



PEOPLE POWERED VOLUNTEERISM

Integrated Impact Report 2021 - 2023



**A Civil Society Associated with the
United Nations Department for Global Communications.**

IVolunteer International Inc., is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization registered in the State of Georgia.
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All checks must be written in favor of "IVolunteer International Inc." Donations are accepted online through the website as well. All donations are tax-deductible. Data in this report may have changed since the published date. This report was published on June 5, 2024 and is the property of IVolunteer International Inc.

Globally, nationally, and locally, the percent of time people spend volunteering is in a steady decline.*

An engaged community builds cohesion, wellbeing, and over time, strengthens the ability to respond to crisis. Volunteers are the backbone of democracy and civil society. Our movement is dedicated to reversing this trend to mobilize people to volunteer through advocacy and technology.

MISSION	VISION	PURPOSE
Make volunteering fun, easy, and equitable.	Create 8 billion volunteers in the world.	Create a culture of global contribution through volunteerism.

Since 2017, we have partnered, observed, and actively participated in the volunteerism industry to learn about the major challenges people face when they want to get involved in their local community. Our programs and technology products are delivered specifically to eradicate these barriers and to make volunteering fun, easy, and equitable.



Due to various life commitments, **people cannot find routine times** weekly and monthly to volunteer. Nonprofits typically demand routine time commitments.



Volunteering is inherently a costly affair. Add membership fees, swag costs, and an obligation to donate, financial costs make volunteering inequitable.



Even with time and money, the **lack of a central, user-friendly, on-demand platform** to find opportunities in real time disempower people from volunteering.



There are **not a lot of real-time incentives** for people to volunteer, like a platform to track their individual social impact or share achievements.

**The rate of formal volunteering through organizations dropped by 7% from 2019 to 2021 (AmeriCorps, 2024)
 *Volunteering is on the decline. Research shows the trend started before COVID-19, in early 2010 (NPR, 2023).
 In 2021, the % of Americans volunteering with organizations dropped to the lowest ever reported, since tracking started in early 2000s (Candid, 2023).

A model for mobilization.

The foundation to the model of our operation is the belief that all people, irrespective of age, social status, beliefs, gender, race, and other demographics have some level of willingness and ability to volunteer. We believe that irrespective of the cause or issue, people fall into one of four categories of mobilization: (1) learner, (2) ally, (3) advocate, and (4) activist.



We **raise awareness** and hope about the power of volunteering in various communities and institutions through social media, workshops and speaking engagements worldwide.



We **consult for public and private organizations** to help them build their volunteer engagement processes while also creating impactful opportunities for people to get engaged in their local community.



We **train young leaders with skills, knowledge, and expertise** needed for them to become better advocates and activists in their local communities through our dedicated programs and volunteer trainings.



We **join and actively participate in global networks** dedicated to volunteer mobility and data collection in order to continuously learn and shape the future of volunteering, especially in a rapidly changing world.



All mobilization starts with one person. Human beings, individually and together, are at the center of our model.



Our **flagship IVolunteerNow Ecosystem** (comprising an app, enterprise software, and map) connects individuals to real-time volunteer opportunities in their local communities in Georgia, making the experience of volunteering fun, easy, and equitable.



We **advocate for volunteer friendly policies** locally and globally to continuously create a world where people can come together and volunteer for causes they care about, at will and on-demand.

Flipping the narrative.

A case for democratizing volunteerism.



“How do I volunteer? Where can I find opportunities? How can I register? What is my impact? Will I have to pay for membership fees?” - these are questions that used to echo in my mind every day. If you are passionate about volunteering and giving back, I know these questions haunt you too. We strive to remove these barriers from volunteering and to make volunteering a part of our daily lives -- a culture, even.

I am constantly amazed by the profound impact that volunteering has both locally and globally. When we come together to volunteer, we create a sense of unity and shared purpose that strengthens our communities. Whether it's cleaning up local parks or providing essential services during crises, the collective efforts of volunteers bring tangible benefits, fostering resilience and a culture of mutual support.

However, I believe that the volunteering space has yet to reach its full potential. There is so much room for innovation, and we have a unique opportunity to revolutionize how people engage with and contribute to their communities. At IVolunteer International, we aim to position ourselves as the cause that supports all other causes. We plan to create a robust platform that empowers both volunteers and organizations.

One of my core beliefs is in the democratization of volunteering. I know that people have the power to co-create solutions to the challenges they face. Our role is to provide them with the tools and opportunities to do so effectively. By leveraging digital platforms, innovative outreach methods, and community-driven initiatives, we enable individuals to take meaningful action. This approach not only enhances the impact of their efforts but also fosters a sense of ownership and agency within the community.

As I look to the future, I am filled with excitement and anticipation for the next steps in our journey. My vision is to scale IVolunteer International to reach even more communities, providing the support and infrastructure needed to amplify the impact of volunteering globally. I am committed to continuously innovating and evolving, ensuring that volunteering remains a powerful force for good. Together, we can build a world where everyone has the opportunity to contribute, making a difference one volunteer at a time.



Nipuna Ambanpola
Executive Director

Supporting all causes.

Volunteers are the backbone of civil society.



As the Board President of IVolunteer International, I am deeply committed to our mission. My professional journey has revealed the profound impact that volunteerism can have on individuals and communities alike. Witnessing firsthand how volunteering transforms lives, builds resilient communities, and creates lasting positive change has reinforced my unwavering belief in the power of collective action. It is this conviction that drives my dedicated leadership at IVolunteer International.

Volunteering occupies a unique space where compassion meets action. The vast potential to innovate and revolutionize our approach to volunteering inspires my engagement with IVolunteer International.

By harnessing technology and nurturing community-driven initiatives, we empower volunteers to take meaningful actions that leave a lasting impact. This approach not only amplifies their efforts but also instills a sense of ownership and agency within the community. I take immense pride in our efforts to position IVolunteer International as the cause that supports all other causes. Our vision extends beyond individual projects; we strive to create a robust infrastructure that enhances the capabilities of both volunteers and organizations. This holistic approach enables us to address a wide range of issues, from environmental sustainability to social justice, by harnessing the collective power of our volunteers.

Looking ahead, I am particularly thrilled about the upcoming launch of IVolunteerNow, our mobile app. By identifying users' live locations and presenting local volunteer opportunities, this app promises to revolutionize how people engage with volunteering. Together, we can create a world where everyone has the opportunity to contribute, making a difference—one volunteer at a time.



Change doesn't require us all to be activists at the forefront; it calls for us to act in the capacity we can. Whether as learners, allies, advocates, or activists, each of us holds the power to volunteer and contribute uniquely. It's this belief in individual potential that fuels the innovation at IVolunteer International, where our tools and programs ignite the creative spark that will, one day, change the world.

Antwone Mohammed
Board President

Year in Review - 2021

Overview

Building on the impact and the successful launch of our new logo and branding in 2020, we had an intentional yet impactful year in 2021. We continued to deliver our flagship programs while ideating our IVolunteerNow ecosystem.



Platinum Seal

Consistently in the past couple of years, we have been able to promote transparency and achieve the Platinum Seal from Guidestar for reporting our work and impact.

Writers' Council Advocacy Program

Our Writers' Council program published 89 articles, spotlighting causes around the world and graduated 22 young leaders from the program in two cohorts this year.

Archived Programs

IVolunteerSeries Talkshow and the GroceryAid volunteer matching platform that was released during COVID were both archived after a successful, cause-specific impact.

UN Civil Society with DGC

We continued our advocacy at a global scale as a Civil Society Associated with the UN Department for Global Communications, attending various workshops and youth advocacy events.

Giving Voice to the Voiceless Grant

In 2021, we were awarded the "Giving Voice to the Voiceless" grant by the University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism in support of our activist training and empowerment program Writers Council.

Hilton Head Island Concourse Grant

One of our biggest and long-time supporters, the Hilton Head Island Concourse D'Elegance provided us another grant this year to support the design and development of our IVolunteerNow app and ecosystem.

Future We Want Model U.N.

In 2021, we continued our partnership with the Future We Want Model United Nations and connected volunteers from around the world to this program. Young leaders came together to New York City and the U.N. HQ to discuss the world's most pressing issues in a simulated UN.

Year in Review - 2022



Spotlight

Inaugural Community Engagement Exchange

We partnered with the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) to support the inaugural Community Engagement Exchange program. We were selected as one of the nonprofit organizations to host a youth leader and attended the orientation in Detroit, Michigan. CEE is a bold new civil society initiative, created by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, that equips young community leaders with the expertise, resources, and skills to support resilient communities around the world and sustain a global civil society ecosystem.

Overview

2022 was dedicated to learning and insight. We continued our internal programs and services and spent most of our resources and time laying the foundation for 2023 and beyond. Internally, we started developing the key goals for our IVolunteerNow app launch, onboarded a new board of directors, and discussed the future of the organization. Due to various reasons, this year was used to invest internally.

3 Year Action Plan

Due to changing circumstances and the year-over-year growth of the organization, the staff met to plan the next three years and the impact we hope to instill through our programs.

Writers' Council Program

In 2022, we hosted two cohorts of the Writers' Council and published 47 articles covering a wide range of causes that are important locally and nationally. 16 young leaders were part of these two cohorts.

Future We Want Model U.N.

Strengthening our long partnership, we supported the Future We Want Model United Nations in New York City this year as the official volunteer providers. We recruited and trained 20 volunteers to support this event.

Year in Review - 2023

Overview

The “silent” phase ended in 2022. The planning and goal setting kicked into gear in 2023. We re-visited some of our internal assets and updated them. We published a new donations page that made contributing to our organization a seamless process. We updated our address, onboarded a brand new board of directors and continued our advocacy far and wide. We also partnered with SJ Innovation, a premier software company based in New York to bring our iVolunteerNow app and ecosystem to the finish line, for a 2024 launch.



Platinum Seal on Guidestar

Consistently in the past couple of years, we have been able to promote transparency and achieve the Platinum Seal from Guidestar for Transparency in our work.

New Business Address

We updated our address to a more permanent location. Going forward, all physical mail can be delivered to 1 Diamond Causeway, Ste 21, #310, Savannah, GA 31406.

New Donation Page

After months of ideating and design, we published a new and interactive donations page on our website to make online giving very seamless. Visit our website on www.ivint.org/donate.

UGA Innovation Bootcamp

In Spring 2023, our Executive Director Nipuna Ambanpola graduated from the University of Georgia Innovation Bootcamp for Entrepreneurs of Color, after learning from industry experts.

Spotlight

Launching a Leadership Coalition

Building on the goals of 2022, we invited community leaders whose passion is grounded in volunteerism to join our start-up board of directors. In July, we brought them together for a full day of ideating, brainstorming, and introductions. This was the first time our nonprofit has reached across industry to bring the best and brightest to guide our future.

Hilton Head Island Concours Grant

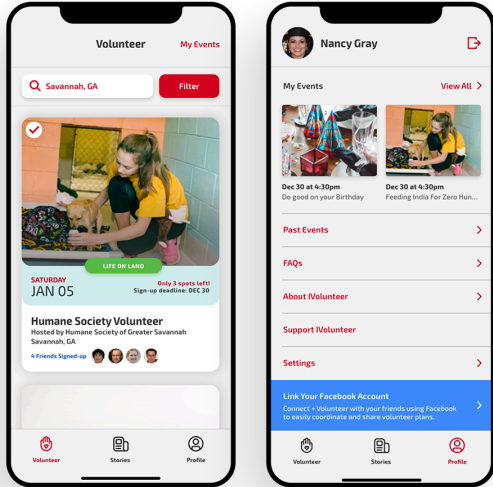
In 2023, Hilton Head Island Concours became an Elevate Society Donor for supporting us through their annual grant. In 2023, iVolunteer International supported the event by connecting volunteers in to their annual motoring festival.

U.N. Civil Society Advocacy

Through the United Nations Department for Global Communications and our other various partners, we were able to attend and support a variety of events that promoted volunteerism and advocated for citizen engagement.

Special Milestones

IVolunteerNow - our biggest investment to date.



IVolunteer International contracted SJ Innovation, a New York based software company to complete our IVolunteerNow mobile app. IVolunteerNow will be available in Summer 2024 in Athens and in later years, across Georgia for volunteers.



Collaborating with IVolunteer International embodies SJ Innovation's commitment to using technology for community empowerment, a cornerstone of our vision for positive global impact.

Shahed Islam, CEO of SJ Innovation

Truist Community Pitch Winners

IVolunteer International emerged as one of three winners at the Truist Foundation Community Pitch event hosted by the University of Georgia's Innovation District.



Eagle Eye Symposium

IVolunteer International spoke at the Inaugural Eagle Eye Symposium about the power of volunteerism and the many ways young leaders can support their community.

Future We Want Model U.N.

For the 6th year in a row, IVolunteer International partnered with Future We Want Model United Nations as their official volunteer providers.



Leadership Profiles

Board of Directors & Senior Leadership



**Antwone
Mohammed**
Board President



**Bob
Lee**
Board Treasurer



**Michelle
Keating**
Board Secretary



**Alison
Alwes**
Board Member



**Tina
Fischlin**
Board Member



**Donald
Fountain**
Board Member



**Nita
Penn**
Board Member



**Nipuna
Ambanpola**
Executive Director



**Drashti
Patel**
*Chief Product
Officer*



**Tyler
D'Alto**
*Chief Finance
Officer*



**Thimal
Wickremage**
*Chief Operation
Officer*



**Tajae
Francis**
*Chief Development
Officer and Board
Member*



**Esther Brito
Ruiz**
Editor-in-Chief



**Anna Tin
Wai IP**
Sub-Editor

Looking into the future.

Moving forward into 2024 and beyond, we will prioritize four key elements. First, the launch and expansion of IVolunteerNow app and enterprise software. Second, building a model of financial sustainability. Third, transitioning to a full-time staff. Fourth, laying the foundation for organizational key performance indicators grounded in the sustainable development goals.

The next pivotal step for IVolunteer International is the **launch and expansion of our ecosystem: IVolunteerNow, IVolunteerGo, and IVolunteerMap**. These platforms are designed to synergize and enhance volunteer mobility in Georgia and beyond. The integration of these platforms will create a seamless user experience, making it easier for volunteers to find and participate in meaningful projects. Notably, IVolunteerGo is earmarked to generate revenue through a subscription model. This revenue stream is critical as it will fund further development, marketing efforts, and operational costs, propelling the organization towards long-term stability and growth.

To ensure our continued success, we will build a **robust model of financial sustainability**. This involves creating a comprehensive donor engagement and appreciation pipeline. Additionally, we will focus on creating valuable grant and investment opportunities for private sector partners. Prioritizing both seasonal and long-term approaches to development will allow us to adapt to changing circumstances while maintaining steady growth.

One of the critical steps towards realizing our vision is the hiring of a full-time staff.

The presence of **dedicated, full-time employees is essential for maintaining and advancing our technology solutions and other programs**. The reliability and expertise of full-time professionals will foster a stable and productive working environment, enabling us to achieve our strategic goals and expand our impact. In essence, investing in human resources is paramount to sustaining the momentum of IVolunteer International and ensuring the success of our initiatives.

To measure our progress and impact effectively, we will **establish key performance indicators (KPIs) for our programs and the entire organization**. These KPIs will be grounded in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aligning our efforts with global standards for sustainable development. By systematically measuring our performance against the SDGs, we can ensure that our programs are making a meaningful difference in communities worldwide and staying true to our mission.



Acknowledgements

Creating 8 billion volunteers is a bold vision. Our advocacy and accomplishments would not have been possible without a community of dedicated and passionate volunteers, donors, advisors, and partners. Our most heartfelt gratitude goes out to...

To our Board of Directors who continue to advocate, advise, and guide us at the highest level. They are our biggest believers and innovators.

To our donors and grantors for believing in our mission, impact, and aspirations and continuing to invest in us to mobilize volunteers in Georgia and beyond.

To our partners local and global for joining our movement and investing time, money, and resources to partner with us to advance the cause of volunteerism.

To the mighty volunteers who, despite challenges, contribute to their local community in their own way to move the needle to creating a better tomorrow for all of us.

We thank you for your continued support to make volunteering fun, easy, and equitable in Georgia and beyond.

Contact

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