### Power up! Connecting with your community through volunteers

Powering forward. Together.

SMU



Sacramento Municipal Utility District







### SMUD | Overview

Service area population 1.4 million

**Board members** 

Budget **Employees** \$1.47 billion 2,071 Customers Credit rating 614,143 AA<sup>-</sup> Standard & Poor's Aa<sup>3</sup> Moody's AA<sup>-</sup> Fitch



Sacramento skyline at night, as seen from the American River

#### Geography | Service Territory Rosévilie Sutter County Placer Count Folson 5 El Dorado County 50 Yolo County 6. 3 -16 Rancho Murieta 2 Cotting Amador Col Elk Grove 4 99 **SMUD Service Territory** Sacramento, CA San Joaquin County SMUD



### Why invest in a volunteer program?



### The business landscape is changing

### Balancing customer needs and expectations

Comparisons with non industry companies

Generational differences and cultural diversity New technologies and communication methods



### Volunteering develops...





### And it's a good investment

85 percent of customers have a more positive image of a company when it supports a cause they care about

**Corporate citizenship boosts customer satisfaction** 

Volunteering teaches skills that help employees do their jobs more effectively

Employees who volunteer have longer tenures with their companies

62 percent of workers between the ages of 18 and 26 say they prefer to work for companies that supply volunteer opportunities

Satisfied employees provide superior customer service

Volunteer programs put a human face on the company and reinforce the organization's values and core mission









Can you relate? Impact of volunteer programs on your Workforce • Fundraising • Community



| <b>Generation X</b>               |
|-----------------------------------|
| Born 1965-1976                    |
| 51 million                        |
| Accept diversity                  |
| Pragmatic/practical               |
| Self-reliant/individualistic      |
| Reject rules                      |
| Mistrust institutions             |
| PC                                |
| Use technology                    |
| Multitask                         |
| Latch-key kids                    |
| Friends are not family            |
| They want:                        |
| Casual, friendly work environment |
| Involvement                       |
| Flexibility and freedom           |
| A place to learn                  |

#### **Millennials**

Born 1977 – 1998 75 million

Celebrate diversity Optimistic/realistic Self-inventive/individualistic Rewrite the rules Irrelevance of institutions Internet Assume technology Multitask fast Nurtured Friends = family

They want: Structured, supportive work environment Personalized work Interactive relationship



### Why should you care?



In 2015 Millennial's overtook all other generations as the largest group in the customer base and workforce.

# **81%** of them expect

### companies to make a public commitment to good corporate citizenship.

Source: Horizon Media's Finger on the Pulse study

## More than **half** said they would refuse to work for an irresponsible corporation.

Source: Millennial Cause group - The 2020 project

### And your best talent is paying attention

## All other things being equal, I would take a 15% pay cut...

to work for a company committed to CSR – **35%**  for a job that makes a social or environmental impact – **34%**  to work for an organization with values like my own – **58%** 



Source: Net Impact

### How does your community know you're responsible and engaged?- You have to tell them!





### Does it work? SMUD employee giving



Value of 2015 volunteer time (24,000 hours) = \$553,680



### Employee and customer satisfaction

#### ComputerWorld 100 Best Places to Work in IT, 2008-2015

Talent stays an average of 15 years

#24 "Healthiest 100" Healthiest Workplace in America, 2014-2015 Healthiest Employer, Sacramento Business Journal, 2014-2015

Only Northern California utility to reach "Optimal level of trust" in recent Cogent Research study of 25,000

J.D. Power survey of Corporate citizenship scores continually climbing



### Top ranked mid sized utility in the nation for Corporate Citizenship, 2016



Corporate Citizenship - SMUD

National Average





### How does it all fit together?



## Our giving and program priorities reflect our values

#### Leadership

- Economic Development
- Civic Leadership

### Community

Diversity & CultureHealthy, Sustainable Communities



#### Ingenuity

- Education (focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
- Innovation

### Integrity

- Environmental Stewardship
- Supplier Diversity



### Something for everyone!



- Runs/Walks
- Parades
- Cleanups
- Community improvements



Programs

Ongoing |

- Educational programs
- Community based programs
- Mentoring programs



### What else do we do?

### Work group team building activities

### Board service opportunities

Support personal volunteerism Support individual work group goals



### Part of a comprehensive program





### Keeping them engaged



### Partnerships

- Multi event sponsorships
- Event and individual volunteers
- Future additional activities
  - On site demos
  - Potential site improvements





### Support of volunteer activities

- Entry support
- Fundraising
- Branded Team SMUD apparel
- High media and customer exposure





### Fundraising and friend raising

| Unique and fun             | <ul><li>Experiences, not just giving</li><li>Leadership opportunities</li></ul> |
|----------------------------|---|
| Make it easy to<br>support | <ul><li>Videos</li><li>Web banners</li></ul>                                    |
| Matches                    | <ul><li>Executive sponsor</li><li>Explore corporate matching</li></ul>          |
| Long term relationships    | <ul><li>Board opportunities</li><li>Ongoing volunteer activities</li></ul>      |



### Steal these ideas!

- Executive recruitment and buy in is vital
  - Personal note from CEO inviting participation
  - CEO matching funds
  - Frequent inclusion in CEO speaking points
- Keep events fresh and top of mind
  - Videos
  - Inclusion in company wide email
  - Employee led fundraisers
  - "Bring a Friend" week
  - Ticker on internal web for employee donations
  - Lobby display
  - Onsite educational event linked to nonproft
  - Vote for CEO's shoes
  - Team high heel training
  - Flash mob at event
  - Presentations at employee meetings
- You need visible success
  - Team in branded attire that stands out
  - Fundraising noted in messaging



## Challenges for employee volunteer programs

- Finding the right balance of activities
- Equity in event support
- Walking the political line
- Volunteer commitment
- Represented vs. unrepresented employees
- Unclear expectations
- Fundraising burn out
- Volunteerism vs. volun"told"ism





### Tips for finding the right partnerships

- Develop short-term outcomes to create a sense of achievement and satisfaction
- Find individual one-day placements and one-day projects
- Identify projects that a smaller group or family can do together
- Align with your employees' interests
- Demonstrate the linkage to company values
- Screen your partners and requests
- Plan early
- Strategize fundraising campaigns





### Engagement looks... AWESOME!!!





### Q & A

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