best about working with Shanti Volunteers and how did you like the volunteer training? The Shanti volunteer training that I went through impressed me in several different aspects. I was not only amazed by the structure of the training, but I was also fascinated by the compassionate volunteers who were willing to dedicate themselves to help people who are in need. Recently, I had a few chances to match my clients with the volunteers. When I called them about the match, I could tell how sincere and compassionate the volunteers were. Honestly, I am sure that all our clients would be glad to have our Shanti volunteers become part of their life stories. I AM PROUD OF OUR SHANTI VOLUNTEERS.

What do you like to do outside of Shanti? I have been a Christian for more than ten years, and I attend fellowship and worship on a regular basis. Sometimes, I voluntarily help out the church on Saturday. I love music in general, particularly singing and listening to it, and I enjoy playing piano. I also love to travel with a group of friends.

Board Member, Celia Van Gorder



How did you first hear about Shanti? What made you decide to join the Shanti Board?

I first heard about Shanti from a former colleague and board member. As I learned more about the organization and its mission, I became interested in helping to further its goals. The passion of Shanti's employees and volunteers for their work was the most important factor in my decision.

What is a dream you have for Shanti? I'd like to help Shanti continue to strengthen its foundation so that it can deliver its services to even more San Francisco residents, including expansions of its programs to clients living with a broad spectrum of life-threatening illnesses.

What do you do outside of Shanti? I'm a transactional attorney with a particular focus on mergers & acquisitions, which means that I spend most of my time helping buy and sell companies and parts of companies. I also spend a significant portion of my days helping clients with key business agreements and IP licenses. Outside of work, I'm a runner and a beginning (but enthusiastic) cyclist. Spending time with friends and family is a priority, as is lavishing attention on our English bulldog, who rules the house with an iron paw.

Where are you from originally? What brings you here? I've lived in Boston, Tokyo, New York, Chicago and Denver, but I've wanted to live in San Francisco since I first visited at the age of 12. (At the time, I was one of the folks shivering on the cable car who thought summer in California meant sun and warm weather.) My husband grew up in the Bay Area, so moving to San Francisco was a natural choice for us. We've been here over ten years now, but I feel like I'm just getting to know the Bay Area.

Volunteer Announcements

Shanti at 2008 Academy of Friends Gala

The 2008 Academy of Friends Gala was a huge success! The 2008 Gala was held as a fundraiser for 12 Bay Area HIV/AIDS organizations. Shanti's Volunteer Services received a grant for \$35,000—an acknowledgement of all the amazing work you all are doing in our community and a means for us to continue to train and support our volunteers!

We want to extend a big "THANK YOU" to all the volunteers who were able to help out with the Academy of Friends. Quite literally, we could not have done this without you; for every hour volunteered on Shanti's behalf, we received approximately \$200. For more information about the Academy of Friends and to see pictures from the Gala, please check out their website at www.academyoffriends.org.



Volunteer Services Director, Kaushik Roy, receives a glamorous welcome to the Academy of Friends Gala.
Photo by Rink Photo

Congratulations to the 25 participants of the February Peer Support Training; you were a wonderful group! We hope to see you this Sunday at the Dolores Park Picnic!

The Shanti Drop-In Center is always accepting donations of clothes (especially men's clothes) and light reading books. Keep us in mind when you're doing your spring cleaning!



You know best what it takes to be a Shanti Volunteer and provide invaluable support for people who are facing the challenges of a life-threatening illness! **The next Peer Support Training starts May 16th**; if you know somebody who would be a great volunteer, please pass along Anne's contact info and she will be happy to tell them more about the program and the upcoming training. Anne can be reached at 415.674.4712 or by email at aradl@shanti.org.

Internships are now available with Shanti's HIV Services, LifeLines, Development, and Volunteer Services Programs.

Interns will usually make a commitment of 8-25 hours a week and can be involved in direct service for clients or work "behind the scenes" with agency programs. Please contact Anne with questions or for more information.

Join the HIV Services Planning Council and start making a sincere impact in the lives of hundreds of people in the San Francisco Bay Area.

It takes only five hours a month (two meetings) to have an influence on the allocation of funds from Title I & II of the Ryan White CARE Act, and determine the needs and service priorities for people living with HIV/AIDS in the tri county area (SF, Marin, & San Mateo).

Persons Living with HIV and receiving CARE Act Funded Services (especially women and people of color) *are highly encouraged to apply.*

The HIV Consumer Rights Advocacy Project is seeking a volunteer to help distribute brochures to different HIV/AIDS organizations in the city.

We have found a direct link between having a volunteer in this position and the number of referrals the HIV Consumer Rights Advocacy Office gets (and therefore the number of people they are able to help).

If you enjoy walking around the city and would like to help people living with HIV/AIDS to access services and advocacy on their behalf, and if you are available once a week during business hours (for about 2 hours) please contact Anne for more information about this volunteer position.