

Do You Volunteer? This Week's for You

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by Mallory Shan

We are celebrating **National Volunteer Week** here at the Food Bank For New York City! This week-long celebration, April 10–16, honors the more than 16,000 individuals who have contributed to the Food Bank's fight against poverty and hunger by donating their time and skills — to help **prepare taxes** for our city's **working poor**, provide **nutrition education** to **families** in low-income neighborhoods, serve meals at our **Community Kitchen** and throughout our **citywide network**, repack food at our **Bronx warehouse** and help our **events and campaigns** run smoothly.

The founder of National Volunteer Week, CEO of **Points of Light Institute** and co-founder of **HandsOn Network** Michelle Nunn, expresses the heart of this national week as one that "focuses attention on the impact and power of volunteerism and service as a vital part of civic leadership." This resonates with one of my co-workers, Pan Venkatraman, and me since we are year-long volunteers through Mayor Bloomberg's **NYC Civic Corps Program**. We have witnessed, through our engagement with volunteers and being volunteers ourselves, the potential for change that lies in service.

Stay tuned to our **blog** throughout the week for stories of just a couple of our amazing volunteers. We hope that their testimonies will inspire many more to join the Food Bank and volunteer to fight hunger!

Mallory Shan is assisting the Food Bank's Volunteer Services department for one year as an NYC Civic Corps Volunteer



From top: Bank of America volunteers repacking food at our Bronx warehouse for delivery to soup kitchens and food pantries; A volunteer tax preparer, trained through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program; Volunteers helped set up and prepare and serve food at Tang's Natural's 2010 NYC Dumpling Festival, which helped raised more than 220,000 meals for New Yorkers in need