

Peeling back the layers of Community Service



The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others - Gandhi

Community Service: volunteer work done for free in order to give back to the community.

Why Community Service Work is Beneficial To You:

Personal Benefits:

Increased sense of social responsibility
 Exposure to diversity and multiculturalism
 Opportunity to apply academic learning to human needs
 Builds relationships and "social connectedness" with peers, adults and activists sharing a cause
 Improves communication and critical thinking skills

College Benefits:

Helps you stand out among other applicants
 Admissions officers want well rounded co-eds who volunteer
 Service work is a leading decision-making factor after a student's GPA and SAT scores
 Provides a topic of interest for college essays: emphasis on "why" and "how" you tackled an issue

Career Benefits:

Helps you find your passion and interest that may lead to a career choice you may have not considered
 Helps you develop lifelong interpersonal and communication skills

No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted. - Aesop

<https://www.teenlife.com/blogs/why-community-service-work-beneficial-teenagers>



Need More Reasons Why You Should Volunteer? Here You Go...

1. **You get to help those that need it.** You get to give back in any area that is important to you.

2. **Volunteering is great for your mental and even physical health.** Not only does volunteering boost self-confidence and happiness, but it has also been found that people who volunteer have lower mortality rates than those who don't.

3. **Volunteering can teach you the social and networking skills that you will need as an adult.** Volunteering can teach you how to network and build a list of important contacts. The people you volunteer with are also great candidates for recommendation letters. These are the people who have seen how you interact with others in social situations and how you handle new challenges.

4. **Volunteering lets you see how others experience the world and opens your eyes to something new.** Volunteering can expose you to very new experiences that you may not have known otherwise and gives you the contacts to pursue that passion.

5. **Make your resume shine.** Volunteer experience can set you apart from other applicants for a job and for school applications. Your volunteer experience shows that you are ambitious, that you care about your community, and that you are willing to work to affect change.

<https://www.teenlife.com/blogs/top-five-reasons-every-teen-should-volunteer>

Get Ready to Find Your Fit! Let's Brainstorm... (go on, fill in the blanks)

Current Hobbies:	Skills You Have:	Learning Interest:	Passions:
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Now Ask Yourself These Questions...

- What would I like to learn by volunteering?
- What don't I want to do as a volunteer?
- What kind of time commitment am I looking for?
- Do I want to work alone or in a group?
- Am I willing to take training to volunteer?
- What kind of people do I want to work with?

<https://www.serviceleader.org/volunteers/finding>



If You're Interested In:

Consider Volunteering At:

Animals	animal shelter, zoo, humane society
Art	a local arts festival, summer camp, museum
Computers	library, seniors center
Crafts	seniors home, camp, church, children's charity
Helping people	a hospital, a local charity, nursing home, service club, food bank
Music	a local music festival, charity event, camp
Nature	tree planting event, local environmental organization
Reading	library, school, literacy program
Sports	summer camp, local sports leagues, charity walk or bike ride, Special Olympics

Make Contact...

Become a Volunteer!

Looking for volunteer work is very much like looking for a paying job--only better!

Expect volunteering to be a fun way to spend your valuable time, with the added benefit of helping others. The more you know about what you want to do, the more valuable you will be to the organization you join as a volunteer.

Websites that will match you up with an organization:
www.volunteermatch.org
www.idealists.org
www.pointsoflight.org

How to find a place to volunteer:

1. Internet
2. Newspaper
3. Ask your friends, family, friends, or school counselor
4. Bulletin boards
5. Call your local non-profits, to see if they need help

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Tips For Being a Top Notch Volunteer!

Show Up: Resist the urge to skip a day, no matter how tempting ("I'm not getting paid. . . I don't really owe 'em anything"). Remember, you're establishing a work record for that future job.

Speak Up: Don't be shy about asking questions. Don't be embarrassed if you don't understand something. In the real world, successful adults speak up when they're confused.

Step Up: Any time you see something that needs to be done, do it without being asked. They'll appreciate your initiative.

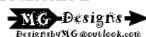


CAREER INFOGRAPHICS PROVIDED BY:



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YOUTH CAREERCONNECT
 KEDC Project **ACHIEVE**



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