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**1,200 VOLUNTEERS UNITE ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2008
FOR BE THE CHANGE DAY**

*HandsOn Bay Area Brings Together Volunteers Across the Bay Area for
Tenth Annual Day of Service*

SAN FRANCISCO – September 11, 2008 – HandsOn Bay Area will host its tenth annual Bay-Area-wide day of service on September 13th. Inspired by a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, *Be The Change Day* is one of the largest days of volunteerism in the Bay Area with 1,200 volunteers expected. Twenty-one service projects will span Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Volunteers will garden, paint and clean at several under-served schools, parks, and homeless shelters. Projects will benefit local organizations including Save The Bay, San Francisco Unified School District, Oakland Unified School District and The Salvation Army. A complete list of projects is available online at www.hoba.org.

“In the Bay Area, the needs of our community are visible to us almost everywhere we go. On *Be The Change Day*, HandsOn Bay Area brings people together to respond to those needs we see every day – its a chance to put your compassion to work through volunteer action.” said Lou Reda, Interim Executive Director for HandsOn Bay Area.

This year, a *pro bono* viral e-mail recruitment campaign created by Ogilvy, San Francisco resulted in a 24% increase in volunteer registrations.

This day of volunteering is made possible by the generous support of Kaiser Permanente, Accenture, The Moody’s Foundation, The Home Depot, Walmart.com, Advent Software, Gunderson Dettmer, KPMG and Symantec. *Be The Change Day* is a proud partner of United Way’s Week of Caring, a Bay Area-wide effort to engage 10,000 volunteers in one amazing week (9/8-9/13).

About HandsOn Bay Area

HandsOn Bay Area (HOBA) creates opportunities for people to volunteer, learn and lead in their communities. With 120 direct-service projects per month, HOBA offers educational programming to help volunteers become well-informed community leaders. Through its Hands at Work program, HOBA designs and manages employee volunteer projects for corporations that want to give back. www.hoba.org