

### **What is the application process to volunteer?**

Before they get started volunteers will submit an application to receive an invitation to the next orientation and training. All volunteer applicants must attend both of these meetings.

### **How soon can I start volunteering?**

In order for us to make sure we place you in the best volunteer assignment (that meets both your needs and the facility's) you will need to complete the application process before you are accepted as a volunteer. Once you hear that you are accepted, from the Volunteer Department, you can get started right away.

### **What would I do as a volunteer?**

Volunteers work in various assignments throughout the facility. Placement would depend on the volunteer's skills, schedule and interest, as well as the facility's current needs. We have volunteers assisting our residents in many areas including with our recreation programs and trips, physical and occupational therapy departments, religious services, friendly visiting and our resident library. Volunteers also assist with pet therapy, taking care of the facility's indoor plants, staffing our gift shop, helping out in our cafeteria and laundry and assisting in many offices. It is our job to help place you in a volunteer assignment that you enjoy and that meets the facility's needs.

### **Is there a minimum number of hours required?**

We have a minimum of 30 annual hours we ask of volunteers. Some departments offer flexibility and a volunteer does not need to come in weekly. Other assignments require a set schedule each week.

### **What are the hours?**

We have volunteer opportunities both daytime and evening, during the week and on weekends. The hours depend on the specific volunteer assignment. See our [Current Volunteer Opportunities](#) to get a better idea of where we need help and the hours.

### **Where do you need the most help?**

Although we can use volunteer's help in a variety of areas and during a variety of hours, one of our biggest needs is volunteers to assist our Recreation Department during the evenings (usually Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday) and weekends. We also can use volunteers to help our Recreation Department with some of their bigger trips, such as the trips to Belmont Race Track and monthly shopping. Trips are usually on Wednesdays. Another need we have is volunteers to provide one-on-one visits with our residents, through our "Resident Support" program. In addition we have some skilled based volunteer opportunities. See our [Current Volunteer Opportunities](#).

### **Can I volunteer with a friend or family member?**

Yes, we have many couples, family members and friends who volunteer together. Some work in the same job together, others just come in the same time but work in different areas. If you want, we will try and place you together.

**Do I need to have experience to volunteer?**

No, there is no previous knowledge or education necessary. We provide training and guidance to help your volunteer experience with us be a success.

**Is there training and support?**

Yes, before you get started as a volunteer you will attend a volunteer training. In addition you will receive “on the job” training and support from our staff. We also provide volunteers with training workshops throughout the year as an opportunity for you to improve your skills and increase your fulfillment from your volunteer work.

**Are there opportunities to meet other volunteers?**

Yes, every year we have several events for volunteers. This gives volunteers an opportunity to get to know each other, make friends and learn from each other’s experience. These include our volunteer training workshops, recognition events and activities and committee involvement.