

Activity: Can We Get A Volunteer?

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If you have ever led a session in which you needed to identify volunteers for teams, tasks or other assignments, you know how difficult it is to discern the talents in a room sometimes. Here is a simple activity that may help you in such future situations.

PURPOSE: To identify human resources in a group, knowledge or experience levels, and interest preference levels at the beginning of a project.

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this activity, participants will have:

- Provided information about themselves.
- Volunteered to act as a resource.
- Identified others with common interest, knowledge and experience levels.

PROCESS: Prior to the arrival of group members, create flipchart pages with the following information at the top:

1. I am willing to help on a committee or action group.
 2. I can assist with short term assignments or projects.
 3. I have extensive knowledge and/or experience related to this issue (whatever the meeting is about. For example, volunteer activities, a specific business issue, customer need).
 4. I have a little knowledge and/or experience related to this issue.
 5. I have worked on similar projects in the past.
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- Once participants arrive, review the purpose of the meeting.
 - During breaks, ask them to go to a flipchart that pertains to them and write their name. Stress that every person's name should appear on one page, but can appear on several.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Prepared flipchart pages.
- Assorted colored markers.
- Masking tape.

TIME REQUIRED: Less than five minutes.

Source: Lucas, R.W., *The Big Book of Flip Charts*, McGraw-Hill, New York, NY (1999)

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