



Volunteer Resources

For young people who may not be interested in or require a camp-like experience, summer is a great time to participate in volunteer activities. While benefiting the community, the skills and developmental assets gained by young people who volunteer early in life translates to future benefits for them personally and for society.

Listed below are several volunteer resource organizations that connect volunteers with community needs and offer opportunities for youth as young as 14 years of age. Included are telephone numbers and /or web addresses. Please contact individual organizations directly.

VOLUNTEER AGENCIES

Volunteer Center of San Mateo
(650) 235-3550
www.thevolunteercenter.net

Volunteer Center of the East Bay
(925) 472-5760
www.helpnow.org

Volunteer Center of San Francisco
(415) 982-8999
www.thevolunteercenter.net

Humane Society of Silicon Valley
(408) 262-2133.
www.hssv.org

Idealist Organization: Action Without Borders
www.idealist.org (503) 227-0803 (New York City)

On-line resources:
www.networkforgood.org
www.dosomething.org
www.onebrick.org

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
(510) 268-0572
www.nationalmssociety.org

Bay Area Volunteer Information Center
www.volunteerinfo.org

The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley
(408) 929-9453
www.wcsv.org

Volunteer Match
(415) 241-6868
www.volunteermatch.org

Habitat for Humanity Silicon Valley
(408) 942-6444
www.habitatsiliconvalley.org

Haas Center for Public Service
<http://haas.stanford.edu>
Phone (650) 723-0992
Opportunities for Action
(on the Haas web site click on "Programs"
and select community opportunities)

Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose
www.cdm.org
(408) 298-5437 ext. 271

VOLUNTEER TIPS FOR PARENTS:

- Get your child excited about serving his/her community.
- Make sure your child really wants to volunteer.
- Treat volunteering as serious and hold your child accountable for his/her commitment.
- Ask questions about supervision where your child is volunteering.
- Support your child by showing interest in what he/she is doing.
- Reflect with your child about his/her experience while volunteering.
- Set an example, volunteer yourself, or volunteer with your child or as a family.
- Allow your child to call the agency.
- Encourage your child to ask questions; talk about them before the call.
- Don't commit your child without his/her full agreement and enthusiasm.

VOLUNTEER TIPS FOR KIDS

- Think about what activities you like before you call an agency.
- Plan or practice what you will say before you call the agency.
- Ask specifically about what kind of tasks you will be doing.
- Go prepared to work and give something of yourself.
- Call as soon as possible if you cannot meet your commitment.
- Don't feel pushed into volunteering to do something you don't think you will enjoy just because you made an inquiry to an agency.
- Don't sign-up for too many hours, especially at first.