

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Largest Volunteer Project Back by Popular Demand

MN Vikings and volunteers to sort and tag 100,000 donated Halloween items

Twin Cities (September 4, 2009) — The largest annual public volunteer event with United Way is back for its sixth year. Teaming up with Arc's Value Village, *A Celebration of Sorts* is Tuesday, September 15 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the former Mervyn's store (SE corner) at Southdale Center. Volunteers will sort through and then tag mountains of donated Halloween items which will then be sold at Arc's Value Village Thrift Stores & Donation Centers in Richfield, New Hope and Brooklyn Center during the Halloween Boo-tiquesm.

Volunteers must be of high school age or older and sign up by **Friday, September 11**. Nearly 700 people have registered, but help is still needed from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information and to volunteer, call 612-340-7440 or e-mail celebration@unitedwaytwincities.org.

The Minnesota Vikings bring their purple pride to the festivities from **12:45 to 1:45 p.m.** to lend a hand and greet volunteers. *A Celebration of Sorts* provides a rousing environment for volunteers with DJ Fab Babz taking requests, complimentary refreshments courtesy of Dyste Williams and a drawing for three pairs of airline tickets from Northwest Airlines/Delta.

Eric Leill and his team from Cargill return this year along with individuals and groups from area businesses such as Target, American Medical Systems, General Mills, Thomson Reuters and ING.

Leill says, "This is a favorite volunteer project with our company because it not only gives back to the community in such high proportions, but is also a fun atmosphere. It's the best of both worlds!"

A Celebration of Sorts volunteers will accomplish the amount of work Value Village staff would complete in one month in one day. Items are sold at Arc's Value Village annual Halloween Boo-tique from September 24 to October 31 with the dollars raised supporting programs and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through Arc Greater Twin Cities.

About Arc Greater Twin Cities

Arc Greater Twin Cities is a nonprofit agency serving the many needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Established in 1946, Arc has been changing attitudes, changing policies and changing lives for more than 60 years. Arc helps individuals and families address issues that span the lifetime, including early intervention, education, and transition to adulthood, health care, housing, employment, guardianship and more. For more information and volunteer opportunities, call Arc at (952) 920-0855 or visit www.arcgreatertwincities.org.

About Greater Twin Cities United Way

Greater Twin Cities United Way addresses our community's most critical issues through the *Agenda for Lasting Change* – 10 measurable goals to create pathways out of poverty. We partner with business, government and nonprofit organizations to create lasting solutions and carry out our call-to-action to **LIVE UNITED** by encouraging everyone to Give. Advocate. Volunteer. Greater Twin Cities United Way is an independent organization serving Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott and western Washington counties. Join the movement. **LIVE UNITED**. For more information visit www.unitedwaytwincities.org or call (612) 340-7400. For more information on United Way Caring Connection visit www.unitedwaytwincities.org/caringconnection

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