



Characteristics of a Volunteer!

By definition, a volunteer is someone who assists your organization without remuneration (pay). Volunteers are accountable for and subject to the same policies and procedures that apply to salaried staff.

Who is Volunteering? Some statistics on volunteers by the Independent Sector in its new report on giving and volunteering in the U.S.:

- 83.9 million people over the age of 21 volunteer - (44% of the population).
- Volunteers averaged 3.6 hours per week of service annually.
- 85% of nonprofit organizations have volunteers.
- Women are more likely to volunteer than men 46% to 42% respectively.
- 28% of Americans volunteer with their family members.

Active volunteers come in both sexes and in all sizes, shapes, colors, and personalities. An active volunteer broadens the interests of the rest of the household by bringing them into contact with ideas outside the home and business. Volunteerism is an active example of willingness to cooperate and help others -- and when deemed necessary, to change the world to make it a better place in which to live.

Ideal volunteers have:

- A genuine liking for people.
- Strengths in organizing and documenting their work.
- Active effort to promote human welfare.
- Computer skills or willingness to learn.
- Strengths in taking initiatives once the task is clearly understood.
- A willingness to learn.
- A persistently cheerful and positive demeanor

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face."

— Eleanor Roosevelt

Who Can Volunteer?

People of all ages and backgrounds who are responsible, enthusiastic, in good health and are willing to commit several hours a week to serving others. Whether you are a retiree or just have some extra time you would like to give back to your community.