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Thursday, April 2, 2009

Nonprofit chamber plans volunteer expo

Wichita Business Journal - by [Josh Heck](#)

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The **Nonprofit Chamber of Service** is hosting a volunteer fair Sunday at **Towne East Square**.

Wichita residents will be invited to learn about summer volunteer opportunities with local nonprofit organizations.

The volunteer expo comes at the same time the **United Way of the Plains** is conducting a survey of local nonprofits to gauge the affect of the current economic recession on social services.

“United Way is concerned about the demand for services needed by the most vulnerable in our community,” said Patrick Hanrahan, president of United Way of the Plains, in a statement.

Nonprofit executives say the economic downturn has increased the need for services and volunteers to help provide them.

That’s why the volunteer expo is important, says Perry Schuckman, executive director of the Nonprofit Chamber of Service.

“Nationally, nonprofit organizations are seeing a surge in volunteers who realize that there is a need for community service during the economic downturn,” he says.

The expo will feature about 40 nonprofit organizations, including human services, arts, education, recreation and museums.

Some of the local nonprofits participating are:

- **Senior Services Inc.**
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters** of Sedgwick County.
- Envision.
- Wichita Children's Home.
- **Starkey Inc.**

The expo is from noon to 6 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

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