

# Demonstrating the social and business impact of your employee volunteering

A webcast for the Corporate Volunteer Council of Greater Boston

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April 11, 2014



#### Session objectives

- Learn the steps and the best practices for measuring the social value of your employee volunteer program
- Learn the steps and the best practices for measuring the business value of your employee volunteer program
- Leave with a actionable feasible next steps to improving your current measurement efforts



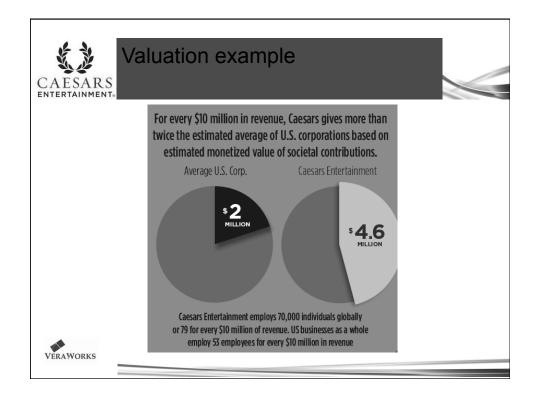
### Agenda

- Intro
- Options for measuring social impact of employee volunteering
- Steps to measuring business impact of employee volunteering
- Closure

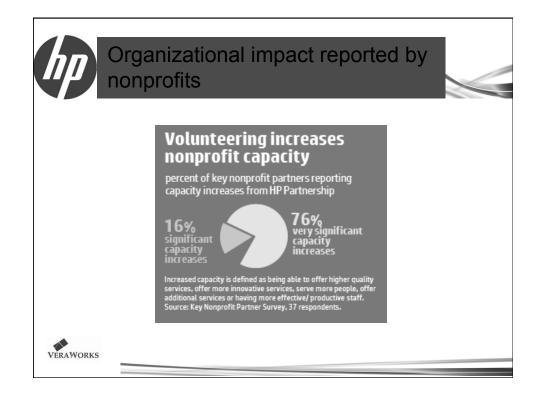


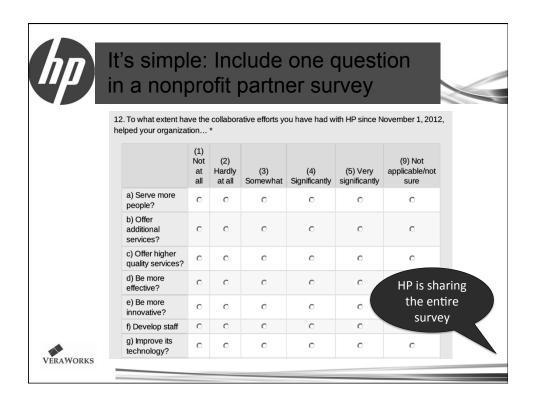
# Options for measuring societal benefits Option 1: Monetary valuation based on hours Next

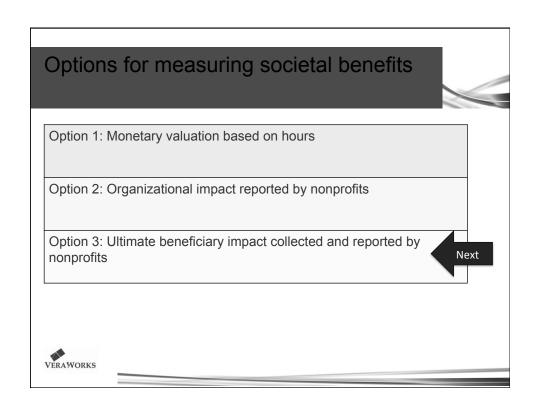




# Options for measuring societal benefits Option 1: Monetary valuation based on hours Option 2: Organizational impact reported by nonprofits Next







#### Options for measuring societal benefits

Option 1: Monetary valuation based on hours

Option 2: Organizational impact reported by nonprofits

Option 3: Ultimate beneficiary impact collected and reported by nonprofits



Option 4: Ultimate beneficiary impact collected and reported by a third party evaluator



# Ultimate beneficiary impact collected by third party

#### **FINDINGS**

Greater postsecondary enrollment

9% more

Linked Learning students attended four-year postsecondary education, compared to their peers.

Increased income after high school
Male students participating in programs
combining academics and career
progrations earned

\$10,000 MORE

in the four years following high school.

**72%** of Linked Learning students agree:

"I know a lot about college and career planning."

Higher high school graduation rates
of 12th-grade students in
California Partnership
Academies graduated

compared to 85% of 12th-grade students statewide.



Source: James Irvine Foundation

### Agenda

- Intro
- Measuring social impact
- · Measuring business impact





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#### Poll

In six months, will you be able to give the business return on investment (ROI) for your employee volunteer program?

- o Definitely not
- o Probably not
- o Probably
- Definitely



## Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteer program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help OR

Step 3b: measure it yourself

Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups

Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI



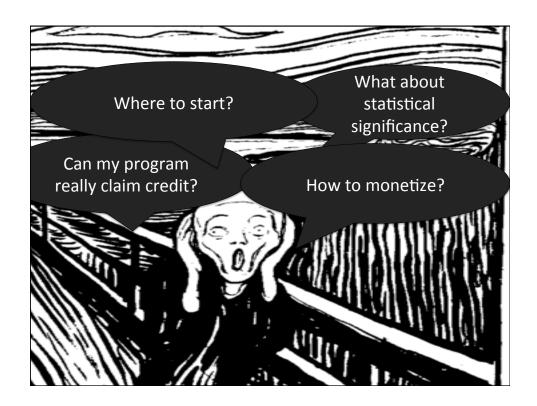
#### Definition: ROI ratio

- ROI ratio is a monetary comparison of the value of the results and the value of the investment
- Formula:

ROI ratio =
Business impact, monetized
Monetary investment









### Can you...?

- ☐ Make educated guesses
- ☐ Cut and paste
- ☐ Send Bea an email
- ☐ Add, subtract, multiply and divide (with help from an electronic gadget)
- ☐ Subtotal in Excel





# Step 1: Select business outcome(s) you will measure

#### Consider 1st:

• Employee engagement, morale, pride

#### Consider 2<sup>nd</sup>:

- · Employee retention
- · Employee teamwork

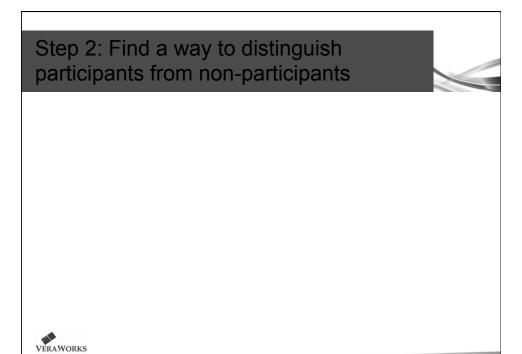
#### Consider 3rd:

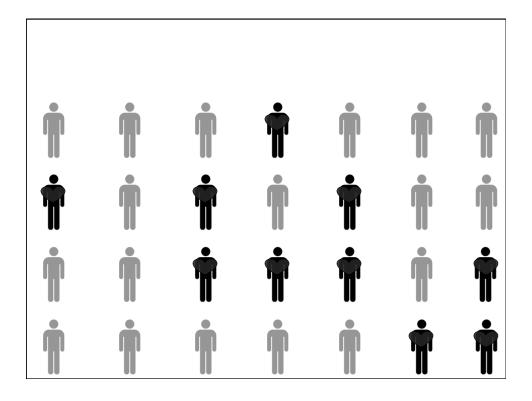
· Reputation, brand, sales, customer loyalty

#### Consider 4th:

Other business impact your company cares about and your program can reasonably be expected to deliver on it.

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What is the level of employee engagement employees who don't participate in the signature program?

What is the level of customer loyalty in those un aware of our signature program?

As compared to those who do?

As compared to those are aware?

# Step 2: Find a way to distinguish participants from non-participants

- Come up with two groups: those who are touched by the community involvement ("participants") and those who aren't ("non-participants").
- Most common and easy way: Question in a survey asking them to select their level of involvement.
- Other ways: Location that has a program versus one that doesn't, data collected by the company



# Separating "participants" from "non" in employees

This question will do the trick for employee community engagement / volunteering (modify for other programs):

What was your level of involvement with employee volunteering organized by [company name] or [company name] employees in the last 12 months?

- o I was not aware of any employee volunteer events
- o I was aware of employee volunteer events but did not participate in any
- o I participated in one employee volunteer event but did
- o not organize it
- I participated in two or more employee volunteer events but did not organize any
- o I organized or helped organize one or more employee volunteer events



## Separating "participants" from "non" in external stakeholders

This question will do the trick:

What is your level of awareness of [brief description of your employee volunteer program] prior to this survey?

- I was not aware of if
- I was vaguely aware of it
- o I was very aware of it
- I have witnessed it first-hand

[adjust categories as necessary]

Note: This question should be asked *after* the brand, reputation and other outcome questions.



# Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteer program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure ✔

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants ✔

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help

OR

Step 3b: measure it yourself

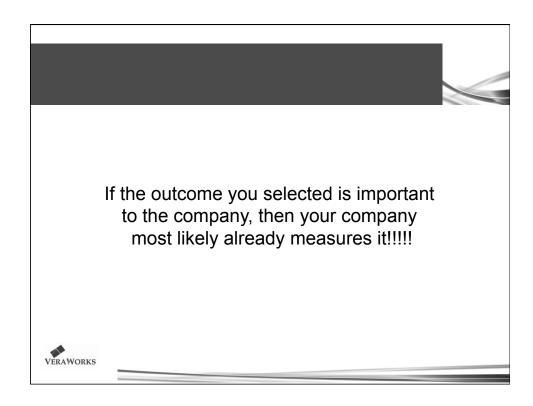
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups

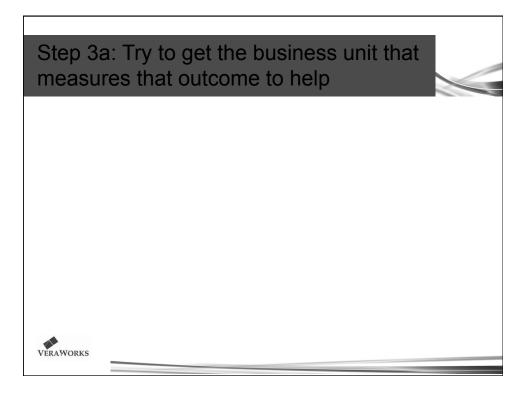
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI



If the outcome you selected is important to the company...







## Step 3a: Invite involvement of the appropriate business unit

Academic research and leading company measurement find that employee volunteering is associated with higher employee engagement:

- Harvard Business School research found that companies with more corporate social responsibility practices significantly outperform their counterparts over the long-term, both in terms of stock market and accounting performance.
- Several companies have found statistically significant correlations between employee community engagement participation/awareness and employee engagement and morale including Aetna, Bank of America, HP and UL (Underwriters Laboratories)...

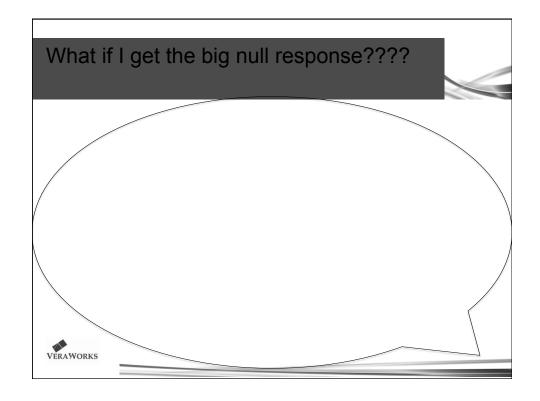


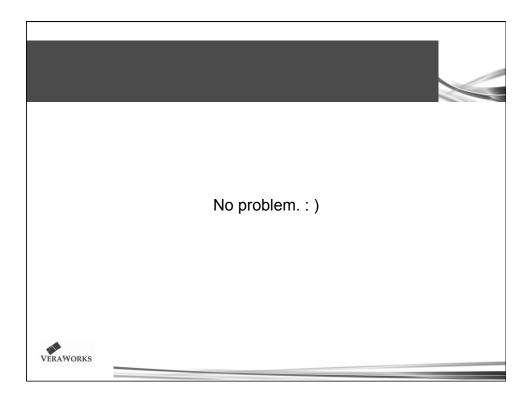
# Step 3a: Invite involvement of the appropriate business unit - continued

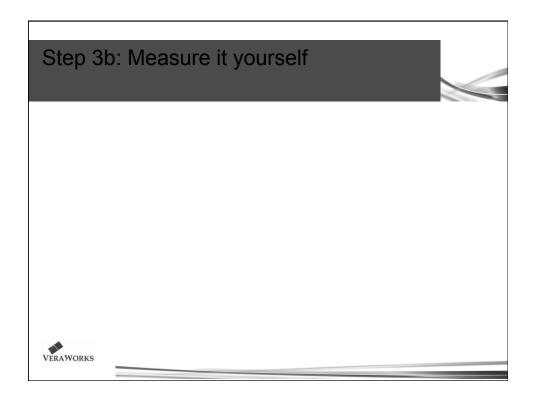
... We would like hold the employee volunteer program accountable to business benefits. We can distinguish individuals who participated in this program from those who didn't with a question similar to one used by HP and other companies (attached). Would you help us proceed in measuring the level of employee engagement in participants versus non-participants?



#### Step 3a: Invite involvement of the appropriate business unit – the template Academic research and leading company measurement find that employee volunteering is associated with higher [insert selected business outcome(s) from step 1]. For example: [insert relevant bullets from BusinessCaseEmployee Volunteer Program document - footnotes and all!] We would like hold our program accountable to We gave business benefits. We can identify individuals who you the participated in this program and those who didn't by business [description of step 2]. Would you help us proceed in case measuring the level of [insert outcome] in participant bullets versus non-participants? VERAWORKS







#### Step 3b: Measure it yourself - example

Survey both groups and include:

- Question to distinguish participants from nonparticipants: "What was your level of involvement with employee volunteer events organized by Corp X or Corp X employees in the last 12 months]?" [response categories]
- Question on the employee engagement: "I am motivated to go above and beyond what my job requires to help this company succeed." (1-5 scale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=somewhat agree, 4=agree, 5=strongly

agree)

#### Step 3b: Measure it yourself - template

Survey both groups and include:

- Question to distinguish participants from non-participants provided earlier
- Question on your outcome of interest from "Common Indicators for Measuring the Business Impact of employee volunteering" document

HP is sharing the entire survey "Common Indicators" are provided



# Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteer program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure ✔

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants ✔

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help OR

Step 3b: measure it yourself ✔

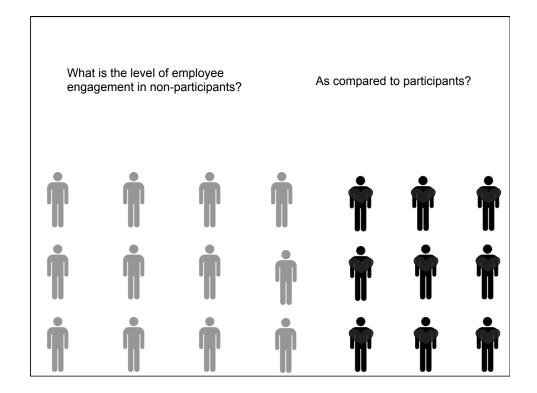
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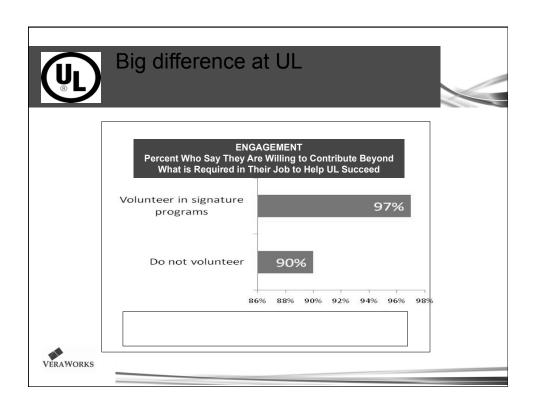
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI

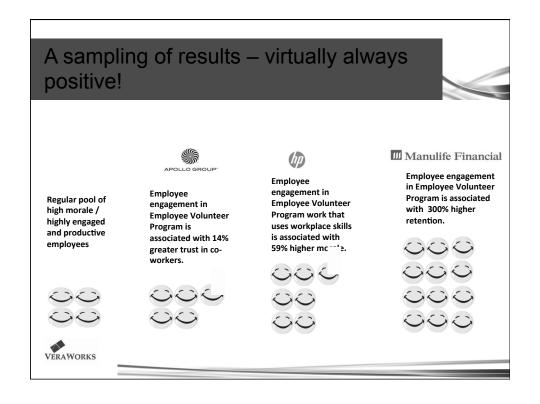


# Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups











#### Statistical significance

- Believe it or not, it's possible for the difference between your two groups to not be "a real difference." This is less more likely if you collected data from few individuals and if the difference between the two groups is small.
- There is a procedure statisticians use to determine whether a difference is real or not. It's called a significance test.

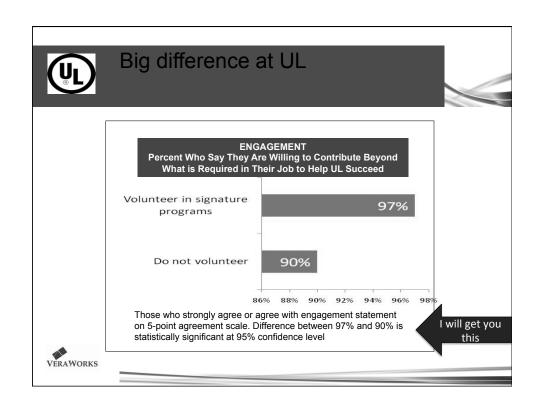


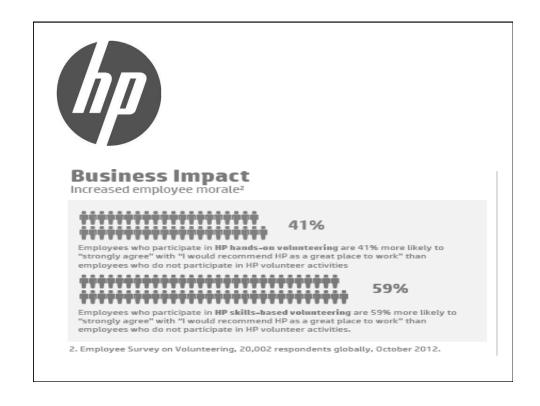
## Your lifetime statistical significance solution



 Statistical significance hot line: Contact Bea at 717-414-2885 or bea@veraworks.com anytime. She will conduct the statistical significance calculation for you and get you the statement you can legitimately claim.







# Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteer program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure ✔

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants ✔

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help OR

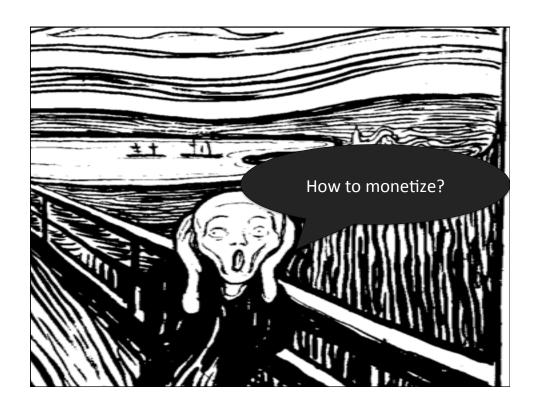
Step 3b: measure it yourself ✔

Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups ✓

Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI

Next





#### Step 5: Monetize the outcome



#### Steps to monetizing

- Monetizing a business outcome that the business cares about is rarely necessary – they already know how valuable it is!
- Nevertheless, the corporate sector has measured the bottom-line impact of practically everything loyal customers, employee morale, retention... This means that you can convert your business outcome into a monetary figure using this information see "Conversion Factors to Estimate the Bottom-Line Monetary Value of a Business Impact" (Don't see the one you need? Contact Bea!)



Monetization factors are provided for key outcomes

## Review: Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteering

#### Program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure ✓

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants ✔

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help OR

Step 3b: measure it yourself ✔

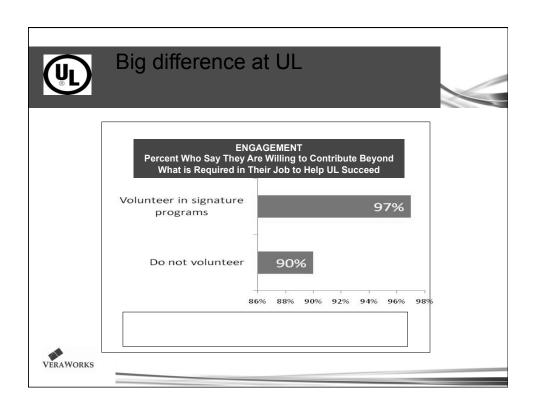
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups ✓

Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI ✔



# How UL measured impact on engagement

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure	Employee engagement
Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants	Self-selection survey
Step 3a: Get business unit that measures that outcome to measure it (in both groups) OR Step 3b: measure outcome yourself	Did 3b – Did their own survey and used a version of question in "Common Indicators" document
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups	Difference was there
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI	Used monetization conversion factor in "Monetizing Impact"



How Manulife Financial measured impact on retention		
Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure	Retention	
Step 2: Distinguish participants from non- participants	Self-selection survey	
Step 3a: Get business unit that measures that outcome to measure it (in both groups) OR Step 3b: measure outcome yourself	Did 3b – did their own survey and used a version of question in "Common Indicators" document	
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups	Difference was there	
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI	Used monetization conversion factor in "Monetizing Impact"	

Manulife Financial

# What Manulife Financial is able to say

Employees who participate in company employee volunteering are over 300% more likely to stay with the company



How New Balance measured impact on sales		
Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure	Sales	
Step 2: Distinguish participants from non- participants	Running events where New Balance is present as a sponsor/partner versus those where it is not	
Step 3a: Get business unit that measures that outcome to measure it (in both groups) OR Step 3b: Measure outcome yourself	Did 3a - Marketing helped	
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups	Significantly more sales for events with New Balances' Employee Volunteer Program (participants) versus not	
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI	A matter of plugging numbers in	

How HP measure reputation	ed impact on
Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure	Reputation
Step 2: Distinguish participants from non- participants	Survey respondents identified themselves as aware of HP's Employee Volunteer Program or not
Step 3a: Get business unit that measures that outcome to measure it (in both groups) OR Step 3b: Measure outcome yourself	Did 3a – Outside firm
Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups	5% higher company reputation for participants versus non-participants
Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI	No need



## What HP is able to say

We have empirical data showing that HP's community engagement improved reputation to a statistically significant degree



## Review: Steps to measuring business benefits of your employee volunteering

#### Program

Step 1: Select business outcome(s) to measure ✓

Step 2: Distinguish participants from non-participants ✔

Step 3a: Get the business unit that measures that outcome to help OR

Step 3b: measure it yourself ✔

Step 4: Look at the difference in outcome measured between the two groups  $\checkmark$ 

Step 5: Monetize the difference and get ROI ✔

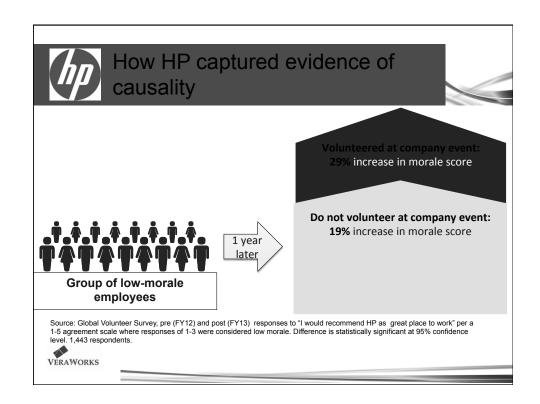


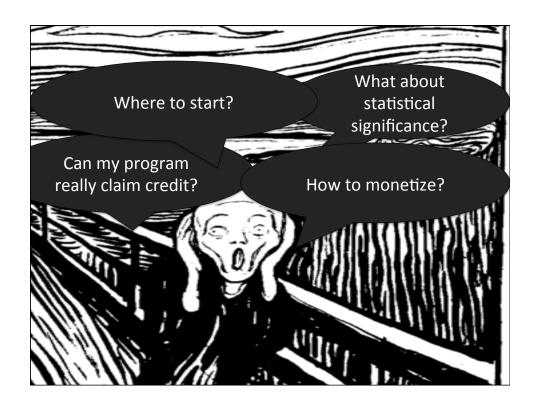


## How do I know the outcomes are attributable to my program?

- You don't (with this methodology), but you likely don't need to. Causal proof is rarely necessary the business context.
   Typically a compelling case (use the business case document to build yours) backed with some empirical evidence is enough to inform decision makers.
- Nevertheless, it's not complex for someone with research skills to answer the causality question. They just need to:
  - Follow the steps for two years (to get pre and post data in addition to participant and non participant data) by employee and you likely have experimental design OR









#### Poll

In six months, will you be able to give the business return on investment (ROI) for your employee volunteer program?

- o Definitely not
- o Probably not
- o Probably
- o Definitely



