



MEAF e-NEWS

July 2014

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Want to be a Mentor?

Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation is a proud supporter of [AccessSTEM Careers](#), a program through **DO-IT at the University of Washington**. This program introduces students with disabilities to STEM careers and works with career centers at local Seattle colleges to improve accessibility.

Employer on-line mentors address student questions and interests regarding career development, STEM academic programs, internships, and labor market trends. They will have access to student resumes, learn about good candidates for internships and jobs, and host work-based learning experiences.

[Learn how you can become an e-mentor](#)

GIVE Committee wins M.O.V.E. Award for Mitsubishi Olympics

"Igniting Change" Workshop Empowers ALL

On June 5-7th, employee volunteers from across the United States, including philanthropy representatives from Mitsubishi Electric Corporation in Tokyo, Japan, gathered to *ignite change* through philanthropy and volunteerism.

The **ECHO Committee, MEAA-Mason, OH** hosted **MEAF's 21st Annual Volunteer Leadership Workshop** where 60 guests watched the film *A Whole Lott More* and heard from speakers from [Project SEARCH](#), [Wilderness Inquiry](#), and [Easter Seals Building Ability Program](#). Participants also heard from fellow employees about successful volunteer projects and brainstormed ways to connect with MEAF's national projects, while incorporating MELCO's 5 philanthropic strategies, and even designing projects of their own!



MEAF is pleased to announce that the **GIVE Employee Volunteer Committee at MEAA-Garden Grove, CA** has been selected by a panel of judges to win this year's M.O.V.E. Award in recognition of their outstanding Mitsubishi Olympics event benefitting [Rancho Alamitos High School](#) and [Project Independence](#).

The fundraiser featured several sports like ping pong, golf, and soccer. The committee made sure all the events were accessible so students from both organizations could participate and sent home information about local transition opportunities that the students could share with their parents.



GIVE Committee members with MEAF Sr. Director Kevin Webb, MEUS and MEAF President Mr. Furukawa, and Employee Representatives Nicole Johnson and Caitlin Helgesen!

The award consists of a trophy for the committee and \$500 check for both organizations to continue their inclusion and transition efforts for youth with disabilities.

Five other committees nominated outstanding projects for this year's MOVE award competition. Congratulations to all the committees for their efforts to help make Changes for the Better.

[See past M.O.V.E. Award winners](#)

Mitsubishi Electric Volunteers at Easter Seals TriState with Project Search Students and Easter Seals staff.

The workshop included a local volunteer project at Easter Seals TriState where volunteers could roll up their sleeves and give back to the community. The project included mentoring, painting, gardening, and making items for the new sensory room.

We also had the pleasure of announcing the MOVE Award winner, **GIVE Committee from MEAA-Garden Grove, CA** and presenting 12 dedicated employee volunteers with the Presidential Service Award.

[Learn all about the MEAF Workshop by checking out this interactive presentation](#)

An outdoor adventure with Project WILD

On June 25th, MEAF Sr. Director **Kevin Webb** along with Son Park McBride from [The HSC Foundation](#), had the unique opportunity to participate in Great Outdoors America Week by canoeing on the Anacostia River in Washington, DC with 500 young people as part of [Wilderness Inquiry](#) (WI) Urban Canoe [Canoemobile](#) came to town.





Students in the *Young Entrepreneurs Project (YEP)* class through [Partners for Youth with Disabilities](#) learned how to make LED flashlights and even saw a 3D printer in action on a recent visit to **Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs in Cambridge, MA**. Photo shows employee and student interacting.



Volunteers from the **LOVE Committee at MEUS/Atlanta, GA** present a check for \$3,820 to the [Special Needs School of Gwinnett County](#).



MEAF Program Officer, **Tara Havlicek** walks with her husband for the [Children's Advocacy Center](#) raising money for abused children in the community.

MEAF Sr. Director, Kevin Webb, and Son Park from HSC Foundation on the water with Wilderness Inquiry

The canoeing experience followed on the heels of the MEAF-supported Project WILD program in Shenandoah National Park, which took Project SEARCH alumni from George Washington University on a weekend camping trip, where the interns could build self-confidence, develop their leadership skills, and learn about new career opportunities. Project SEARCH interns also joined in the Canoemobile adventure.

[Check out the Canoemobile Schedule](#)

[Learn about Project WILD in WI's 2013 Annual Report \(page 19\)](#)

Japanese Volunteers Give Back in Illinois

On June 3rd, a group of 24 Japanese expatriates from Mitsubishi Electric, US companies came together to give back to the community.

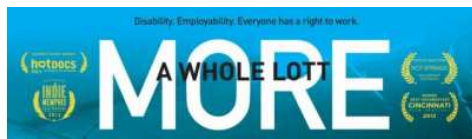


Top: Volunteers at John Powers School
Bottom Left: Volunteer trimming bushes
Bottom Center: Volunteer showing student how to write name in Japanese
Bottom Right: Volunteer and Student make origami together

A Whole Lott More - Learn More

MEAF screened the movie *A Whole Lott More* at the 2014 Volunteer Leadership Workshop in Mason, Ohio. The film focuses on employing people with disabilities.

The need for a wider range of employment options for people with developmental disabilities has never been greater. A Whole Lott More is a feature-length documentary film that will change the way you think about jobs for people with disabilities.



Interested in learning more about the film? Signing up for their newsletter?

[Check out the film's website](#)

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The expatriates learned about MEAF, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and participated in a volunteer project at the [John Powers Center](#) a school for students who are deaf and hard of hearing in the [Special Education District of Lake County \(SEDOL\)](#).

Volunteers went on a tour of the school, taught students how to make origami and write their names in Japanese. In return the students taught the volunteers how to fingerspell their names and some common ASL signs. Afterwards, the volunteers worked on the school's garden which was designed by a former John Powers student!

Disability Art Show in DC

Do you like art? Interested in seeing how a person's disability can be a source of pride and empowerment?

On July 29th, **2Gether International** brings you *A True Limitation*, an art exhibit that proves the only limitations for people with disabilities are society's perceptions of disability.

[Register Here and See for Yourself](#)

Deadlines and Reminders

National Grants

Mid year reports due August 31

Mitsubishi Electric Volunteer Committees

Employee Representative Nominations
due August 1

Starfishnet Call - August 13