



**MEAF e-NEWS**

**May 2013**

**In This Issue**

[Applications due June 1](#)  
[Bob's Blankie Brigade Wins Award](#)  
[Japanese Employees Give Back](#)  
[Racing for a Cause](#)  
[JobsFirst! of Manitowoc Visits DC](#)  
[The Volunteering Continues](#)  
[New AAPD Interns: The Beginning](#)  
[Deadlines and Reminders](#)

**Applications Due June 1!**

The [Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation](#) is currently accepting concept papers for National Projects that begin in January 2014 or later.

Proposed projects should respond to MEAF's vision to *empower youth with disabilities to lead productive lives*.



The deadline to receive applications is **June 1st**.

[Learn about our priorities and guidelines, take the eligibility quiz, and apply for a National Grant!](#)

**Bob's Blankie Brigade Wins Award**

**JobsFirst! of Manitowoc visits DC!**

On May 3rd, MEAF hosted 57 students, staff, and parents from Manitowoc County, Wisconsin in Washington, DC for the national debut of their new "JobsFirst!" campaign video. The video is designed to encourage employers to provide employment opportunities for people with significant disabilities.



Manitowoc Students, Staff, and Parents after their JobsFirst! presentation

The students presented a video, commercial, and personal testimonies at the U.S. Capitol building.

[Read the Press Release](#)  
[Watch the Video](#)

**Helaine Lobman**, a Mitsubishi Electric Employee and Officer on MEAF's Board of Directors recently received the 2013 *Cherish the Children Award* for her non-profit, [Bob's Blankie Brigade](#).

The goal of Bob's Blankie Brigade is to provide seriously ill children and adults with a knitted, crocheted, or quilted blanket, which symbolizes comfort and warmth during their hospital stay.

As of the end of 2012, Bob's Blankie Brigade has delivered 1014 blankies and 932 premie and chemo caps and has volunteers in 15 states: Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

[Read the entire article here](#)

### Japanese Employees Give Back

On May 23rd, a group of 30 Japanese Expatriates from **Mitsubishi Electric U.S.** companies came together to give back to the community.

The expatriates learned about MEAF, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and participated in a volunteer project at the [Woodlands Foundation](#) where they were painting and planting to prepare the site for its next round of campers!

## The Volunteering Continues!

Last month, we told you about our Mitsubishi Electric employees, friends, and family members who participated in volunteer projects for National Volunteer Month that benefited children with disabilities and the environment.

We'd like to keep that trend going and feature two additional volunteer projects.

The **ACTiVE Committee from MEUS/Cypress, CA** partnered with the **Green Team** to volunteer at the [HOPE School](#) and plant flowers in their garden with the help of students and staff. This vocational garden helps teach students vocational skills.



ACTiVE Volunteer works with HOPE School student in the garden.

24 volunteers from the **VISION Committee at MEAU/Vernon Hills, IL**, including MEAU president **Mr. Kawai** and Tara Havlicek from MEAF, participated in *Global Youth Service Day* at [Sunrise Lake Outdoor Education Center](#) in Bartlett, IL. Volunteers built flower beds, raked gravel, constructed a canoe classroom, and completed a new fence to benefit the children with disabilities that visit the camp.



Japanese Employees work with the **HOPE Committee at MEPPi/Warrendale** to paint benches!

### Racing for a Cause

Our employee volunteers care about their health and their communities.

Employees from the **HOPE Committee at MEPPi/Warrendale, PA** participated in the Pittsburgh Marathon on Sunday, May 5th. To raise money for charity the 24 employees ran for [Family Services of Western Pennsylvania](#), [Genre's Kids with Cancer Fund](#), and [Children's Hospital Foundation](#).

With their fundraising efforts HOPE was able to donate nearly \$6,000 to support the runners in their racing efforts and the charities they supported.

Congratulations to all our runners and Thank You for making a difference!



Top: VISION Volunteers at Sunrise Lake

Bottom: MEAU President, Mr. Kawai

[Learn More about Mitsubishi Electric Volunteers On the M.O.V.E.](#)

## New AAPD Interns: The Beginning

The [American Association of People with Disabilities](#) welcomed the 2013 class of 30 summer interns with disabilities to the nation's capitol this month.



Celebrating its 12th year, the *AAPD Summer Internship Program* builds on the MEAF-AAPD Congressional Internship Program established in 2001. MEAF is joined by Walmart to support this effort.

AAPD provides internship opportunities in Congress and federal agencies for these outstanding students, who help shape public policy, while dispelling myths about people with disabilities.

Note: Stay tuned for more exciting intern news next month when we share information from the *Youth in*



Volunteers from the **LOVE Committee at MEUS/Suwanee, GA** participate in the [American Cancer Society's Relay for Life](#) and raise money for cancer research!

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America Foundation**

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[View our videos on YouTube](#) 

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*Development* program MEAF is supporting with [US International Council on Disabilities \(USICD\)](#)!

[Meet the 2013 AAPD Class](#)

## Deadlines and Reminders

### National Grants

Applications due June 1st

Full Proposals due July 1st

### Mitsubishi Electric Volunteer Committees

Quarterly Reports due July 9th

**2013 MEAF Volunteer Leadership  
Workshop - June 14-15**