



The
VOLUNTEER CENTER
of Northwest Suburban Chicago

CURRENT GROUP PROJECT OPTIONS

Contact Annette Sommer for further information – 847-228-1320

LOCATION	EVENT / NEED	DESCRIPTION
Mount Prospect	Organize and update Special Olympics equipment	Group of 5 to 8 can help with painting of 5 sets of award stands, inventorying Special Olympic medals, equipment and souvenirs, and pulling equipment for the Area Volleyball Tournament being held in September. There is also a need to clean equipment; water jugs need to be bleached, the floors and shelves need to be wiped down and/or mopped. Weekdays, approximately 3 hours – Ages teen to adult groups
Various	Junior Achievement presentations to students in grade K-6	Individuals or groups needed to each Junior Achievement programs to students, grades K-6 th at local schools, various weekday dates. Volunteers can co-teach. All materials needed and training provided. No person equipment or materials. Everything provided in a one hour training provided prior to volunteer date. Can use between 10-20 volunteers Ongoing need, various dates and schools available.
Rolling Meadows	Repeating event - Newsletter Mailing Assistance	Assist with a newsletter mailing for an organization that rescues and serves orphans in third world countries. Label and stuff envelopes, seal, and run through postage machine. <u>Individuals up to 7-10 volunteers</u> , Flexible hours 9:00-5:00, usually on a <u>Wed, Thurs or Fri, as determined by printing deadlines</u> , (Future dates available, mailing will be done on a monthly basis.)
Airport	Help Honor World War II Veterans!!!	Be part of the emotional “welcome party” arrival back home at the airport for World War II veterans who will be taken on a one day trip to Washington to visit their memorial. Volunteers will also distribute flyers with information on Honor Flight Chicago to the rest of the crowd so that other vets can be honored. Fox News and WGN have covered two other events (April & May) and hope to return. Evenings at Midway Airport, Dates to be announced. A little out of our area, but WHAT A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY! <u>Up to 50 volunteers needed</u>
Rolling Meadows	Mailings and office support for center serving siblings of children with cancer	This special agency is dedicated to honoring, supporting and recognizing brothers & sisters of children with cancer. They support over 12,000 children ages 4 -18 throughout the U.S. Activities can include assembling boxes for sending out courage trophies to siblings, putting personalized name plates on trophies, assembling mailers with welcome kits, mailing journals so they can record their feelings, making fun & creative Smilecards to mail to them to brighten their day, etc. Week day or customized week night to be agreed upon, 6:00 to 9:00pm – groups up to 12 or so

Palatine	Book Sorting and Pricing for a fundraiser supporting programs for the physically and mentally challenged	An agency serving the mentally and physically challenged needs help sorting and pricing books for their gigantic Used Book Sale held annually in June, the largest fundraiser supporting their programs. This is so much fun and great for groups. All weekdays, and customized week nights and for groups of 5-12, Saturdays also. <u>Small to large groups</u>
Schaumburg	Conservation & Environmental	Assist with conservation work at an area nature center on the 4th Saturday of the month, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m, Workers will prune, clear & thin brush from wooded areas, grounds clean up & planting projects. <u>Groups welcome</u>
Glenview	Help the environmental restoration team work on the land	Make a difference in the environment! Help The Grove's restoration team clear brush, remove weeds, collect seeds or remove non-native invasive plants to make way for native wildflowers, grasses and trees. Age 16 up. Call for scheduled restoration days. <u>Special Wednesday or Friday dates can be organized for groups of 10 to 25. Bring work gloves</u>
Palatine	Cleaning Help Needed for agency serving children and adults with challenges!	A large campus serving the physically and mentally challenged always needs extra help with cleaning projects and maintenance at their group homes or in their activity and vocational centers, as well as on their grounds. Spend a few hours helping them "shine up the place"! <u>Small and large groups.</u>
Arlington Heights	Donation Drives for the needy (in these tough economic times, more and more people are looking to our centers for necessities for their families)	Volunteers are needed to do donation drives for items for the homeless, individuals and families in crisis, a transitional housing and safe house program for homeless women and children, local townships, etc. Food pantry items, paper products, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene products, infant and toddler products (diapers, baby powder, etc) and non-perishable foods, gift cards for grocery stores, gas, transportation, car maintenance establishments, drug stores and discount stores. <u>All size groups</u>
Schaumburg	Help beautify local Nature Center property	If you don't mind hard work, a Nature Center / farm site in Schaumburg needs helpers to scrape and repaint a large portion of the white picket fencing that runs around the center / farm. Also laying of a limestone path (funds needed for this project. Must be completed on Mondays, when the center is closed. Groups up to 20 (larger groups with approval) – bring work gloves, wear work clothes
Barrington	Various maintenance needs for center serving homeless women and their children	This transitional living facility serving homeless women and their children can use help with various projects – group/s can adopt one up to all projects – need to be done on week days 1) yard work 2) repaint black garage door frame 3) repaint north facing window frame on porch 4) organize and clean basement rooms, including pantry, laundry room, and kids room 5) especially trim bushes and hedges in front of house so that storm windows can be reached and re-attached Supplies needed based on project: all paint <u>Small group up to 15</u>
Park Ridge	Maintenance Support	Services needed at a transitional living facility for homeless women and their children – cleaning and organizing basement shelves that hold a food/supply pantry, cleaning the computer room, cleaning outside back stairs. Two hours up – depending on number of volunteers. Groups up to 8 – week days – bring cleaning supplies

Palatine, Niles or Schaumburg	Resale Shop help benefitting homeless women and their children	<u>Groups up to 8</u> can help arranging donated items to be moved to the sales floor, cleaning and organizing the sales floor, rearranging items such as clothes in their proper place – seasonal projects re-organizing entire sales floor or preparing new displays. Volunteers bring own plastic gloves, possible 33-gal garbage bags.
Arlington Heights	Special Olympics Holiday Basketball Tournament	Assist with Special Olympics Basketball Tournaments – help with registration, scorekeeping, as a referee, hospitality, awards, etc. Being held at John Hersey High School, Sunday, December 13 and Sunday, January 17, 7:00am – 3:00pm – <u>up to 100 volunteers needed</u>
Various	Blood Drive Assistance	An organization who works to provide safe, reliable and efficient blood services to Chicagoland hospitals, patients and donors. Help with one-day blood drives held at area places of business or schools – greet and register donors, serve refreshments, watch for adverse reactions, etc. <u>Various locations and # of volunteers</u>
Various	Maintenance Support	Transitional Housing for area homeless and low income families paint 8 apartment, all rooms (Jefferson Building, located in Des Plaines) and the main offices (located in Mt. Prospect) that have not been painted since 1997.- <u>several groups, variety of sizes, larger groups up to 25 volunteers per group at apartments</u>
Schaumburg	Outdoor Recreation Development	Development of outdoor recreational spaces at senior living facility, such as horse shoes, bocce ball and basketball for the seniors recreational activities and enjoyment – <u>up to 20 volunteers needed</u> Redevelopment of several garden spaces – <u>10 -20 volunteers needed</u>
Niles	Maintenance Support	Landscaping and painting deck of group home for adults with disabilities in Niles – <u>up to 20 volunteers needed.</u>
Mt. Prospect	Maintenance Support	Transitional home for homeless women and their children needs large back porch (size 10x20) to be painted, floor is cement and rails are wood. Other landscaping can be done at same home if time allows - <u>up to 12 volunteers needed</u>
Highland Park Deerfield	Maintenance Support	Paint the group homes inside for agency that support adults with disabilities. Residents would have to be moved out for the day. The Highland Park home needs painting and landscaping. - <u>needs 20 – 30 volunteers.</u> A larger group home located in Deerfield that needs painting. – <u>up to 20 volunteers needed.</u> <i>Paint would be provided – volunteers bring brushes, rollers and tarps.</i>
Various	Conservation	Help keep the Forest Preserves in Cook County beautiful for all to enjoy. Plan a day to help clean up an area, supplies are provided. Or help with habitat restoration - brush clearing, seed plantings, schedule varies throughout the year. <u>Small to large groups needed</u>

Elk Grove	HIV/AIDS nutrition	Help with packing food boxes in a warehouse in Elk Grove Village for delivery to HIV/AIDS clients from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays each month.
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