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## Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk  
at 2-4357

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Editor's Note: Metro volunteers provide safety, anti-vandalism and public transit ridership messages at community events. Volunteers come from all divisions and departments and will typically participate at public events on their personal time. Volunteers also may be asked to speak at school career days, help in neighborhood cleanup drives, and walk or ride in parades. Metro employees interested in volunteer opportunities, can get more information at the Metro Volunteers table outside the cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Dec. 19. For more information, call Rich Morallo at 922-2338.

## Metro Volunteers Like Face-to-Face Interaction with the Public

- These employees spend personal time in volunteer work



Customer Service Officer Alan Gee talks with customers at the Compton Pride Day event.



Stenographer Ida Brown talks about bus safety with a youngster at the Action/Brotherhood Crusade Back to School Fair.

By RICH MORALLO

(Dec. 15, 2005) On weekends, Alan Gee typically runs around town taking care of errands. Dixie Dorsett studies for her graduate degree, and Michael Walton stays close to home checking e-mails from friends and relatives.

But Gee, Dorsett and Walton, along with Ida Brown and other staff members, periodically spend part of their weekends as volunteers helping out at Metro community outreach events throughout Los Angeles.

At the recent Compton Pride Day, Gee spent a couple of hours standing behind a Metro information table and answering questions from local residents.

"I volunteered to help out that Saturday because I wanted to meet our customers face-to-face and interact with the community," said Gee, a Customer Service officer.

Administrative Analyst Dorsett found herself at the USC Exposition Park on another weekend at the Mothers in Action/Brotherhood Crusade Back to School Fair.



Administrative Analyst Dixie Dorsett, in white blouse, helps a customer during the Action/Brotherhood Crusade Back to School Fair.

**Wanted 'to get involved'**

"I volunteer to get involved in the community, meet other agency staff members from other departments and most importantly, to mentor youth volunteers," said Dorsett, who had brought along some high school students to help at the Metro booth.



Transportation Operations Supervisor participated in the Parole Outpatient Clinic.

Walton worked with other Metro volunteers at the annual King Drew Jazz and Health Festival where hundreds of families passed by the booth.

"This festival is a golden opportunity to meet interesting people, obtain information about health, and listen to some good music," said Walton, a transportation operations supervisor.

Volunteer assignments include speaking engagements such as the one Walton accepted when he spoke about the benefits of using public transportation at the Parole Outpatient Clinic in downtown Los Angeles.

Throughout the year, many Metro staff members give up personal time on the weekends to go into their communities and help promote the agency. They do it for different reasons – to talk about transit and safety, promote ridership, meet the public and practice communications skills.

Whatever the motivation, perhaps Ida Brown, a stenographer at Arthur Winston Divison 5 explained it best. "I can't remember the actual reason, but I felt good after I did it."