Volunteer Opportunities

Every student in grades 9-12 are required to complete **8 hours** of volunteer service hours per school year. Forms must be completed and turned into the HS office after service is completed. Forms are available at the HS office.

Requirements for Volunteer Service are 1) a need is met, 2) no compensation is involved, 3) it is done for a group/organization (not for a family member), and 3) it is completed outside of school hours. Below are some ideas/opportunities to consider in order to complete your service hours.

Various Volunteer Opportunities

The below websites are continually updated by organizations that have volunteer needs. You can search by interest and/or date(s). This is a great resource for finding the right volunteer opportunity for you.

<u>www.volunteermatch.org</u> <u>http://volunteer.phila.gov</u> <u>https://www.teenlife.com/category/volunteer/volunteer-philadelphia/</u>

Volunteer Ideas

There are numerous ways in which you can complete your hours. Many organizations would love to have a volunteer come in and help in a variety of capacities. Often it just takes your initiative. So think about what type of organization you would like to volunteer for, complete an online search for local organizations, and make some calls. Below are some ideas that you can seek out yourself:

Nursing Home Second-Hand Stores Pet Shelters

Orphanage Church Events/Programs Homeless Shelters

Youth Recreation Leagues Hospitals Non-profit Organizations

Race Volunteers Soup Kitchens Community Events/Clean-ups

CCA Athletics

CCA Athletics is in need of volunteers to help out with soccer games after school. Please email cgeorge@ccphilly.org or stop by and speak with Mrs. George in the Athletic office for more information.

CCPhilly Children's Ministry

CCPhilly is always looking for students to help in a variety of ways in Sunday School, church league sports, and special events. Please email Dave Miller at dmiller@ccphilly.org for more information.

Special Olympics

<u>Special Olympics Pennsylvania</u> helps children and adults with intellectual disabilities to achieve their personal bests -- in sports and in life -- with year-round training and athletic competitions. The half-century-old organization offers a myriad of opportunities for getting involved and building the community, from coaching your favorite sport or cheering at games to organizing fundraisers, and even recruiting athletes.

Go to https://specialolympicspa.org/become-a-volunteer for more information and volunteer opportunities.

Good Stuff Thrift Store

Good Stuff Thrift Store with locations in Fairless Hills and Doylestown are continually looking for volunteers at their store to do tasks from sorting clothes to moving furniture. They are an overtly Christian organization whose mission is to support local Christian organizations and to impact the lives of the individuals that enter their building Please contact volunteer coordinator, Ridgley Walters at Ridgely.walters@gmail.com to set up a time(s) to volunteer at one of their stores.

Go to www.goodstuffthrift.org for more information.

Be a Reading Coach for a K-3rd Grade Student

Calling all bookworms! Share your love of the written word with Philadelphia's youth by joining Philly Reading Coaches. The initiative pairs trained volunteers with young students, offering them early reading support and access to books. Even just an hour a week of one-on-one reading time can help kids' reading comprehension, paving the way to becoming more confident and motivated readers. Volunteers 14 years old and up are needed.

Go to http://ost.phila.gov/philly-reading-coaches/ for more information and to fill out an interest form.

Help Provide Food for Cancer Patients

Sometimes healthy food is the best medicine. <u>MANNA</u> is a service that provides fresh, medically tailored meals and nutrition education to those living with life-threatening illnesses (at no cost to the recipients). The organization relies on volunteers to prepare, cook, package, and deliver the meals -- and you'll feel nourished as well, knowing you're improving the health of your neighbors in need.

Go to https://www.mannapa.org/volunteer/individual-volunteers/ for more information and to fill out an app.

Help with Philly's Homeless Pets

The nonprofit organization <u>Saved Me</u> works to improve the lives of thousands of Philly's homeless pets -- and they need your help. Volunteers can assist with fundraising activities, taking and posting pictures to adoption sites, and socializing with animals until their new fur-parents come along. Think of all those happy wags and purrs of appreciation! Orientation is held every Sunday at 11am (show up with a filled-out application).

Go to https://savedme.org/volunteer/volunteer-activities/ for more information or email volunteers@savedme.org if interested in volunteering.

Einstein Medical Summer Program

For students interested in learning about a career in healthcare, volunteering at Einstein is a great way to learn more. Discover Healthcare is a three-week summer program open to students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades that provides a first-hand look at various jobs available in the healthcare sector.

Visit https://www.einstein.edu/about/community/volunteer/summer-student-program for more information.

Habitat for Humanity

<u>Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia</u> is a great opportunity for those looking to help their community in a seriously handson way. Volunteers of all skill levels are needed to work on their construction and homebuilding repair sites -- but if hammering away isn't your thing, lend a hand at a local <u>Habitat ReStore</u>, which sells used used goods, furniture, and other finds to support the charity. They accept volunteers ages 16 and up.

Go to https://www.habitatphiladelphia.org/individual-volunteers/ for more information and volunteer opportunities

Impact the lives of Philly's homeless

The <u>Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission</u> organizes a myriad of service and outreach opportunities, all of which benefit Philly's homeless and disadvantaged men, women, and children. Volunteers can sign up to serve meals at the facility, teach classes or Bible study at the Women and Children's Ministry, or sort donations at the <u>BeeHive Thrift Store</u>. Check out their <u>extensive job listing board</u> to learn more about how to get involved individually or with a group of your friends.

Go to https://sundaybreakfast.volunteerhub.com/ for volunteer opportunities

Keep your local parks clean and safe

Offer your time to the Philadelphia Parks & Recreation department. As a volunteer, you can take on a day project like cleaning, weeding, planting, or doing seasonal maintenance; or, become a long-term volunteer with your local neighborhood Philadelphia Park Friends group where you can get more involved with fundraising, programing, and event committees. Also part of the department, the Farm Philly Community Garden Network is in charge of various urban farming projects around the city, like building orchards and community gardens.

Go to https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-parks-recreation/get-involved/business-and-individual-volunteer-opportunities/ for volunteer opportunities or contact your local park and recreation department.

Hands in Service, Inc.

Hands in Service, Inc. is a ministry organization who focus on missions. One of the aspects of the ministry is the Donation Distribution Center located in Warrington. They are continually looking for individuals or teams to serve for a couple of hours or and entire day by sorting and repackaging goods that are distributed to over 140 charitable organizations worldwide.

Please contact Ed Tornetta at 215-804-5303 or email <u>HandsInService.inc@gmail.com</u>. You can also visit them on the web for more information at www.HISinc.org.

Dolphins Companions / ECS

We match volunteers (Dolphins) one-to-one with the forgotten elderly in nursing homes or retirement communities in Chester, Delaware, Montgomery Counties and the western edge of Philadelphia. We basically, create a friendship. Our Dolphins range in age from 9 to 87, are male and female and come from all walks of life. We match them with someone in a facility near the Dolphin's home or workplace and ask that they visit one hour a week. The day and time is chosen by the Dolphin and the Resident Friend and can be flexible every week. Our Dolphins can read or write letters for them, take a walk with them or just reminisce. We have ongoing informal training to help the Dolphins deal with and understand the needs of the aging.

Visit https://ecsphilly.org/programs/companionship-for-the-elderly/ for more information or email volunteer@ecsphilly.org or call 215.351.1436.

Join the fight to end hunger

<u>Philabundance</u> feeds over 90,000 people each week -- and they're looking for help in reducing food waste and delivering it to those in need. Individuals and groups can sign up to pack and sort donated food at their Hunger Relief Center in South Philly, work a "produce rescue" shift at the <u>Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market</u>, or pick up donated food from local grocery stores to hand out to the hungry.

Go to https://www.philabundance.org/volunteer/ for more information.