



POINTS OF LIGHT
&
HANDS ON NETWORK



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHEN: Monday, January 21st, 2008
TIME: 8:00AM-3:30PM
**WHERE: Southern Sudanese
Community Center
4077 Fairmount Ave
San Diego, CA 92105-1607**

STUDENTS REVITALIZE SOUTHERN SUDANESE COMMUNITY CENTER

January 21, 2008

Join Volunteer San Diego in celebrating their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Service event. This year, 100 plus volunteers will join to renovate the Southern Sudanese Community center. Tasks such as painting, decorating, gardening, organizing and cleaning will be completed. The event will run from 8:00am – 3:30pm and will end in a ribbon cutting ceremony led by the center's founder, Mr. Dep Tuany, at 4:30pm.

The event, organized by SAVY (Students Actively Volunteering for You) Leaders – 36 local high school students – was inspired by this year's theme of Community Revitalization. These Leaders have planned, fundraised, and recruited volunteers for the event day all in efforts to bring new life to the Sudanese community through improved resources. The Sudanese Center was founded by Mr. Dep Tuany, a fellow Sudanese refugee in 1995 with the mission of "assisting all Sudanese refugees in their resettlement through education, social, economic, and cultural support". It provides familiar place for the more than 4,000 Sudanese refugees living in San Diego.

Volunteers, including several members of the Sudanese Center, will be available on site for photographs and interviews. For more information about the day's events or how to get involved, visit our website at www.volunteersandiego.org.

About SAVY

SAVY, a program of Volunteer San Diego, has been connecting youth to volunteer service in San Diego County since 1984. Annually, SAVY (Students Actively Volunteering for You) engages over 10,000 middle and high school

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students from diverse neighborhoods in community service, youth leadership and service-learning projects.

About Volunteer San Diego

Volunteer San Diego is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps individuals, families, and corporate and community groups find volunteer opportunities at more than 800 diverse service organizations and schools throughout the county. Our capacity building programs and services allow volunteers to work hand-in-hand with nonprofit agencies to develop strong and vibrant communities.

Volunteer San Diego volunteers, now 36,000 strong, are at work every day of the year, building community and meeting critical needs by teaching children the joy of reading, beautifying our parks and beaches, preparing meals for our homebound neighbors, distributing food to low income families and learning what it means to create positive change. Last year, Volunteer San Diego volunteers contributed over 106,000 hours (or \$2.1 million in people power) to make our community a better place to live, work and play.

About the Southern Sudanese Community Center

The Southern Sudanese Community Center of San Diego is a non-profit founded in 1995 with the mission to assist all Sudanese refugees in their resettlement through education, social, economic, and cultural support. The staff at SSCC guides them towards self-sufficiency and full integration into American society while respecting their dignity as new Americans. They also provide aid to Children in Southern Sudan. Many Southern Sudanese children in Africa are orphans who have lost one or both of their parents due to war and genocide. SSCC supports these children with medical, educational and other basic life needs.

About Points of Light & Hands On Network

Points of Light & Hands On Network inspires and mobilizes people to become engaged, take action and solve community problems. The organization supports a robust network of 370 affiliates, covering 83% of the US market, with twelve international locations. Collectively, they mobilize millions of volunteers who partner with thousands of nonprofits, schools and community organizations every year. By cultivating a dynamic network of linked civic hubs, corporate partners, nonprofits, and citizen leaders who engage volunteers in meaningful community change, they are building a change movement - achieving scale and impact by inspiring a culture of service and offering practical tools, new ideas and innovation to the civic space.

For more information, visit www.HandsOnNetwork.org or www.PointsOfLight.org

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