




## August CollabCafe Summary

### Organizations Present

- [Alive Community Outreach](#)
- [Bridge of Grace](#)
- [Girl Coalition](#)
- [Girl Scouts](#)
- [Healthier Moms & Babies](#)
- [H.U.G. \(Health Unity & Growth\) Community Garden](#)
- [Monarch Mental Health](#)

### [Volunteer Center](#) Presentation with Ani Etter

- The Volunteer Center has been serving the community for over 40 years and is committed to providing individuals with opportunities for meaningful volunteer experiences.
  - They provide [resources](#) for volunteer coordinators to better engage with volunteers.
  - Ani shared that they are seeing a decline in volunteers who are over the age of 60
  - Younger generations are interested in serving. However, they tend to deter long commitments in terms of volunteering.
  - The Volunteer Center also has an [I CAN Volunteer Team](#) that provides volunteer opportunities for individuals of all ages with developmental and intellectual disabilities.
  - After the meeting, Ani shared via email about the success of converting volunteers into donors to the organization. Some of their volunteers make small monetary contributions, while others have become large, steady donors. The key is connecting at a personal level and finding the delicate balance between asking volunteers to give dollars versus asking volunteers to financially support and be
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part of something great that they already believe in. Another key component is avoiding a transactional feeling with a volunteer who is already committed to your organization.

- For more information, check out this [article](#) from their Volunteer Management Software that offers practical tips and information on this topic.
- Volunteer Center would be glad to help provide information to organizations looking for guidance on volunteers working with vulnerable populations and HIPAA. This is part of their training for our VITA Tax Program volunteers.
  - A strong volunteer agreement, code of conduct, and delineation of clear expectations from volunteers are critical.
- For more information or questions, please contact her at [AnaE@volunteerfortwayne.org](mailto:AnaE@volunteerfortwayne.org) or call: (260) 424-3505

#### **Upcoming Events & Opportunities**

- Bridge of Grace Girls Empowerment Brunch Nov 8<sup>th</sup> 11 am-1:30 pm
- Healthier Moms & Babies Diaper Dash Sept 7<sup>th</sup> at Parkview YMCA
- Mount Vernon Park Block Park Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 4-7 pm
  - Vendors needed! If interested, call Sierra DuBose
- Girls Scouts Free Camp Sampler Day Aug 24
  - Girls and Adults register by emailing front by emailing [frontdesk@gsnim.org](mailto:frontdesk@gsnim.org)
- Girl Coalition: Saddle Up for Succus with Dare 2 Dream Horse Ranch
  - Ages 7-ths Grade
  - Email [jcrippin@girlcoalitionindiana.org](mailto:jcrippin@girlcoalitionindiana.org)

#### **Current Needs:**

- Bridge of Grace is seeking volunteers for after-school programs from 3:445-5:30 Mon-Thurs
- More networking with other 501c3!