Volunteer to join VOICES of the Staff Network Teams

Q. What is VOICES?
A. VOICES of the Staff, conceived in 2005, is a formalized program that gathers the thoughts and ideas about significant campus-wide employee issues from regular, non-temporary, staff members across all campuses. It provides direct communication between staff members and U-M's executive leadership on those issues. The communication is two-way, also serving as an executive officer's sounding board on issues affecting staff.

Q. Why do you need more volunteers?
A. Employees sign up for two-year terms, so as each year concludes some members leave the team. This creates opportunities for new members to get involved. Approximately 40 UMHS employees will participate for the next two-year rotating term.

Q. If I want to join VOICES of the Staff for the upcoming year, what topics will I be working with?
A. In the 2010 – 2011 year, the following six Network Teams are in place:
   · Benefits, Health and Well Being
   · Career Development
   · Environmental Stewardship
   · Leadership Development
   · Technology/Best Practices
   · Work Climate

Q. What if I want to work on one of these topics? Do I need my supervisor's approval? What is the commitment?
A. The Network will be comprised of approximately 100 staff members from all campuses divided into six groups - one for each topic. The meeting times vary (but are always during the day shift), and most groups meet once a month for about 90 minutes. The electronic application is at http://www.voices.umich.edu/networkapplication.php for you to express your interest in one of these groups. Please READ IT CAREFULLY. You will need your supervisor's approval -- your supervisor's endorsement is required to process the application form.

Q. How do I apply? What is the deadline?
A. This year's application is in electronic format and can be accessed at: http://www.voices.umich.edu/networkapplication.php. Complete your application and have your supervisor submit their endorsement to staff.voices@umich.edu by March 31, 2010.

Q. When will I know if I’ve been selected?
A. Staff members will be notified by mid-April, and will be invited to attend the VOICES Annual Meeting (all day) June 4, 2010 to join their team.

Q. What if I have more questions?
A. If you have any questions about the VOICES program, visit the VOICES Web site, at www.voices.umich.edu or contact Kelly (nakelly@med.umich.edu) or Nancy Dashner (nanthomp@med.umich.edu or 647-0553). The application is available online at http://www.voices.umich.edu/networkapplication.php.