

Possible Group Volunteer Opportunities

(Projects depend upon current community needs & agency availability. Here are just a few ideas!)

Activity aides - decorate bulletin boards, lead exercise groups, assist with crafts, play games, discuss current events, host picnics or cooking groups, dip and deliver ice cream to older adults in nursing homes, etc.

Client activities - plan & implement a picnic for seniors or children; take a group of children to the zoo; provide make-overs for women getting back into the work force; host a track & field day for youth; play games or read a book with seniors; host a facility bingo game for a nursing home; or take a group of children fishing.

Collections - hold a drive for food, clothing, school supplies, personal care items for individuals in emergency shelters, baby layette items, fun kits for children, & many more.

Entertainers - put on puppet performances for a group of children, entertain older adults in a nursing home or hospital by doing short plays, caroling, putting on a magic or musical shows, singing, and by being a clown.

Environment - staff a recycling center. Duties include receiving & sorting materials and distribute informational pamphlets to patrons.

Food pantries - sort and repackage non-perishable food items for distribution to emergency assistance agencies.

Grounds clean-up/landscaping - enhance the appearance of an agency or clients' home by picking up trash, raking, mowing, weeding, or by planting flowers or shrubs.

Inside cleaning/organizing - dust shelves, clean window blinds, sort & organize food donations, wash windows, clean classrooms, sanitize toys & play surfaces, or assist with various other basic house cleaning items.

Minor home repairs/construction - perform minor repairs for low-income, elderly, or disabled clients; build additional storage space for an agency; replace carpeting; or work at a construction site.

Office support - assist with mass mailings - fold, stuff, & seal envelopes; put together packets or workbooks; organize, re-arrange, & alphabetize files; make posters; or assist with recruiting donors via telephone.

Painting - scrape, sand, & paint a clients' home, an agency, or a school.

Parties - host a holiday, birthday or seasonal party for adults with mental retardation, seniors, or children.

Soup kitchens/prepare meals - provide and prepare meals; serve meals & assist with clean-up. (Note: there is a waiting list for most soup kitchens, so please call in advance).

Special events - assist walk-a-thons, telethons, galas, benefit auctions, golf tournaments, chili suppers, or holiday & community festivals.

Thrift Stores - sort, price, and hang/shelve donated clothing & supplies. Additional opportunities may include running the cash register and assisting customers.

Weatherization - weatherize homes of identified low-income families or elderly; includes weather-stripping, caulking, applying window plastic, & wrapping water heaters.

For additional information on group volunteer opportunities, please contact Shelly Bolling-Strickland at the United Way of Greater Kansas City Volunteer Center at 816.559.4667 or ShellyStrickland@uwgkc.org

