
Directory of Youth Service Opportunities



2011-2012

Welcome!

By wanting to volunteer, you've already taken the first step! Now we're here to send you in the right direction toward helping the community.

This book is designed for people like you who want to make a difference. Opportunities listed in the directory were submitted by organizations registered with Volunteer Fairfax as of August 2011. Inside, you will find information on contacting nonprofit agencies, starting group projects, and beginning a service-learning program in your school. You will also find a complete guide to youth volunteer opportunities in Fairfax County.

If you have any questions after reading this guide or need more information on volunteer opportunities and getting started, please feel free to contact us at Volunteer Fairfax. Happy volunteering!

Contact Information

Phone: (703) 246-3460

Fax: (703) 246-4662

Website: www.volunteerfairfax.org

Table of Contents

Welcome!.....	2
<i>Agencies by Minimum Age</i>	6
<i>Agencies by Mission</i>	8
<i>Agencies by Location</i>	11

2011-2012 Agencies

Alternative House	14
Alzheimer's Family Day Center	15
American Cancer Society	16
American Diabetes Association	17
Annandale Christian Community for Action	18
Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources	19
Arts Council of Fairfax County.....	20
Asian Youth Empowerment Project.....	21
Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc.	22
Boat People SOS, Inc.	23
Breast Cancer Network of Strength	24
Bucknell Elementary School.....	25
Capital Area Food Bank.....	26
Capital Caring	27
Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.	28
Chestnut Grove Cemetery	29
City at Peace.....	30
Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run	31
Colvin Run Mill Historic Site	32
Coptic Orphans	33
Earth Sangha	34
FACETS	35
Fairfax County Public Libraries.....	36
Fairfax County Park Authority - IMA Program	37
Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)	38
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services-Project Success.....	39
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services-JPFM Splash!	40
Fairfax ReLeaf.....	41
Fairfax Station Railroad Museum.....	42
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.....	43
Food and Friends	44
Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads.....	45
Greenbrier Learning Center	46
Greenspring Village.....	47
Guitars Not Guns - Virginia	48
Hemophilia Ass'n of the Capital Area	49

Herndon Parks and Recreation Department	50
Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc.	51
Hopkins House	52
Inova Fairfax Hospital	53
Lorton Community Action Center.....	54
McLean Community Center	55
MVLE, Inc.	56
Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS).....	
Neighbors International Foundation	57
Newseum	58
Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry	59
Northern Virginia Family Service	60
Northern Virginia Training Center	61
NOVACO Inc.	62
Pathway Homes, Inc.....	63
Reston Association.....	64
Reston Interfaith, Inc.	65
Safe Community Coalition	66
SERVE, Inc.....	67
Shelter House, Inc.	68
The Centreville Community Foundation.....	69
Treasure Shop	70
United Community Ministries.....	71
Western Fairfax Christian Ministries	72
Wright to Read.....	73
Getting Started!	74
Helpful Hints	76
Group Projects	77
Service Learning.....	78
<i>Why Use Service Learning?</i>	78
<i>Examples of Service-Learning</i>	78
Additional Resources	80
Grant Information.....	81
Volunteerism after High School	83
20 Ways to Make a Difference in Your Community.....	84

2011-2012 Agencies

Agencies by Minimum Age

Any

American Diabetes Association
Capital Area Food Bank
Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
Earth Sangha
Fairfax ReLeaf
Greenspring Village
Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)

5

Fairfax County Park Authority

8

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)
SERVE, Inc.

9

Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc.

10

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Breast Cancer Network of Strength
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
Reston Association

11

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site
Northern Virginia Training Center

12

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.
Fairfax County Public Libraries
Fairfax Station Railroad Museum
Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads
Neighbors International Foundation
NOVACO Inc.
Reston Interfaith, Inc.
Shelter House, Inc. – Patrick Henry Shelter
The Centreville Community Foundation
Western Fairfax Christian Ministries

13

American Cancer Society
Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc.
Chestnut Grove Cemetery
City at Peace
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Lorton Community Action Center
McLean Community Center
Northern Virginia Family Service
Pathway Homes, Inc.
United Community Ministries

14

Arts Council of Fairfax County
Boat People SOS, Inc.
Bucknell Elementary School
FACETS
Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Food and Friends
Guitars Not Guns
Hemophilia Ass'n of the Capital Area
Hopkins House
Safe Community Coalition
Treasure Shop
Wright to Read

15

Alzheimer's Family Day Center
Greenbrier Learning Center
INOVA Fairfax Hospital

16

Alternative House
Asian Youth Empowerment Project
Capital Caring
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
MVLE, Inc.
Newseum

17

Coptic Orphans

Agencies by Mission

AIDS/HIV

Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)
Food and Friends

Children's Programs

Alternative House
Annandale Christian Community for Action
Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Asian Youth Empowerment Project
Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.
Coptic Orphans
Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Guitars Not Guns Virginia
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
McLean Community Center
Northern Virginia Family Service
SERVE, Inc.
The Centreville Community Foundation
Wright to Read

Conservation/Environment

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Earth Sangha
Fairfax County Park Authority – IMA Program
Fairfax ReLeaf
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
Reston Association

Education

Arts Council of Fairfax County
Asian Youth Empowerment Project
Bucknell Elementary School
Capital Area Food Bank
City at Peace
Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
McLean Community Center
Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)
Northern Virginia Family Service
NOVACO Inc.
Safe Community Coalition
The Centreville Community Foundation
Wright to Read

Fine & Performing Arts

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Arts Council of Fairfax County
City at Peace
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
Guitars Not Guns Virginia

Health Services

Alzheimer's Family Day Center
American Cancer Society
American Diabetes Association
American Red Cross, Arlington County Chapter
Breast Cancer Network of Strength
Capital Caring
Inova Fairfax Hospital
Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)
Northern Virginia Family Service
Pathway Homes, Inc.

Homelessness/Hunger

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)
Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc.
Capital Area Food Bank
Food and Friends
Northern Virginia Family Service
NOVACO Inc.
Pathway Homes, Inc.
SERVE, Inc.
Shelter House, Inc. - Patrick Henry Location
Western Fairfax Christian Ministries

Immigrants

Asian Youth Empowerment Project
Boat People SOS, Inc.
Northern Virginia Family Service
The Centreville Community Foundation

Museum/Tourism

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.
Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
Colvin Run Mill
Fairfax Station Railroad Museum
Newseum
The Centreville Community Foundation

Programs that help people with disabilities

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
Inova Fairfax Hospital
MVLE, Inc.

Seniors

Annandale Christian Community for Action
Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads
Greenspring Village
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
Inova Fairfax Hospital
McLean Community Center

Social Services

Alternative House
Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)
Chestnut Grove Cemetery
FACETS
Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc.
Lorton Community Action Center
Neighbors International Foundation
Northern Virginia Family Service
NOVACO Inc.
Pathway Homes, Inc.
Reston Interfaith, Inc.
Shelter House, Inc. - Patrick Henry Shelter
United Community Ministries

Youth

Alternative House
Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources
Arts Council of Fairfax County
City at Peace
Coptic Orphans
Fairfax County Park Authority - IMA Program
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Guitars Not Guns Virginia
Hemophilia Ass'n of the Capital Area
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
McLean Community Center
Northern Virginia Family Service
Safe Community Coalition
SERVE, Inc.
The Centreville Community Foundation

Agencies by Location

Across Fairfax County

Fairfax County Park Authority
Fairfax County Public Libraries
Guitars Not Guns

Alexandria

Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc.
Bucknell Elementary School
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Hopkins House
United Community Ministries
Wright to Read

Annandale

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)
Arts Council of Fairfax County

Arlington

Greenbrier Learning Center

Arlington County

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

Centreville

The Centreville Community Foundation
The Clock Tower Thrift Shop (Centreville)

Chantilly

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries

Centreville

The Centreville Community Foundation

Dunn Loring

Alternative House

Fairfax

Alzheimer's Family Day Center
Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.
Earth Sangha
FACETS
Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services

Fairfax ReLeaf
Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
Hemophilia Ass'n of the Capital Area
Northern Virginia Training Center
NOVACO Inc.
Pathway Homes, Inc.

Fairfax Station

Fairfax Station Railroad Museum

Falls Church

Asian Youth Empowerment Project
Boat People SOS, Inc.
Capital Caring
Coptic Orphans
Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
The Clock Tower Thrift Shop (Annandale)
Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads
INOVA Fairfax Hospital
Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)
Northern Virginia Family Service
Shelter House, Inc. – Patrick Henry Shelter

Great Falls

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site
Neighbors International Foundation

Herndon

Breast Cancer Network of Strength
Chestnut Grove Cemetery
Herndon Parks and Recreation Department
Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc.

Lorton

Capital Area Food Bank
Lorton Community Action Center

Manassas

SERVE, Inc.

McLean

Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run
McLean Community Center
Safe Community Coalition
Treasure Shop

Oakton

Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Northern Virginia Family Service

Reston

Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Reston Association
Reston Interfaith, Inc.

Springfield

Greenspring Village
Guitars Not Guns Virginia
MVLE, Inc.

Vienna

American Cancer Society

Washington, DC

American Diabetes Association
Capital Area Food Bank
City at Peace
Food and Friends
Newseum

Alternative House

PO Box 694
Dunn Loring, Virginia 22027
(703) 506-9191
Contact: Christine Bartell
admin@thealternativehouse.org
<http://www.thealternativehouse.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Alternative House is to provide support to at-risk children, youth, and their families through counseling, shelter, crisis intervention, and outreach. Its programs include: The Emergency Shelter for Teenagers; Community Outreach offering after-school programs; Assisting Youth Mothers (AYM), a home for homeless, pregnant, and parenting teens and their babies; and Homeless Youth Initiative (HYI) that provides unaccompanied teens a safe refuge and help in continuing education.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help out with the Youth Advisory Council for the Emergency Shelter for Teenagers where teens develop projects to increase awareness of the teen shelter and organize fundraising events. Volunteers can also help with homework and recreation activities in after-school programs for 4th-6th graders. And can also assist with caring for infants and leading developmental activities with toddlers at the AYM program.

Training: Yes, a 2 hour orientation is required.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, via the Dunn Loring Metro Station.

Alzheimer's Family Day Center

2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 210

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

(703) 204-4664

Contact: Marcy Hunter

Marcy.hunter@alzheimersfdc.org

<http://www.alzheimersfdc.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Alzheimer's Family Day Center (AFDC) is to enhance the well-being and quality of life of each person during the course of an Alzheimer's-type illness, through therapeutic and innovative approaches. As families are also affected by the illness, we promote caregiver wellness through education and support.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may visit with participants, help with recreational activities such as exercise, crafts, games, and sing-alongs, bake homemade cookies, muffins, etc. for snack time, collect art supplies and help make seasonal decorations. There are occasional opportunities to stuff envelopes and help with large mailings.

Training: Yes, 2 hours.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: Varies

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, small groups only.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school (minimum 3 month commitment)

Public Transportation: Yes. There is a bus stop approximately .5 miles from our center on the corner of Lee Highway and Prosperity Ave. This connects to both the Dunn Loring Metro and the East Falls Church Metro.

American Cancer Society

124 Park Street, SE, Suite 100

Vienna, VA

(703) 938-5550

Contact: Travis Smith

Travis.smith@cancer.org

<http://www.cancer.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the American Cancer Society is to eliminate cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed for various fundraisers throughout the DC Metro Area, including Northern Virginia.

Training: Yes, about 1 and a half hours of training is required.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, the Vienna Metro Station is less than 2 miles away.

American Diabetes Association

1025 Connecticut Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 331-8303 X4529

Contact: Nahome Mazengia
NMazengia@diabetes.org
<http://www.diabetes.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the American Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by the illness.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to assist with both administrative and in-office opportunities, such as helping with mailings and phone calls, as well as event-specific opportunities. Event volunteers are needed mostly on weekends and weekday evenings. Projects vary according to event.

Training: Training depends on the event.

Minimum Age: Varies

Minimum Age w/Adult: No requirement.

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekday evenings, Weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Farragut North metro station.

Annandale Christian Community for Action

7200 Columbia Pike
Annandale, Virginia 22003
(703) 256-0100
Contact: Susan Farris
accacares@verizon.net
<http://www.accacares.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of ACCA will help anyone, of any or no religion, because they strive to serve neighbors in need.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers with drivers licenses (or those accompanied by parents/guardians) can pick up food from the pantry and deliver it to neighbors in need. Youth can collect and deliver donated furniture with an ACCA team. Youth can organize food drives in their schools, churches, and sports groups, and can sort food and stock shelves in the ACCA food pantry on Columbia Pike in Annandale. High-school and middle-school community service hours are credited.

Training: Yes, training is short and takes place in 15 minute sessions at the food pantry.

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: 8

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, ACCA can organize groups of youth, from 2 to 200!

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: ACCA has only one program with a central location - the Child Development Center at 7200 Columbia Pike. Our food delivery, furniture collection/delivery, and medical appts. transportation programs require volunteers to provide their own (or parents') transportation to travel short distances in the Annandale/Bailey's Crossroads area.

Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

2121 N. Culpeper
Arlington County, Virginia 22201
(703) 228-4724
Contact: Ronda Nibert
rnibert@arlingtonva.us
<http://www.arlingtonva.us/prcr>



Mission Statement: The mission of Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources is to promote dynamic programs and attractive spaces that cultivate wellness and vitality throughout the community; offer healthy and fun recreation, sport and leisure choices; develop and protect natural and cultural resources; and provide opportunities for creative expression and intellectual growth.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist with adapted aquatics classes, summer camp aides, after school program assistants, skate guard or renter at roller skate nights, clerical work, helpers at special events, animal care assistants, park clean ups, removing invasive plants, and assist the 4-H club.

Training: Yes, in most cases the training is on the job.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 10

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, depends on the event - for spring stream clean up we can take up to 100, for most we can accommodate 3 -25.

Times Needed: Weekday mornings.

Public Transportation: No

Arts Council of Fairfax County

4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, Virginia 22003
(703) 642-0862, x7
Contact: Ellen Monaghan
Ellen.monaghan@artsfairfax.org
<http://www.artsfairfax.org/programs/caps>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Arts Council of Fairfax County is to create and nurture an environment in which the arts and artists can flourish. The Arts Council supports artists and arts organizations, advocates for the arts and sustainable funding, and inspires, cultivates, and reflects the cultural and artistic diversity of Fairfax County.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer opportunities include helping to organize files in the office, or assisting with mailings and marketing or advocacy efforts. Volunteers will assist Arts Council staff with functions integral to operations. One recurring need is for volunteers at the Creative Arts Programs Showcases this September at Reston Community Center. Learn more at www.artsfairfax.org/programs/caps.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, depends on the project/activity and location.

Times Needed: Weekdays 9-5 or after school, and weekday evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, there is a Metro bus stop at the end of the driveway.

Asian Youth Empowerment Project

6066 Leesburg Pike, Ste. 170

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

(703) 647-6495

Contact: Giao Dang

Giao.Dang@bpsos.org

<http://www.bpsos.org>



Mission Statement: The Asian American Youth Empowerment Project, funded by Fairfax County, is a program designed to serve low-income Asian American youth with a three-pronged approach that focuses on academic achievement, college and career planning, and leadership development. Our goals are to help students succeed in school, provide resources for students to explore and plan for their future careers, and help students develop life skills and leadership skills.

Volunteer Opportunities: AYEP is looking for tutors to work one-on-one with struggling elementary and middle school students. Tutors will be paired with up with one or two students and meet at least twice a week, 1.5-2 hours each time. Meeting times are flexible, depending on tutor's and student's availabilities.

Training: Yes

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? No.

Times Needed: Weekdays, any time between 4PM-7PM

Public Transportation: Varies on location.

Bethany House of Northern Virginia, Inc.

6121 Lincolnia Road, Suite 303

Alexandria, Virginia 22312

(703) 658-9500

Contact: Kate White

kwhite@bhmv.org

<http://www.bhmv.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Bethany House is to provide temporary shelter and supportive services to victims of domestic violence.

Volunteer Opportunities: Bethany House operates a thrift store that is in need of volunteers to help sort clothing and other donations and prepare them to be displayed on the retail floor. Individuals interested in fashion and up-to-date with current styles and designers should apply.

Training: Yes, training is provided on the job.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes, a metro bus stops outside of the thrift store.

Boat People SOS, Inc.

6066 Leesburg Pike, Suite 100

Falls Church, Virginia 22041

(703) 538-2190

Contact: Human Resources

hr@bpsos.org

<http://www.bpsos.org>

Mission Statement: The mission of Boat People SOS is to assist Vietnamese refugees and immigrants in their search for a life in liberty and dignity, by empowering, equipping and organizing Vietnamese American communities in their progress toward self-sufficiency.

Volunteer Opportunities: Boat People SOS, Inc., a national non-profit organization serving the Vietnamese immigrant community, is looking for tutors to work one-on-one with struggling elementary and middle school students. Tutors will be paired with up with one or two students and meet at least twice a week, 1.5-2 hours each time. Meeting times are flexible, depending on tutor's and student's availabilities. Tutoring will take place at BPSOS office. Our youth are eager to learn and motivated to succeed with your help and dedication!

Training: Yes, a 2 hour orientation is required.

Minimum Age: 18

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays, any time between 4PM-7PM. Weekends if necessary, 10am - noon.

Public Transportation: Yes, the closest metro stop is East Falls Church, which is approximately 3 miles from the office. Buses may also be taken from the West Falls Church metro.

Breast Cancer Network of Strength

135 S. Lasalle St, Suite 2000

Chicago, IL 60603

(877) 963-7223, x2742

Contact: Jillian Weleski

dcwalk@networkofstrength.org

<http://www.networkofstrength.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Breast Cancer Network of Strength is to ensure through information, empowerment, and peer support that no one faces breast cancer alone.

Volunteer Opportunities: Assistance is needed during the morning (between the hours of 6 AM and noon) to set up the site, hand out refreshments, staff booths, and more. This is a great one-time opportunity to fill community service hour requirements at your school.

Training: Yes, most orientation occurs onsite that morning. A few jobs require you to a brief phone training.

Minimum Age: 10

Minimum Age w/Adult: 10

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, groups of any size are welcome. If your group is interested in helping prior to Mother's Day, contact them and they will do their best to assign you to a fun and helpful project!

Times Needed: Weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes. The Walk to Empower is accessible by bus or metro. Bus stops are on site. Metro stops are 2 blocks away.

Bucknell Elementary School

6925 University Dr.
Alexandria, Virginia 22307
(703) 660-2900
Contact: Tim Slayter
Tim.slayter@fcps.edu
<http://www.fcps.edu/BucknellES/>



Mission Statement: The mission of Bucknell Elementary School is to instill the importance of achieving success at an early age.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help with an after school mentoring program once a week and also to help out with various PTA programs throughout the year (turkey bingo, family night, etc.).

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Varies

Public Transportation: No

Capital Area Food Bank

645 Taylor Street NE and 6833 Hill Park Drive
Washington, DC and Lorton, VA, DC 0
(202) 526-5344; (703) 541-3063

Contact: Nicole Durant, Michael McRae, Barbara Taha
volunteer@capitalareafoodbank.org
<http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Capital Area Food Bank is to feed those who suffer from hunger in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area by acquiring food and distributing it through our network of member agencies; and to educate, empower, and enlighten the community about the issues of hunger and nutrition.

Volunteer Opportunities: Please contact the volunteer coordinator for a detailed description of volunteer opportunities.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: None

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Please contact the agency for further information.

Public Transportation: Varies based on location.

Capital Caring

2900 Telestar Ct.

Falls Church, Va 22042

(703) 531-2398

Contact: Shari Perkes

sperkes@capitalcaring.org

<http://www.capitalcaring.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Capital Caring is to improve care for those facing life-limiting illness through direct support of patients and their families, public education and public advocacy.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer opportunities include administrative duties in the Falls Church office data entry, organizing supplies and filing, mailings, and other duties as assigned.

Training: Yes, depends on volunteer position.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes, they are accessible by buses going up Route 50, just walk across street to their building.

Celebrate Fairfax, Inc.

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 247

Fairfax, Virginia 22035

(703) 324-5457

Contact: Meagan Butkus

Meagan.butkus@fairfaxcounty.gov

<http://www.celebratefairfax.com>



Mission Statement: The mission of Celebrate Fairfax is to spread celebration of Fairfax County throughout the community.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers serve in a variety of areas: costume characters, gate attendants, line monitors, assisting with arts and crafts activities, event preparations, etc.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekend days and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, the organization is accessible by bus. The bus stop is located in front of the government center building (3-4 min walk).

Chestnut Grove Cemetery

831 Dranesville Road

Herndon, Virginia

(703) 435-3480

Contact: Mike Moore

mike.moore@herndon-va.gov

<http://www.herndon-va.gov>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Chestnut Grove Cemetery is to provide cemetery services for the citizens of Herndon and area residents by providing an aesthetically pleasing, well-maintained cemetery which offers contemporary options for interment services. Through the cemetery's customer service, citizens of the community can expect to be served with respect and dignity.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist in special projects that will further enhance the overall appearance of the cemetery.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, 5 to 10 people.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Bus stop within a block

City at Peace

1333 H Street NE
Washington DC, 20002
(202) 399-7993 x15
Contact: Kathleen Aulwes
kathleenaulwes@cityatpeace.org
<http://www.cityatpeacedc.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of City at Peace is to teach and promote cross-cultural understanding and non-violent conflict resolution through the use of the performing arts. With an emphasis on youth-led programs and artistic excellence, the organization challenges participants who come from throughout the Greater DC Metropolitan region (DC, Maryland, and Virginia) to effect positive change in pursuit of a city at peace.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers participate in outreach and education from youth to youth and fundraising projects to support programs. Participation in these programs is on a volunteer basis, so cast members build leadership and conflict resolution skills in addition to experiencing the collaborative benefits of working in theatre and music activities, including a full production each Spring. The show is inspired by the participants' own life stories and is also written and shaped by the cast members.

Training: Yes, if cast member, volunteers take part from Sept. through June.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, 5 to 10 people.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, the closest metro stop is U Street/Green line stop (4 blocks away) and the Metro bus, which stops about 1 block away on 14th Street. Directions and parking details provided on request. Performance venues are in DC and shows take place on weekends.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run

6310 Georgetown Pike
McLean, Virginia 22101
(703) 442-7557
Contact: J-D Engle
jengle@1771.org
<http://www.1771.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Claude Moore Colonial Farm is to educate the public about American agriculture through active participation and involvement in an 18th century low-income family farm and related programs.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer opportunities include both scheduled events for groups and individual volunteer opportunities for those needing community service hours or who just enjoy volunteering.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: No minimum

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes, the nearest Metro Bus stop is at the corner of Dolly Madison and Georgetown Pike, and is a little more than a mile from the Farm.

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site

10017 Colvin Run Road
Great Falls, Virginia 22066
(703) 759-2771

Contact: Mike Henry

Mike.henry@fairfaxcounty.gov

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm>



Mission Statement: The mission of Colvin Run Mill Historic Site is to maintain and interpret the historic buildings and collections at the site for the enrichment of Fairfax County residents and visitors as they relate to the themes of technology and community in rural Northern Virginia.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed for in site programs, maintenance, and ornamental gardening. Volunteers also give tours of the 19th century gristmill; this requires a commitment of at least one year.

Training: Minimal

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 11

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekend days and weekends.

Public Transportation: No

Coptic Orphans

2579 Holly Manor Drive
Falls Church, Virginia 22043
(703) 641-8910
Contact: Dina Daniel
ddaniels@copticorphans.org
<http://www.copticorphans.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Coptic Orphans is to improve the lives of orphans and other vulnerable children in Egypt by providing basic needs, education, and mentoring so that they may realize their potential to become productive members of society. Coptic Orphans also exists to raise awareness about poverty in Egypt and promote cultural understanding. Our vision is to see every vulnerable child of Egypt confidently face the future with a renewed sense of hope and a life enriched with education, health and equality.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers help improve the lives of orphans in Egypt by acting as a mentor and promoting cultural understanding.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 17

Minimum Age w/Adult: 17

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekday evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, East Falls and West Falls metro stations are close.

Earth Sangha

10123 Commonwealth Blvd.

Fairfax, Virginia 22032

(703) 764-4830

Contact: Lisa Bright

lbright@earthsangha.org

<http://www.earthsangha.org>

The logo for Earth Sangha features the words "EARTH SANGHA" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The text is set against a blue rectangular background that has a subtle, textured appearance, possibly representing water or a natural surface.

Mission Statement: The mission of Earth Sangha is to operate an ecological restoration program to restore native forests and meadows, stabilize streams, and control invasive alien plants.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers will help with planting native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees in meadow, grassland, and stream-side forests. Volunteers will also help control invasive plants.

Training: Yes, about 30 min.

Minimum Age: 8

Minimum Age w/ Adult: No minimum age if accompanied by adults.

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekends.

Public Transportation: No

FACETS

10640 Page Ave., Ste. 300
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(703) 865-4251

Contact: Lauren Breeden
lbreeden@facetscares.org
<http://www.FacetsCares.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of FACETS is to build strong families and safe communities by improving the quality of life for impoverished men, women, and children through the comprehensive programs addressing physical, spiritual, and emotional needs.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may help with tutoring, Family Enrichment Services (FES), Program Volunteers (Arts and Crafts, Homework Help, Computer Club, Reading, Music, ESL, etc.), childcare, translation, office help (receptionist coverage, data entry, food pantry help, van maintenance), and with special events.

Training: Varies

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays 1-5. Special events on weekends.

Public Transportation: Yes, the main office is accessible by Metro and Cue buses, two of their three community centers are also accessible by these bus lines.

Fairfax County Public Libraries

12055 Government Center Parkway

Fairfax, Virginia 22035

(703) 324-8332

Contact: Erin Chernisky

Erin.chernisky@fairfaxcounty.gov

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Fairfax County Public Library is to enrich individual and community life by providing and encouraging the use of library resources and services to meet the evolving educational, recreational and informational needs of the residents of Fairfax County and City of Fairfax.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers work throughout the library system helping with tasks such as straightening and organizing shelves, putting materials in alphabetical order, etc. There is a limited number of opportunities and spaces tend to fill-up quickly, so students should inquire early!

Training: Yes, training will be provided.

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? No.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and evenings, and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Please visit the library's website.

Fairfax County Park Authority - IMA Program

12055 Government Center Parkway

Fairfax, Virginia 22035

(703) 324-8681

Contact: Erin Stocksclaeder

Erin.Stocksclaeder@fairfaxcounty.gov

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima/>



Mission Statement: The mission of Fairfax County Park Authority - IMA Program is to set aside public spaces for and assist citizens in the protection and enhancement of environmental values, diversity of natural habitats and cultural heritage to guarantee that these resources will be available to both present and future generations. They strive to create and sustain quality facilities and services which offer citizens opportunities for recreation, improvement of their physical and mental well being, and enhancement of their quality of life.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers will restore habitats within local parks that the youth of the community utilize.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 5

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, minimum 5, maximum 20.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

4103 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

(703) 273-3526, x22

Contact: Elisa Kosarin

ekosarin@casafairfax.org

<http://www.casafairfax.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Fairfax CASA is to advocate for the best interests of each abused and neglected child referred by the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court through the promotion and support of quality volunteer representation.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers assist with administrative tasks in the Fairfax CASA office, such as assembling information packets and gathering volunteer resource materials.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? No

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: No

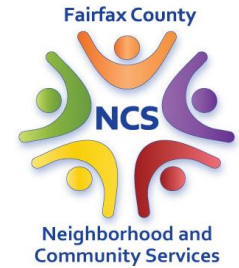
Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)-Project Success

Contact: Vicki Greene

(703) 324-5504

Vicki.greene@fairfaxcounty.gov

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs



Mission Statement: The mission of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services is to engage, connect and collaborate with individuals, organizations, neighborhoods and communities to strategically plan, provide responsive services, and build capacity to support community and neighborhood solutions.

Volunteer Opportunity: An inclusive learning program for middle school and high school students who want to have fun and make new friends while helping the community service. Service projects may include, creating holiday cards for soldiers, making blankets for shelters, putting together goody bags for children's hospitals and much more.

Training: All volunteers must attend a volunteer orientation.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes.

Times Needed: See times at the specific locations.

Public Transportation: Yes for Reston Teen Center, South County Government and James Lee Community Center.

Locations:

Reston Teen Center

12196 Sunset Hills Drive

Reston, VA 20191

Mondays 4-5 p.m

Mott Community Center

12111 Braddock RD

Fairfax, VA 22030

Wednesdays 4-6 p.m

South County Government Center

8350 Richmond Hwy

Alexandria, VA 22309

Tuesdays 4-6 p.m

James Lee Community Center

2855A Annandale Road

Falls Church, VA 22042

Call for times.

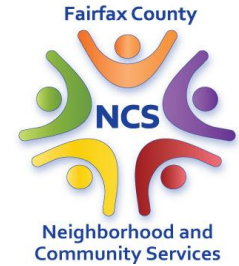
Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)- JPMF Splash!

(703) 324-5504

Contact: Vicki Greene

Vicki.greene@fairfaxcounty.gov

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs



Mission Statement: The mission of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services is to engage, connect and collaborate with individuals, organizations, neighborhoods and communities to strategically plan, provide responsive services, and build capacity to support community and neighborhood solutions.

Volunteer Opportunity: Volunteers are needed to help individuals with disabilities (ages 5-22) learn to be safe and have fun in and around water, under the guidance of a water safety instructor. Volunteers will assist participants with skill building games and exercises during an exciting and fun-filled Saturday afternoon. If volunteers work all four Saturdays in a session, the Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund will cover the cost of a lifeguard certification class. There are four sessions for this opportunity:

Sessions:

- 1.) October 15,22,29 and November 5, 2011
- 2.) December 3,10,17 and January 7, 2012
- 3.) January 28, February 4,11, and 25
- 4.) March 26, April 2, 9 and 16

Training: All volunteers must attend a volunteer orientation and 30 minute training.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes.

Times Needed: See times at the specific locations.

Public Transportation: Yes.

Locations:

Providence RECenter
7525 Marc Drive
Falls Church, VA 22042-7514
12:30-2:30 p.m

Lee District RECenter
6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia, VA 22310
12:30-2:30 p.m.

Oak Marr RECenter
3200 Jermantown Road
Oakton, VA 22124
1-3 p.m

Fairfax ReLeaf

12055 Government Center Parkway

Fairfax, Virginia 22035

(703) 324-1409

Contact: Taylor Beach

trees@fairfaxreleaf.org

<http://www.fairfaxreleaf.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Fairfax ReLeaf is to conserve, restore and promote sustainable urban forests in Northern Virginia.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help plant tree seedlings around Fairfax County during the planting season at organized planting events as well as volunteers looking to initiate their own planting projects! Volunteers are also needed to help with maintenance of planting sites during the off season as well as during the planting season.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 10

Minimum Age w/Adult: Any

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, No minimum. Maximum depends on the project - please contact ask.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

Fairfax Station Railroad Museum

11200 Fairfax Station Road
Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039
(703) 278-8833

Contact: Joan Rogers
friends@fairfax-station.org
<http://www.fairfax-station.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Friends of Fairfax Station, Inc., an all-volunteer organization, is to maintain and operate the rebuild Fairfax Station depot as a museum - interpreting its rich railroadd, Civil War, and local history.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may help with special events on weekends, including large train shows; research projects; building and grounds projects; gift shop inventory, etc.

Training: Minimal

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Please contact the agency for further information.

Public Transportation: No

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra

3905 Railroad Avenue, Suite 202 N

Fairfax, VA 22030

(703) 563-1990

Contact: Tara Nadel

tnadel@fairfaxsymphony.org

www.fairfaxsymphony.org



Mission Statement: The mission of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra is to explore and present the symphonic repertoire, both traditional and modern, for the diverse audiences of the Northern Virginia region while building the musicians and audiences of the future through education and outreach programs.

Volunteer Opportunities: The Fairfax Symphony offers volunteer opportunities at each of its concerts during the school season, held at George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall. These performances require 4.5-5 hours of time and involve such tasks as hosting subscriber cheese and wine receptions, administering our Student Passport Program, and assisting patrons with CD sales. We also offer volunteer hours in our administrative offices in the field of arts management. These projects range from historical archiving to concert production to marketing, development of our concerts, and educational programs.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, for concerts small groups of 1-2 students are needed to help out.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, a Cue bus stop is about ½ block away.

Food and Friends

219 Riggs Rd. NE
Washington, DC 20011
(202) 269-6824

Contact: Jane Yamaykin
jyamaykin@foodandfriends.org
<http://www.foodandfriends.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Food & Friends is to foster a community caring for men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other life-challenging illnesses by preparing and delivering specialized meals and groceries in conjunction with nutrition counsel.

Volunteer Opportunities: Most volunteers either assist in the kitchen, preparing and packaging meals, or on the road, delivering meals to our clients. Volunteers can help in other ways, too, including lending a hand in our offices, staffing special events, representing us at public events, etc.

Training: Yes

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Groups are very welcome but must schedule with the agency in advance. Saturdays fill up very quickly, but weekday morning and evening opportunities are almost always available to groups ranging from 4 to 30 people. Evening shifts are frequently limited.

Times Needed: Weekend days and weekends.

Public Transportation: Yes, they are located near the Ft. Totten Metro and provide a shuttle service back and forth from the Metro. The number for the shuttle is (202) 669-6437.

Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads

3440 S. Jefferson Street
Falls Church, Virginia 22043
(703) 578-7671

Contact: Amy Conradt
aconradt@goodwinhouse.org
<http://www.goodwinhouse.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads is to support, honor, and uplift the lives of older adults and the people who care for them through a faith-based, nonprofit organization affiliated with the Episcopal Church.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed in the areas of computers, administrative volunteers, performers, groups, individual, activities volunteers, arts and crafts, etc.

Training: Minimal.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, there are no limitations in this category.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, by bus. It is located at the junction of Carlin Springs and Columbia Pike Metro bus J16.

Greenbrier Learning Center

5401 7th Road South

Arlington, Virginia 22204

(703) 379-6488

Contact: Jilian Kuntz

volunteer@greenbrierlearning.org

<http://www.greenbrierlearning.org/>



Mission Statement: Greenbrier Learning Center's mission is to promote education, youth leadership and strong families through structured enrichment programs beyond the school day. Utilizing a community-driven approach, we (1) foster academic achievement and personal growth among our afterschool students; (2) act as a resource for youth and adults; and (3) increase collaboration among service providers in Northern Virginia.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to assist with Learning ROCKS! (Afterschool program) and Buddy Nights (Evening Childcare).

Training: There will be a volunteer orientation for those individuals who plan to volunteer with Greenbrier Learning Center.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 15

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, though it depends upon the nature of the project. Group projects are not always readily available.

Times Needed: Weekday afternoons from 3 pm to 6 pm for Learning ROCKS! (Afterschool program); Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings throughout the month for Buddy Nights (Evening childcare)

Public Transportation: Yes. Greenbrier Learning Center (GLC) may be reached from the ART bus lines of 41,45, or 75, which run to and from the Ballston Metro station. GLC is also accessible by the various Metro bus lines of 16 A, B, D, E, L, F, J, P, which run to and from the Pentagon and/or Pentagon City Metro stations.

Greenspring Village

7400 Spring Village Dr
Springfield, Virginia 22150
(703) 923-3131, x4780

Contact: Elke Martin

Elke.Martin@erickson.com

<http://www.ericksoncommunities.com>



Mission Statement: The mission of Greenspring Village is to share their gifts to create a community that celebrates life.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to visit senior residents, and play games with them. They can make music or engage in arts & crafts projects. They can be wheelchair escorts, or help in the dining rooms. They can assist in our tv-studio with camera, light and sound or help out in the fitness center.

Training: Yes, an hour training session is provided.

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: None

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, there is a shuttle service from the Springfield Metro Stop.

Guitars Not Guns - Virginia

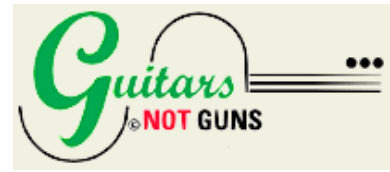
11 locations across the region

(703) 644-1311

Contact: Skip Chaples

skip@guitarsnotguns.org

<http://www.guitarsnotguns.org/Virginia.html>



Mission Statement: The mission of Guitars Not Guns is to enable youth challenged by adverse circumstances - poverty, dysfunctional families or communities - to succeed and become productive, caring and responsible members of society.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist in providing guitar lessons. Those that play guitar can help with instruction; those that do not can help with the administration of the class.

Training: Yes

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, 2-3 student assistants per class.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes. There are 11 teaching locations; most are within 5 minutes of a bus or metro transportation stop.

Hemophilia Ass'n of the Capital Area

10560 Main Street PH-4

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

(703) 352-7641

Contact: Sandi Qualley

hacacares@aol.com

<http://www.hacacares.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area is to improve the quality of life for persons with bleeding disorders and their families through education, advocacy, and member support.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist with the preparation of bulk mailings, staff water stops at the annual bike-a-thon, assist in preparing and setting up items for silent and live auction at the golf tournament, help design web site for golf tournament, work with programs for youth, provide program for children at the annual meeting while parents are attending educational sessions, decorate and prepare snack bags for golfers prior to the golf tournament, solicit items for and decorate and prepare gift bags for women's day out event, and wrap children's gifts for the Holiday Party.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, minimum size would be 2, maximum size would be 5.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, this agency is accessible via the Cue bus. Walk should not be more than 1 block

Herndon Parks and Recreation Department

814 Ferndale Avenue
Herndon, Virginia 20170
(703) 435 6800, x2134
Contact: Ann Marie Heiser
ann.heiser@herndon-va.gov
<http://www.herndon-va.gov>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Herndon Parks and Recreation Department is to promote a sense of community in the area. The Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department aspires to enrich the lives of its residents, serve as stewards of town resources, and foster a sense of community by providing diverse, accessible, and valued parks, facilities, and recreation programs in addition to those provided by Fairfax County.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist with programs, events, administrative and festivals.

Training: Varies based on event.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 10

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, minimum group size 3; maximum group size 25.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: No

Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc.

336 Victory Drive

Herndon, Virginia 20170

(703) 437-0600

Contact: Eeva Newsom

esnewsom1@comcast.net

<http://www.herndonrestonfish.org>



HERNDON-RESTON FISH, INC.

Providing local residents with
Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help since 1969

Mission Statement: The mission of Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. is help to poor or otherwise distressed persons needing and requesting such help, for whom immediate help is not available through government or other social welfare agencies.

Volunteer Opportunities: The thrift shop, The Bargain Loft, in Herndon can always use help assisting the FISH volunteers with lifting, carrying and arranging items donated to the shop. Youth are needed to help at the FISH booths at the Herndon and Reston Festivals.

Training: Yes, on the job.

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: 9

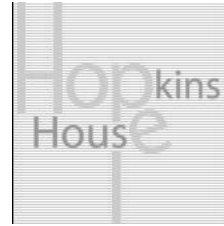
Is this organization group friendly? Yes, groups (maximum 10) often help with the holiday basket programs. Call for more information. Groups help with the festivals. Size depends on the activity.

Times Needed: 10am-2pm Tuesday - Saturday.

Public Transportation: No

Hopkins House

1224 Princess Street / 8543 Forest place
Alexandria, Virginia
(703) 549-4232, x4086
Contact: Laura Beach
lbeach@hopkinshouse.org
<http://www.hopkinshouse.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Hopkins House is to provide quality educational programs and opportunities to children, youth, and their families, regardless of income, to help them achieve, in measurably effective ways, their full intellectual, economic, and social potential.

Volunteer Opportunities: Classroom Volunteers are needed to read to children, assist with art projects, and/or teach children a new language or skill. Must have previous experience in child development settings.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, no larger than 10 individuals.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes. The center in Old Town Alexandria is located between Braddock Rd Metro and King Street Metro. It take approximately 10 mins to walk to the center for either metro. The center in Fairfax County is located off of Richmond Highway and is accessible by the REX bus. The nearest stop is 2 blocks away.

Inova Fairfax Hospital

3300 Gallows Road
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 776-6824

Contact: Susan Heisey
susan.heisey@inova.org

<http://www.hospitalelderlifeprogram.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Inova Fairfax Hospital is to assist older hospitalized patients by engaging them cognitively and physically to maintain their level of independence during their hospital stay.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to work with elderly patients during their hospital stay. Volunteers help keep patients oriented with therapeutic activities which may include discussing current events while reading a newspaper or meal assistance and walking with patients. Also, volunteers are taught to help with stress reduction which may include hand massages.

Training: Yes, every volunteer in the hospital must attend the Volunteer department's hospital orientation and the required training with the HELP program.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 15

Is this organization group friendly? No

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days, and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, a bus drops off in front of the hospital.

Lorton Community Action Center

P.O. Box 154, 9518 Richmond Highway

Lorton, Virginia 22079

(703) 339-5161 ext. 12

Contact: Kathleen Noone

kathy@lortonaction.org

<http://www.lortonaction.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Lorton Community Action Center is to enhance the quality of life in our community through individual and family services, community programs, and partnerships with other organizations.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may help in the food pantry one Tuesday evening a month to make food bags to be used for distribution, help in August with the Back to School outreach, help in November for the Thanksgiving outreach or in December for the Christmas outreach. Volunteers may also help throughout the year with child care for ESL the nutrition program or conduct food, personal hygiene, baby or other types of drives to receive five hours of volunteer service. A volunteer form must be completed prior to any volunteering and authorization must be provided by the Director of Human Resources prior to any volunteering.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekday evenings and weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

McLean Community Center

1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean, Virginia 22101
(703) 790-0123

Contact: Peggy Moore
peggy.moore@fairfaxcounty.gov
<http://www.mcleancenter.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the McLean Community Center is to provide community services including classes, tours, community events, theatre programs, and youth programs.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers are used mainly for Community Events such as McLean Day, 4th of July and various festivals throughout the year.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, can accommodate large youth groups for McLean Day only. Limit of 10-15 for other projects.

Times Needed: Weekend days.

Public Transportation: No.

MVLE, Inc.

7420 Fullerton Road, Suite 110

Springfield, Virginia 22153

(703) 569-3900, x1147

Contact: Sabrina Gibson

Sabrina@mvle.org

<http://www.mvle.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of MVLE is to create futures one person at a time for people with disabilities through employment and support services.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers participate in MVLE's volunteer programs as readers, social lunch volunteers, musicians or as assistants for the art or horticulture programs.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, groups can be three to ten persons.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, as well as during summer months.

Public Transportation: No

Neighbors International Foundation

1146-D Walker Road
Great Falls, Virginia 22066
(703) 759-2102

Contact: Sharon Rainey
sharon@neighborsfoundation.org
<http://www.neighborsfoundation.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Neighbors International Foundation is to influence neighbors to provide funds and volunteer services to support their local charitable, educational, religious, public safety, and similar organizations that serve their neighborhoods and communities. NIF is a local community-based charitable giving network.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers may pack care packages for soldiers, bake goodies for police and firefighters, or write letters to soldiers.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, maximum of 12 volunteers at a time.

Times Needed: Weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

Newseum

555 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 292-6516

Contact: Donna Baker
dbaker@newseum.org
<http://www.newseum.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Newseum is to offer visitors an experience that blends five centuries of news history with up-to-the-second technology and hands-on exhibits.

Volunteer Opportunities: The Newseum is recruiting volunteers to work with Visitor Services to provide excellent customer service to our museum visitors. This involves meeting and greeting visitors, introducing and running films, providing directions, operating equipment, assisting in maintaining the flow of visitor traffic, and working as a host in one of our exhibit galleries. We do not have docent or behind-the-scenes volunteers at this time.

Training: Yes. All volunteers are required to attend the Newseum's training program. This program is one full day and must be completed prior to working in the Newseum. After satisfactory completion of this training, volunteers receive on-the-job training in the Newseum.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 16

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Varies

Public Transportation: Yes, one block from the Archives/Navy Memorial Stop which is accessible by both bus and metro.

Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM)

803 W Broad Street, Suite 700

Falls Church, Virginia 22046

(703) 533-5505, x13

Contact: Lisa Katerman

lkaterman@novam.org

<http://www.novam.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of NOVAM is to educate the community about HIV/AIDS, to combat the fear, prejudice, and complacency that surround the disease, and to provide direct services to meet the needs of those who are living with HIV/AIDS.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers can attend and distributing information at outreach events and health fairs, assemble HIV prevention packets, and assist with special events and administrative projects in the office.

Training: Yes, training is done on-site.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: N/A

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, for special events.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school. Evenings for events.

Public Transportation: Yes, NOVAM is centrally located between the East and West Falls Church metro stops. There are buses that run from each metro into the City of Falls Church.

Northern Virginia Family Service

10455 White Granite Dr. Suite 100

Oakton, Virginia 22124

(703) 219-2193

Contact: Navara Jordan

njordan@nvfs.org

<http://www.nvfs.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Northern Virginia Family Service is to empower individuals and families to improve their quality of life, and to promote community cooperation and support in responding to family needs.

Volunteer Opportunities: Opportunities for volunteers include office assistance, helping at the thrift stores, event planning, Back to School drive, mentoring, tutoring, maintenance of transitional houses (Adopt-a-house), childcare, and more.

Training: Yes, 1-2 hours of training is required.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, min. 3, max. 15.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, most of their locations are metro accessible.

Northern Virginia Training Center

9901 Braddock Road

Fairfax, Virginia 22032

(703) 323-4079

Contact: Ashley Barnett

marykate.barnett@nvtc.dbhds.virginia.gov

<http://www.nvtc.dbhds.virginia.gov/>



Mission Statement: To help individuals with intellectual disabilities LIVE LIFE"

Volunteer Opportunities: Special Event Assistant-At these twice a month activities, volunteers help escort people in wheelchairs to and from their on-campus home to the on-campus event. Typical events are movies, dances, concerts and sporting activities.

Training: Each volunteer must complete a volunteer application. At each activity, there will be an orientation specific to that event. If a volunteer plans to complete more than 10 hours of service in a year than they also most attend the mandatory new volunteer orientation.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 11

Is this organization group friendly? We are group friendly and special events are great activities for groups.

Times Needed: Times vary. Most events are Friday evenings from 6:30-8:30pm

Public Transportation: Yes, there is a bus stop located directly in front of our campus.

NOVACO Inc.

9677 A Main St.

Fairfax, Virginia 22031

(703) 218-3984

Contact: Victoria Heeley

vheeley@novaco.org

<http://www.novaco.org>



Mission Statement: NOVACO helps homeless victims of domestic abuse become healthy, secure and self-sufficient through community collaboration to provide housing, education, childcare, counseling and mentoring.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteer opportunities include: making meals for families; tutoring clients or children; training to become a mentor to a family; office support; handyman skills to fix up housing units; client advocates; serving on Gala Committee; fundraiser events committee; and leading life skills classes.

Training: No training is needed.

Minimum Age: 15

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekend evenings, and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes. Close to the Fairfax Connector bus route. Just next door to Woodson High School.

Pathway Homes, Inc.

10201 Fairfax Blvd., Suite 200

Fairfax, Virginia 22030

(703) 876-0390, x539

Contact: Abigail Denecke

adenecke@pathwayhomes.org

<http://www.pathwayhomes.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Pathway Homes, Inc.'s is to make available to long-term, seriously mentally ill adults a variety of non time-limited housing, including the necessary subsidies to make such housing affordable, and to assure the individualized services to enable them to realize their individual potential in the least restrictive environment in which they are capable of living.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers engage in landscaping social activities with residents including game nights, game days, bingo, and just socializing by watching a movie with a resident. They will also teach residents in the areas of: reading, math, art, chess, crafts, cooking, and computers. They will assist with pet therapy by bringing a pet in to a Pathway's resident home to enjoy pet company. Painting (for groups who have experience with painting) is also needed.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, each activity group maximum is decided on a case by case basis depending on the activity.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: No

Reston Association

12001 Sunrise Valley Dr

Reston, VA 20191

(703) 435-7986

Contact: Ha Brock

habrock@reston.org

<http://www.reston.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Reston Association is to preserve and enhance the Reston community through outstanding leadership, service, and stewardship of our resources.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed for ongoing projects such as stream monitoring as well as monthly and seasonal activities. These include park and watershed cleanups, nature counts, and festivals.

Training: Any necessary training is performed on the job.

Minimum Age: 13

Minimum Age w/Adult: 10

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Weekend days and weekend evenings.

Public Transportation: No

Reston Interfaith, Inc.

11150 Sunset Hills, Road, Suite 210
Reston, Virginia 20190
(571) 323-9565
Contact: Mandy Guernsey
mandy.guernsey@restoninterfaith.org
<http://www.restoninterfaith.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Reston Interfaith is to promote self-sufficiency by providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality child care, and other human services.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to help out with the drives: Back to School in August, Thanksgiving Baskets in November and Adopt-a-family Gifts in December. Helping to staff the Coat Closet in the winter and collect produce from the Reston Farmer's Market in the summer are other great family-friendly opportunities.

Training: Yes

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12, but sometimes depends on project.

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, this number will depend on the project chosen--there is often limited space and so if the group is particularly large, the project would most likely be conducted off-site.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, the Administrative office is a stop on the Fairfax County Bus line--however, you may have to walk 1/2 a mile depending on what bus is taken.

Safe Community Coalition

McLean, Virginia 22106

(703) 795-6943

Contact: Amy Reif

amy.reif@safecommunitycoalition.net

<http://www.safecommunitycoalition.net>



Mission Statement: The mission of the Safe Community Coaliton is to encourage youth the community to make responsible decisions while making sure they are safe, healthy and free from alcohol and drug use.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to collate borchures that are distributed to families in back to school folders.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, varies according to activity.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekday evenings.

Public Transportation: Yes, by bus within two blocks.

SERVE, Inc.

10056 Dean Drive, Manassas, VA 20110

Manassas, Virginia 20110

(703) 367-6725

Contact: Jan Hawkins

jhawkins@serveinc.org

<http://www.serveinc.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of SERVE, Inc. is to strengthen the western Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park community through comprehensive programs and partnerships that provide basic needs and promote economic independence for homeless and underprivileged individuals and families.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers are needed to assist with children's activities in the shelter and help sort food in the Food Warehouse.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 8

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, varies by groups, but no more than 15.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, and weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

Shelter House, Inc. - Patrick Henry Shelter

3080 Patrick Henry Drive
Falls Church, Virginia 22044
(703) 538-7105
Contact: Victor Dooley
victor.dooley@shelterhouse.org
<http://www.shelterhouse.org>



Mission Statement: To provide crisis intervention, temporary housing and support service, promote self efficiency for homeless families and victims of domestic family abuse in fairfax county.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers benefit most from large group opportunities led by adults. These programs are developed on a case-by-case basis. Also, we work one-on-one with youth to develop drives in their communities and schools.

Training: Yes, about 30 min.

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes

Times Needed: Please contact the agency for further information.

Public Transportation: Yes, there is a metro bus stop located directly in front of the building.

The Centreville Community Foundation

PO Box 1813
Centreville, Virginia 20122
(703) 830-5407
Contact: Cheryl Repetti
ccf@centrevilleva.org
<http://www.centrevilleva.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of The Centreville Community Foundation is to build and maintain a compassionate, prosperous, and diverse community in the Centreville area. To this end CCF supports activities and organizations in the Areas of Arts, Youth, Education, Health, Economic Development and Community Improvement for the benefit of the citizens of the Greater Centreville Area.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers are welcome to help out on Centreville Day, Saturday, September 13 2008. Volunteers are needed to help direct vendors and set up the event, help with the parade, assist with the information booth, conducting surveys and in the children's craft and activities area. Help is also needed to assist with break down and clean up.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, no minimum. For clean-up duties, no maximum. Limited number of tasks during the day

Times Needed: Weekend days.

Public Transportation: No

Treasure Shop

6246 Old Dominion Drive
Mclean, VA 22101
(703) 536-7467

Contact: Victoria Zimin
treasureshop@vinsonhall.org

<http://www.nmcgrf.org/treasure-shop/>

THE TREASURE SHOP
Consignment Boutique

Mission Statement: The MISSION of Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation and Vinson Hall Retirement Community is to provide the highest quality continuing care retirement community in a comfortable setting which fosters dignity, friendship, and security.

Volunteer Opportunities: Youth volunteers are needed to help staff and sort donations at the Treasure Shop (partner with Vinson Hall Retirement Community Center).

Training: No

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Contact agency.

Times Needed: Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10am to 5pm.

United Community Ministries

7511 Fordson Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22306
(703) 768-7106 ext. 328
Contact: Christine Friske
volunteer@ucmagency.org
<http://www.ucmagency.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of United Community Ministries is to assist families and individuals to improve the quality of their lives, which in turn builds their self-esteem and fosters their ability to function at the greatest level of their capacity-socially, economically and emotionally.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers assist in the food pantry, be a child care aide at the Bryant Early Learning Center for infants/toddlers (TB test required), pre-prepare & serve meal to Life Skills families, help with special events/projects such as the August school supply drive and December holiday room. There are also opportunities for drives of food, school supplies, holidays/toys and books.

Training: Yes, depends on program.

Minimum Age: 14

Minimum Age w/Adult: 13

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, 10 or less.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school and weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, the Huntington Metro and taxi or bus is accessible. 5 minute walk to location.

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries

13981 Metrotech Drive
Chantilly, Virginia 20151
(703) 988-9656, x3
Contact: Pam Ryan
volunteer@wfcma.org
<http://wfcma.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Western Fairfax Christian Ministries is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, while providing life essential support to those seeking their assistance.

Volunteer Opportunities: Volunteers can serve either in the Food Pantry or in the Thrift Store.

Training: No

Minimum Age: 12

Minimum Age w/Adult: 12

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, the Food Pantry and the Thrift Store can each accommodate a group of up to six people. Arrangements for groups to volunteer must be made at least two weeks in advance of the dates they would like to volunteer.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school, weekday evenings, weekend days.

Public Transportation: Yes, there is a bus stop within a ten minute walk from our location.

Wright to Read

418 S Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 549-0111, x134
Contact: Heather Miles
hmiles@campagnacenter.org
<http://www.campagnacenter.org>



Mission Statement: The mission of Wright to Read is promote literacy through tutoring and mentoring of elementary school students and outreach to the Alexandria community.

Volunteer Opportunities: There are two areas of volunteer work for youth. The first opportunity is called Book Buddies. Volunteers work one-on-one reading, writing, and playing language games. WTR staff is on site to provide on-going support and guidance. The second opportunity is called Reach Out and Read. This is a national pediatric literacy program. Volunteers read to children in the Alexandria Health Department Children's Clinic for 1.5 hours one day per week.

Training: Yes, on location training is provided which is approximately a 1/2 hour.

Minimum Age: 16

Minimum Age w/Adult: 14

Is this organization group friendly? Yes, no minimum; maximum size - 15.

Times Needed: Weekdays after school.

Public Transportation: Yes. Two of the Book Buddies sites and the Reach Out and Read site are accessible by bus. One of the Book Buddies site is 3 blocks from the King Street metro.

Getting Started!

1. What is a Volunteer?

A volunteer is anyone who gives his or her time and talent by choice, does a good deed for free, helps others in the community and does real and important work.

2. Get Started Right Away!

Volunteer coordinators are often busy people, so it may take a week or two to set up an appointment. Some positions require time for training. And sometimes it takes a while to find a position that's right for you. By delaying your search, you reduce your chances of finding an opportunity you enjoy, or maybe finding one at all. So start today!

3. Think About What You Would Like To Do.

Think about your lifestyle, beliefs and values, talents and skills, your goals and limits. Ask yourself two questions: *"What issues are important to me?"* and *"What kinds of activities would I find enjoyable?"*

If you like working in an office, would you rather do that work for an environmental group or a health clinic? If you are passionate about working with young people, would you rather be a tutor or work in an after school sports program? Also consider how far you are willing to travel (can you use public transportation?) and how much time you can commit.

5. Search for Agencies that Look Interesting. Use this directory!

Look through this guide for opportunities that match your interests. Make sure the location and schedule work for you. Also, check the minimum age requirements. Some agencies are flexible about age limits, especially if you demonstrate initiative, maturity and enthusiasm or you bring an adult with you. Some agencies are not flexible. Call and ask!

6. Call the Organization.

Ask for the contact person listed or the current volunteer coordinator. If you have to leave a message, make sure that you include a time that you can be reached. Before calling the agency, plan what you are going to say. An example is:

"Hi, my name is _____ and I am ___ years old, I am interested in volunteering, and I would appreciate it if you could tell me more about your program. You can call me back at my phone number _____ around (convenient time)."

7. Ask Questions.

When you speak to the volunteer coordinator, tell her/ him about yourself. Find out if the organization is a good match for you. Some questions you may consider asking are:

- What does your organization do?
- What type of work would I be doing as a volunteer?
- Do you provide training?
- Who will be my supervisor?
- Where are you located?
- When do you need help?
- Do I need to commit for a certain amount of time?

8. Set up an Appointment and Visit the Organization.

By seeing the agency in action, you can get a good idea of what it will be like to work there. The volunteer coordinator may want to interview you before you start. Try to give the best impression of who you are and what you can do for the organization.

9. Communicate Your Personal Goals to the Volunteer Coordinator.

Make sure the volunteer coordinator understands what you want to get out of the experience, and that he or she agrees that your needs will be met within the position. You may want to set up a "contract" stating your expectations and goals, and those of the agency. Agreeing with the volunteer coordinator on what you want to accomplish reduces the chances of a bad volunteer experience.

10. Go For It!

If after getting all this information, the organization seems to be a good match, make a commitment and start volunteering. Good luck and have fun!

Helpful Hints

Don't Procrastinate:

Nonprofit agencies are very busy and sometimes hard to contact. If you wait until the last minute, you may find it difficult to get the volunteer position you want.

Be Realistic:

Pace yourself. It is easier to start small and increase your commitment than to have to back out because you have taken on too much.

Visit the Agency:

In order to know the agency, visit and ask lots of questions. Visiting the organization can give you valuable information about its mission and the job you may be doing as a volunteer.

Be Responsible:

Remember you are representing your generation and yourself. Be on time! If you are going to be late or unable to make your appointment, call ahead. Keep in mind that the work you do as a volunteer is always important and the agency is depending on you to fulfill your commitment.

Have fun!

Remember helping out does not have to be boring. You can meet people, gain skills, and even get a recommendation for a job or school. Most of all, make it an experience you will enjoy!

Group Projects

If you are interested in volunteering on your own, you can skip this page and the information on service-learning. **If you are an adult or youth leader of a group, a teacher, or anyone who wants to organize a project for a group of young people, then read on!**

A group service project is a great way to bring a group closer together while at the same time providing a service that is difficult for one person to do alone. The benefits of the experience can be amazing. However, group projects do take a little extra planning.

Here's how to get started:

Find an Agency

Browse through this guide for agencies that are in your area of interest. Make sure the agency is designated as "group friendly" by locating the "star" symbol next to the agency's name in the index of agencies.

If there is nothing that catches your eye, if the one agency that interests you is not listed as group-friendly or the minimum age doesn't match the age of your group participants, call them anyway. **Never be afraid to ask an agency if they need help!**

Put Together a Project

Contact the agency and let them know you were referred by Volunteer Fairfax. Tell them your group is interested in a group project. Ask them if they have, or could design, a special project for your group. It is also great to suggest projects. Agencies love new ideas! Be ready to discuss details such as when your group is available, how many people will be on hand, how many adults, the ages of the participants and how long you will be willing to work.

Keep the Agency's Needs in Mind!

Keep in mind the agency's accommodations and needs. Don't push anything that they may not be ready for. Remember, your group wants to help them, but only if they want the help.

Service Learning

Service Learning is a teaching strategy that links academic curriculum with service to the community. Community service and service learning have many similarities. Both emphasize civic responsibility, meeting community needs, and creating strong collaborations in the community. Both value personal, social, career and ethical growth of students. **The difference is that service learning integrates classroom teaching with hands-on service experiences that enhance and deepen student learning.**

Service Learning...

- ✓ Is a method whereby students or participants learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community;
- ✓ Is coordinated with an elementary school, secondary school, institution of higher education, or community service program and with the community;
- ✓ Helps foster civic responsibility;
- ✓ Is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the students or the educational components of the community service program in which the participants are enrolled;
- ✓ Provides structured time for the students and participants to reflect on the service experience.¹

Why Use Service Learning?

Students involved in service learning receive a variety of academic and social benefits. Students will. . .

- ✓ Understand the relevance of what is being taught in school and apply learning and skills to the outside world.
- ✓ Remember and use the content information and skills that they learned in class through service learning.
- ✓ Have an improved understanding of their role as citizens in a democratic society.
- ✓ Understand that every community has needs that are often unmet and learn how to identify those needs.
- ✓ Develop an ethic of providing service to others and to their community.
- ✓ Understand that working with other people as a team is often an effective way of addressing issues and solving community problems.
- ✓ Reflect on their service experiences and on the effect of those experiences on the lives of people they served or on their own lives.²

Examples of Service-Learning

Service learning is a teaching strategy that can work for all students, in all subject areas and at all grade levels. Here are some examples of service-learning projects:

¹ The National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993.

² Report of the State Superintendent's Service Learning Task Force, California Department of Education, 1999.

In elementary school: 3rd grade students partner with a nearby senior care facility. Students study letter writing. At the facility, students take dictation of letters from seniors, return to their classroom, and prepare the letter to be sent with appropriate form, spelling, and grammar. The seniors sign the letters and the students mail them.

In middle school: 7th grade science students design, create and maintain a garden located in a deserted lot in the back of the school. The garden, consisting of native California plants and ecosystems, is used as a focal point for the study of geology, ecology, and agriculture.

In high school: Students in an American Democracy class volunteer at public or community based agencies, after brainstorming issues related to the theme of poverty. The teacher assigns readings related to the theme. Each student maintains a journal with entries relating their experiences to classroom learning.

Additional Resources

Online Resources

Volunteer Facts and Statistics

Servenet - www.servenet.org

Kids Care - www.kidscare.org

At The Table - www.atthetable.org

Youth Service America - www.ysa.org/nysd/statistics.html

Service Learning

National Service Learning Clearinghouse - www.servicelearning.org

SEANet - www.seanetonline.org

Service Learning In Deed - www.learningindeed.org

Prudential - www.prudential.com/community

National Youth Leadership Council - www.nylc.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Fairfax - www.volunteerfairfax.org

Volunteer Match - www.volunteermatch.org

Firstlink - www.firstlink.org

Youth Service Opportunities Project - www.ysop.org

Youth Activism/Resources

Youth In Action - www.youthlink.org

Do Something - www.dosomething.org

Youth as Resources - www.yar.org

Youth Venture - www.youthventure.org

The Corporation for National and Community Service - www.cns.gov

Grant Information

Win an Award!

Throughout Northern Virginia, hundreds of volunteers lend their time, talent, and resources with boundless generosity, spirit, and enthusiasm. Many companies give back to recognize and reward the vital work done by volunteers. Check out these grants sponsored by businesses and/or organizations:

1. Angels in Action™

Georgia-Pacific, maker of Angel Soft® bath tissue, is excited to sponsor the third annual *Angels in Action™* Awards Program. This program rewards children who perform exemplary acts of service to benefit a community, charity or cause.

Ten angels between the ages of 8 and 15 will be awarded \$5,000 each and a year's supply of Angel Soft bath tissue. For further information, please visit <http://www.angelsoft.com>.

2. Awards for Youth Leaders: YouthActionNet

YouthActionNet awards small grants to youth leaders and their projects that promote social change and connect youth with local communities. Youth can be involved in a wide range of activities, from recruiting peers as volunteers to promoting public health, but the overall goal of the project must be community improvement. Award recipients will receive \$500 and funds for a disposable camera to photo-document their project for an online photo gallery. For further information, please visit <http://www.youthactionnet.org/minigrants.php>.

3. Colgate Youth For America Award

If you are between the ages of 4 and 19 and are a member of one of the organizations listed below, your club can enter!

- Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- Girls Incorporated
- Camp Fire, Inc.
- National 4H Council

Colgate will provide monetary grants to those groups whose projects are the most innovative and successful. You must submit a one-page summary of your project by March 2003. The top 318 local unit winners can win up to \$1000 in cash. A bonus prize of an additional \$1000 is awarded to the project voted "Best in the Nation." For further information please visit, http://www.colgate.com/cp/corp.class/colgate_cares/youthForAmer.jsp.

4. The Congressional Award

The Congressional Award is the U.S. Congress' award for young Americans. The program is open to all 4 to 23 year olds. Participants earn bronze, silver and gold Congressional Awards and bronze, silver and gold Congressional Award medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas; Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. For further information, please visit <http://www.congressionalaward.org>.

5. Daily Points of Light Award

The Daily Points of Light Awards are designed to honor those who have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help meet critical needs in their communities. Any individual, organization, group, family, business or labor union actively engaged in voluntary service may apply. To find out more, contact the Points of Light Foundation, www.pointsoflight.org, or to receive a nomination form, please call (202) 729-8184 or email awards@pointsoflight.org.

6. President's Student Service Challenge Award

The President's Student Service Challenge was launched in December 1998 as a way to recognize and encourage young people who are making positive contributions to their communities. The Challenge consists of two parts: the President's Student Service Scholarship and the President's Student Service Award. The Awards are designed to recognize youth ages 5 to 25 who complete at least 100 hours of service to their community within a 12-month period. Students receive a gold pin, a certificate and a letter from the President. There is also a silver level award for youth ages 5 to 14 who complete 50 hours within a 12-month period. The Scholarships are available for one student from each high school in the country. For further information, please visit <http://www.student-service-awards.org>.

7. Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

The Prudential Spirit of Community awards recognize students in middle and high school who have demonstrated exemplary community service. The awards program is sponsored by Prudential in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Award winners are then selected at the local, state and national levels.

8. Start Something

Start Something is a program for youth ages 8 to 17 that helps them figure out what steps they should take to pursue their interests and reach their goals. Young people ages 11 to 14 can win up to \$100 to \$5,000 in scholarship money. For further information, please visit <http://startsomething.target.com/info/index.asp>.

Volunteerism after High School

Below are options for youth to research in an effort to continue volunteer service after high school.

AmeriCorps: www.americorps.gov

AmeriCorps is an opportunity to make a big difference in your life and in the lives of those around you. It's a chance to apply your skills and ideals toward helping others and meeting critical needs in the community. Each year, AmeriCorps offers 75,000 opportunities for adults of all ages and backgrounds to serve through a network of partnerships with local and national nonprofit groups. Whether your service makes a community safer, gives a child a second chance, or helps protect the environment, you'll be getting things done through AmeriCorps! You must be at least 17 years old, although some service opportunities require you to be at least 18. For one of our programs, the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), members must be between 18 and 24 years old, but for most there are no upper age limits.

City Year: www.cityyear.org

City Year unites young people of all backgrounds for a year of full-time service, giving them skills and opportunities to change the world. As tutors, mentors and role models, these diverse young leaders help children stay in school and on track, and transform schools and communities across the United States, as well as through international affiliates in Johannesburg, South Africa and London, England. Just as important, during their year of service corps members develop civic leadership skills they can use throughout a lifetime of community service. To participate, you must be between the ages of 17 and 24, be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident alien, and be a high school graduate or GED recipient or agree to work toward high school equivalency while serving at City Year. A full term of service with City Year is 10 months.

Amigos de las Americas: www.amigoslink.org

With AMIGOS, you will have the chance to live with one or two other Volunteers in a small community in Latin America. Our program is the perfect way to improve your Spanish fluency while gaining experiences that will set you apart from your peers and give you the skills necessary to accomplish your school and career goals. AMIGOS puts cultural sensitivity, youth action, and safety first when developing volunteer opportunities with our partner agencies. Our approach includes placing volunteers in communities in groups of 2-3, family home stays, an elaborate system for supervision and support, and a tried and true safety and security system. The minimum age for participation in an AMIGOS Latin American project is 16 years of age on or before the following September 1, provided that the individual has completed his or her sophomore year of high school.

20 Ways to Make a Difference in Your Community

Courtesy of Youth Service America

Young people are serving their communities at record numbers. Last year, 13 million teens gave 2.4 billion hours of service back to their communities. If you want to help your community, here are some ideas for how you can make a difference.

1. Help teach a younger child to read.
2. Help cook and/or serve a meal at a homeless shelter.
3. Gather clothing from your neighbors and donate it to a local shelter.
4. Make "I Care" kits with combs, toothbrushes, shampoo, etc. for the homeless.
5. Pack and hand out food at a local food bank.
6. Adopt a "grandfriend" and write them letters and visit them.
7. Visit senior citizens at a nursing home.
8. Rake leaves, shovel snow, clean gutters, or wash windows for a senior citizen.
9. Pick up groceries or medicine for an elderly person.
10. Go for a walk with a senior citizen in your community.
11. Deliver meals to homebound individuals.
12. Hold an afternoon dance for your local nursing home.
13. Teach a senior friend how to use a computer and the Internet.
14. Paint a mural over graffiti.
15. Invite local police officers to present a drug awareness or safety presentation.
16. Tutor a student that needs help learning English or some other subject.
17. Organize a canned goods drive.
18. Clean up a vacant lot or park.
19. Contact your local volunteer center for opportunities to serve.
20. Plant flowers in public areas that could use some color.