

New MAVA Benefit

As professional administrators of volunteer programs, we are well aware of the potential risks involved in volunteer management, careful screening of prospective volunteers is a crucial part of any risk management program and is vital to the success of our programs. Screening of prospective volunteers begins with a carefully crafted volunteer description and includes functions such as telephone screening, interviewing, checking personal/professional references, and conducting a criminal background check. Criminal background checks can be expensive and time consuming. The usual cost for a Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) check alone is fifteen dollars and can take from two to four weeks to receive results via the U.S. mail.

MAVA is pleased to announce a new member benefit—a special group rate for background checks conducted by The McDowell Agency, Inc. The McDowell Agency, Inc., is a leader in the field of background screening. They are licensed by the Minnesota Board of Private Detectives and Protective Agent Services and have over 25 years experience. Their specialty is working with the nonprofit sector. MAVA and The McDowell Agency, Inc. have developed a special group-purchasing rate on two basic packages exclusively for MAVA members. The first package consists of a BCA record check, review of the National Sex Offender Registry and USA Criminal Index, which searches the department of corrections in all 50 states and contains almost 600 million records nationwide. This package is available to MAVA members for \$10 per background check. A second, more comprehensive package consisting of the components in package one in addition to a Social Security/Address Trace and County Criminal Record Search is available for \$20 per check. MAVA members can make requests and access results on-line, typically within 48 hours.

To welcome MAVA members, The McDowell Agency, Inc. is making the second package available at a reduced cost of \$15 for a 12 month period to all MAVA members who sign up by March 31, 2006. A number of organizations, including Ramsey County have already taken advantage of this great offer.

Additional services are available ala carte at special prices for MAVA members. This special MAVA pricing is also extended to your organization's Human Resources Department for pre-employment screening. Participation in this member benefit is optional and is a decision that members must make based on the needs of their organizations.

To request a copy of MAVA's reference check on The McDowell Agency, Inc., contact Mary Capuzzi at 651-266-4015 or by e-mail to: mary.capuzzi@co.ramsey.mn.us

To take advantage of this great new benefit, or to request additional information from The McDowell Agency, Inc. please contact:

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