



Network News: Happy Summer!



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Extreme Heat Message and Precautions

Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit, Get Involved

Summer is almost here. While we prepare to enjoy the warm weather, it's important to take precautions in case extreme heat strikes.

By evaluating your needs, you can plan for any heat related situation.

The following steps will prepare you to handle periods of extreme heat and the associated risks:

- Consider how potential power outages during periods of extreme heat might affect you. Plan to be temporarily self-sufficient if the electricity goes out. It's possible that you will not have access to a medical facility or a pharmacy.
- Identify the resources you use on a daily basis and what you can do if they are limited or not available. Make provisions for medications that require refrigeration, and plan arrangements to get to a cooling center, if needed.
- Think about what you need to maintain your health, safety, and independence. [Build A Kit](#) that includes any specialized items such as extra wheelchair batteries, oxygen, catheters, and medication. Also include non-perishable food and water, items for service animals and pets, a cooler, and anything else you might need.
- Check on family, friends, and neighbors who do not have air conditioning, especially those who spend much of their time alone, or are more likely to be affected by extreme heat.
- Be watchful for signs of heat stroke and dehydration. These include shallow breathing, a lack of perspiration, dizziness, dry mouth, and headaches.

The [HHS emPOWER Map 2.0](#) features the monthly total of Medicare beneficiaries with electricity-dependent equipment claims at the U.S. state, territory, county, and zip code level to identify the areas and populations that may be impacted and at risk for prolonged power outages.

For more information about extreme heat preparedness and tools, go to ready.gov/heat and cdc.gov.



NVG 2017 Breakout Sessions and Descriptions

We are excited to announce that this year's 2017 NVG Breakout Sessions have been chosen! [Click Here](#) for a detailed agenda of this year's 2017 National Village Gathering in Baltimore, MD November 6th-8th. We will be constantly updating the agenda so keep checking back for any new activities. If you haven't already registered, early bird registration ends July 31st. Be sure to get your discount and [click here](#) to register today. To see detailed breakout session descriptions and intended audiences, [click here](#). Our [conference page](#) links to all of these things as well as things to do in Baltimore, where to reserve your room, and a list of our sponsors.

Thank you to everyone who submitted a proposal for this year's NVG. We are thrilled with the high caliber presentations that were chosen for this year. We hope to see you in Baltimore!

Village Stories: Capital City Village House

Concerts

Capital City Village started hosting house concerts in 2013. As the name implies, these are intimate musical events hosted in private homes and they're very popular in many areas of the country. Given that Austin is the "live music capital of the world", it's only appropriate that Capital City Village should host these events in member homes in our city. We limit house concert attendance to forty guests and all proceeds go to the artists. Musicians love and appreciate house concerts because they are right there with the audience and frankly because house concerts pay well!

Capital City Village recently did a program survey with village members, and house concerts were very high on the list of favorites, along with coffees and happy hours! The village has featured local favorites like Butch Hancock, Danny Schmidt and Carrie Elkin, Warren Hood, and Betty Soo. Although the other artists were too young to qualify, we gave Butch Hancock an honorary village membership. His career has spanned over forty years and he has been called "one of the finest songwriters of our time". Butch and Danny Schmidt both share the distinction of being publicly compared to Bob Dylan. Austin village members have been grateful to hear such extraordinary talents in private homes, and the house concert atmosphere is always convivial. In fact, it's not always easy to get the participants back in their chairs after the break because so many conversations have broken out.

CCV hosts house concerts in member homes about once a quarter and our members have enjoyed meeting new as well as familiar artists and getting to know a lot more about their musical inspirations and writing style. There is always lots of food and drink and the house concerts are a great way to attract new village members and volunteers from the fan bases of the artists. If you'd like to know more about house concerts in general, check <http://www.concertsinyourhome.com/>

written by Bonnie Gilson



Audience at a Capital City Village House Concert

Village to Village Network: Supporting Villages and Village Supported

The Village to Village Network provides leadership, education, mentoring, and technical support nationally to more than 230 open Villages and an additional 130+ Villages that are somewhere in the development phase. Our movement continues to grow with the support, knowledge and expertise of all of our member Villages, staff and board of directors.

Over the past year, we have grown not only our Network members and open and developing Villages, but also our staff. We are now up to two full-time and one part-time staff with the addition of a Communications Manager in mid-2016. We've been able to maintain our expenses while increasing our workloads and the benefits provided. Our budget to administer and provide all of the resources we offer is \$342,000 for 2017. Our operating budget is derived from membership dues (30%), the National Village Gathering – which is also our biggest expense (30%), and other donations and small grants (40%).

VtV Network continues to offer and manage resources such as:

- Village Document Library containing 500+ samples of materials, including business plans, budget information, membership applications and much more.
- Active Discussion Forums that provide easy access for Villages to ask questions and share advice.
- Village 101 Toolkit, which is a step-by-step guide to starting a Village and links to dozens of helpful documents and resources.
- Monthly calls and webinars to learn about topics, products and procedures that are useful for starting and operating your Village.
- Organizing the National Village Gathering for 300+ attendees.
- Village Map, which helps people find your Village and allow your Village control over profile information.
- Membership Directory with contact information for other Villages.
- Expert advice from the Network.
- Speaking on behalf of Villages; spreading the word about the Village Movement.

In addition to those listed above we have added or will be adding the following benefits in 2016 and 2017:

- Two new monthly Technology calls, including one series created specifically for Village members.
- A more formalized mentoring program for both developing and existing Villages. We have a growing pool of mentors ready to help you with anything you need. We matched 22 mentor pairs in 2016 and will have many more in place this year.
- We have a newly updated website that is easier to access and provides more information.
- We're growing our social media presence to spread the word of all Villages across Facebook and Twitter.
- Formed a dedicated volunteer team to work on growing and expanding our strategic partnerships to benefit the Village Movement.

- Individual Google Ads, which could drive potential members to your website.

Over the next 2-3 years we expect to:

- Continue growing all our strategic partnerships.
- Create larger marketing and publicity campaigns to bring more awareness to all Villages and the Village Movement.
- Provide more support to growing regional Village groups.
- Put more resources into diversifying the Village Movement.
- Re-implement our Village Business Sustainability Grant program.

Our two-and-a-half staff members, along with support from our board, maintain all of the resources and the 300+ memberships that represent more than 2,400 total Village to Village Network members across the country. Membership dues fall short of covering all of the Network's operating cost. We close the gap with small grants, support from conference sponsors, donations from VtVN board members and other community supporters who believe in our work, which is why in the past few years and at past gatherings we have asked for additional Village or personal donations. We are grateful for all of the various support we receive and look forward to the future of the Village Movement.

We hope that as we move into the second half of this year you will continue to spread word of Villages nationally, as well as the importance of the Village to Village Network. We hope your Village or you as an individual will consider making a donation to help us fill our funding gap for 2017 and push us forward into a successful 2018.

Donate Today!

Village to Village Network is on Facebook! Like and follow us today. Help us spread word about the Village Movement by sharing this email with your friends! Click the links below to share on Facebook or Twitter or simply forward this email along. Please visit www.vtvnetwork.org for more information!



All donations to Village to Village Network are tax deductible to the fullest extent by state and federal laws.

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