



Welcome back to the Pageant Preparation Communiqué. We hope you enjoyed our first and second editions and are eager to learn more from our tips and suggestions. As you remember, our first newsletter touched on fitness and healthy eating. Our second newsletter discussed self esteem and mental preparations. This month we would like to address volunteering and the importance of getting involved. Remember, we want to work closely with you and answer any questions you might have. You may contact the office by telephone at 803.648.6220 or by email: info@rpmproductions.com. We look forward to welcoming you to our family.

**Now here is some great advice from our MISS SOUTH CAROLINA USA 2008, Jamie Hill!**

Hello to all!!!

Whether I am Miss South Carolina USA or just Jamie Hill, I believe the biggest and most rewarding job I will ever have is being a role model to those around me. Two contributing factors to my personal success are due to understanding and embracing the importance of being a good role model as well as being involved in my community.

I realized after I won the title of Miss South Carolina USA that I have the ability to help change others lives for the better. What an amazingly powerful opportunity that I am glad to say I have fully embraced. I have had the chance to work with many charities around the state and one that has really touched my heart is the Boys and Girls Club of America.

One of the greatest joys in life is to help another.

I encourage you all to exercise your greatness and find what charity speaks to your heart for there are many causes that need your help, time and positive influence. I found the Boys and Girls Club to be a perfect fit for me because I love children and now I have the opportunity to work with them personally in an environment where they can learn and grow.

The memories I take with me from these experiences are irreplaceable and the inner peace I feel is something I cannot explain. I have learned more about who I am and my character by being involved in causes that are greater than myself and I sometimes feel these kids are impacting my life more than I am influencing theirs! One of the greatest joys in life is to help another and I challenge you all to get involved whether it's volunteering your time, helping raise money or just bringing extra cheer and happiness to charities or organizations in need. I know that with today's busy lifestyles it can be difficult finding the time to give back to the community, but making the time is well worth it because the reward is grander than you can imagine. We are all capable of great things; exercise your greatness.

Good luck and always follow your dreams!

Jamie Hill,  
Miss South Carolina USA 2008

**What insightful advice!** You may follow Jamie's year as MISS SOUTH CAROLINA USA 2008 by visiting [www.missouthcarolinausa.com](http://www.missouthcarolinausa.com). You will see photos of her appearances, and keep up with her as she prepares to compete for the title of MISS USA 2008. Don't forget to watch the MISS USA Pageant live on NBC- April 11, 2008. **Mark your calendar and program your TiVo as we keep our fingers crossed for Jamie, Andrea, and Michelle!**

Volunteering allows you to meet positive people who have similar interests. You may make new friends or you may make contacts that lead to internships and future jobs. The most basic reason for volunteering your time is that you get more than you give and giving is far better than surfing the net, staring at the walls, wandering the halls, or napping all afternoon. People who are involved and engaged are less likely to become addicted to bad habits, like smoking, drinking, or over-eating.

### **Let's look at some suggestions on how to get involved.**

- **Find What's Right for You**

Volunteering isn't like school: Instead of having the choices made for you about where to go and what subjects to learn, you get to choose. You can choose what really interests you and who (or what) is most deserving of your time.

- **Find What Fits Your Schedule**

After you've discovered what interests you, decide how much time you want to spend and what fits into your schedule. Most organizations want volunteers to commit to giving them a set amount of time every week or two — it varies according to the organization.

- **Expand Your Mind**

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills — from working as part of a team to setting and reaching goals. It gives you a chance to discover what kinds of things you're best at and enjoy the most. A volunteer job that you love can even help shape your ideas about your career goals.

- **Feel Good**

Volunteering helps people feel they make a difference — that they do have the power to change things for the better. When people depend on you, it can change the way you look at yourself. You can feel proud of the goals that you've achieved for an organization — whether it's helping to organize a collection drive for the needy or to raising money for breast cancer.

- **Look Good**

In addition to all the other reasons for volunteering, it can look impressive on college or job applications not to mention, pageant profiles. That's not the main reason for volunteering, of course — don't do it just to please other people or to look good, you won't enjoy it. But volunteering does show others (and yourself!) that you are reliable enough to make a commitment and show up on schedule. Volunteering also shows employers and colleges that you believe in making the world a better place — and that you're willing to sacrifice your time and energy to do it.

**Here are some places to go to look for volunteer opportunities:**

**VolunteerMatch**

<http://www.volunteermatch.org>

VolunteerMatch is dedicated to putting you in touch with volunteer organizations in your area. You can enter the name of a group you'd like to know more about, search by your ZIP code, or browse all the available opportunities.

[Project Sunshine | Programs](#)

Project Sunshine provides customized recreational, educational and social programs to children facing medical challenges and their families by leveraging the time, skills and resources of a diverse group of dedicated volunteers.

[Sparrow Clubs USA - Kids Helping Kids](#)

**Sparrow Clubs USA** is proof that you're never too young to make a difference. As the nation's only youth-based charity of its kind, Sparrow Clubs not only provides financial and emotional support for critically ill children and their families, but also empowers young people to help a child through charitable service experiences.

*We hope you have enjoyed these valuable tips and suggestions. As always, please visit our website for up to date information, links to our sponsors, and 2009 pageant news. It's so simple, just go to **www.rpmproductions.com** and click on your state. Thanks and remember...we are here to help you reach your dreams!*