



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 06/29/2012

SUBJECT: Volunteer Reception Center Ready to Mobilize Volunteers

BY: Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator

Volunteer Reception Center Ready to Mobilize Volunteers

[Duluth, MN] – The outpouring of support has been amazing following the flood. In order to best coordinate and manage the talented pool of volunteers, the City of Duluth and the United Way of Greater Duluth in partnership with All Hands Volunteers have announced the opening of the Volunteer Reception Center of Greater Duluth (VRCGD), located in the Secondary Technical School next to the recently closed Central High School. Hours of operation will be 8:30am to 4:30pm until July 12, 2012. The Center will be closed on July 4, 2012.

The Volunteer Reception Center will coordinate and mobilize registered individuals and groups to impacted sites. The need for volunteers continues to grow as residents start recovery efforts. The City and United Way are working to effectively recruit and coordinate volunteer relief efforts. Volunteers should pre-register through the United Way of Greater Duluth by visiting their website at www.unitedwayduluth.org and click on the “Give Help” button. Individuals and groups may also register on-site at the Volunteer Reception Center. The VRCGD will serve as a check-in location for registered volunteers.

Volunteer Reception Center will be ready to mobilize volunteers to specific sites on a limited basis on Saturday, June 30, 2012. All registered volunteers will be contacted as soon as possible and scheduled according to their availability to check-in at the Volunteer Reception Center. Volunteers working off site will be led by a site supervisor and will wear color coded wrist bands. Volunteers will only be deployed to residential sites that have registered for assistance through the United Way. Property owners impacted by the flood are encouraged to visit www.unitedwayduluth.org and click on the “Get Help” button. The Volunteer Reception Center will work to match the residential needs with volunteer availability and skills.

Questions can be directed to Cheryl Skafte, Volunteer Coordinator, City of Duluth, at (218) 730-4334 or Rory Strange, United Way of Greater Duluth, at (218) 726-4777. The Volunteer Reception Center can be reached during hours of operation at 218-499-9480.

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