

PowerNet Global Mobilizes Employees in Support of Matthew 25: Ministries

Company leaders expand employee volunteer program in celebration of 20-year anniversary.

CINCINNATI, OH – February 7, 2013 – PowerNet Global, a veteran of the telecommunications industry for more than 20 years and well known for its support of local charities, included giving back to the community as part of its 20-year anniversary celebration. Through a partnership with Matthew 25: Ministries, more than 60 employees helped PowerNet Global give back by volunteering at the ministry.

Every year, the company's Charitable PTO Program provides employees with a paid day off from work to use for volunteering. "We wanted to do something bigger for our anniversary," explains Allison Stevens, chief operating officer. "So we offered an additional charitable PTO day to volunteer as a group at Matthew 25: Ministries. We selected Matthew 25 because we support the organization's mission to serve the poor locally and around the world."

An initial group of employees volunteered during a four-day period this fall. The group processed 800 gallons of paint – enough to paint about 150 houses – and saved roughly 1600 cans of paint from landfill, according to Joodi Archer, community liaison for Matthew 25: Ministries.

"Companies like PowerNet Global that offer incentives to their staff to act on a corporate culture of social responsibility are a valued asset to Matthew 25: Ministries," Archer notes. "By encouraging their employees to have a positive impact on the environment, the community, the country and the world, they make a statement about their culture and about their larger vision for their employees both in a business and a personal setting."

PowerNet Global's support of Matthew 25: Ministries grew unexpectedly in November, answering the ministry's need for Hurricane Sandy relief assistance. A second group of employees took the opportunity to give back, including a handful from the first volunteer group, who used either their remaining Charitable PTO day or their own PTO to volunteer a second time. "PowerNet Global is blessed as a business, and we are compelled to give back to the community," Stevens notes. "We were extremely gratified to give our employees this opportunity of time to share in our giving."

Stevens says the company provides its employees opportunities throughout the year to give back to their community, regularly supporting approximately 15 separate charities, including the American Heart Association, Crayons to Computers, Fairfield Food Pantry, The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and City Gospel Mission.

"We hope to carry out what our founder, Bernie Stevens, has wanted for this company from the beginning, which is to be God's instrument for distributing our earnings back to Him through support of various charitable organizations," Stevens says.

About PowerNet Global

Celebrating more than 20 years as a leader in the industry and achievement as a multi-award winning company, PowerNet Global is a premier provider of high-quality voice, data, SIP, and managed communications services to commercial and residential customers nationwide. Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, PowerNet Global has achieved consistent growth by developing and marketing an expanding array of competitive products and maintaining a clear focus on delivering unrivaled service to its partners and customers.

About Matthew 25: Ministries

<u>Matthew 25: Ministries</u> is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping the poorest of the poor locally, regionally, nationally and internationally regardless of race, creed or political persuasion. By rescuing and reusing products from major corporations and manufacturers, Matthew 25: Ministries provides basic necessities, educational materials, skill development opportunities and disaster relief across the United States and worldwide.

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