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A note on volunteering

This Directory

This volunteer directory was developed so that faith formation classes and parishioners could more easily connect with community non-profits. The Worthington Deanery includes: **Pipestone, Rock, Murray, Nobles, Cottonwood, and Jackson Counties.**

Things to consider

- How much time do I have to give?
- What are my gifts that I want to share?
- Is there a certain population that I would enjoy working with (children, elderly, immigrants, etc.)
Community Organizations

The Achievement Center
Hope Haven Inc.

As followers of Christ we unleash potential in people through work and life skills so that they may enjoy a productive life in their community.

Volunteers working at The Achievement Center and with clients will be required to sign a confidentiality statement and successfully clear a background check – does not apply to May Sale and other fund raiser activities outside of The Achievement Center facility. The Achievement Center will provide any orientation/training necessary or appropriate to make a volunteer comfortable in the role we are asking them to fill.

- Support to supervisors in the contracts and laundry areas and to job coaches at community work sites.
- General, light-duty maintenance and/or working with clients to complete maintenance work.
- Morning greeters in client break room, from 7:45-9am. (visiting with clients as they arrive, assisting with questions, announcements, locker keys, vacation request paperwork, distributing paychecks, etc.)
- Client break room monitors during noon lunch break, 12:30-1:00. (visiting with clients, maintaining order, assisting with lunches, distributing delivered lunches, etc.)
- Van drivers for noon runs and coverage for morning and afternoon runs when regular drivers are unable
- Providing rides for individuals who work short days or have appointments during the work day.
- Working our May Sale fundraiser (setup; sorting; displaying merchandise; cashiering; clean up)
- Making local/area business contacts in early spring to secure fundraiser certificates or cash donations.
- Helping to develop and carry out other fundraisers throughout the year.

Don Brands
414 Industrial Lane, Worthington
507-376-3168
dbrands@hopehaven.org
www.hopehaven.org

American Red Cross
The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

Shelter teams: a group of trained volunteers that open a shelter in their community in the event of a disaster, like a tornado or apartment fire, to temporarily house those affected that cannot return to their homes (often formed at a church or business that has a building with a suitable space large enough for a dormitory area).
Disaster Action Team: Red Cross trained disaster volunteers that are part of an on-call team to respond to emergency calls to assist families affected by disaster; at least two team members meet drive out to meet the family, provide comfort kits, and interview family to determine immediate disaster-related needs such as lodging for 24-48 hours, financial assistance for food, clothing, and referrals for long-term assistance. Licensed mental health professionals and nurses also are needed to help clients with their emotional and physical/medical needs after the disaster.

National disaster volunteers: Red Cross trained volunteers also may deploy on national disaster responses in areas they are trained in such as, damage assessment, sheltering, disaster mental health, health services, mobile feeding, etc.

General office volunteers: Assist the local American Red Cross chapter with chapter operations, managing paperwork, community outreach, special events, etc.

Blood donors are always needed at local blood drives.
Southwest MN Chapter American Red Cross

Rachel Kruger
716 Oxford St. Suite #2, Worthington
507-387-6664
rachel.kruger@redcross.org
www.redcrossmn.org

Big Buddies
Western Community Action Inc.

Do you want to make a difference in a young person’s life? Become a Big Buddy!

Big Buddies is a youth mentoring organization that focuses on at-risk or disadvantaged youth between the ages of 5 to 18. We match these youth with caring, adult volunteers in their area to provide a stable, positive relationship in their lives.

In order to provide this type of relationship, mentors meet with their Little Buddies at least twice a month for a year. Big and Little Buddies do all sorts of activities together, including fishing, swimming, cooking, arts & crafts, watching movies, and just hanging out! The program also provides one activity a month for Big and Little Buddies to participate in. No training required! Big Buddies are adults, 16 years and older who are friendly, compassionate, and love kids!

You can also be a Big Buddy for a Day! You can share a talent, interest, or hobby you have to some of our Little Buddies. Activities could include basketball, card making, photography, Tae Kwon Do, acting,
woodworking, or anything you enjoy! This could be for one day or one day a week for several weeks. It is up to you!

Big Buddies has programs in Cottonwood, Jackson, Redwood, and Rock Counties.

Tammy Peterson  
Jackson and Cottonwood counties  
507-537-1416 ext. 101  
tamara.peterson@wcainc.org  
www.mybigbuddies.org

Sherri Smith  
Rock County  
507-283-1302  
smithsl@msu.edu

Catholic Charities  
Diocese of Winona

Catholic Charities is a comprehensive social service agency providing a full range of services to children, families, adults, seniors and communities, and serves people of all faiths.

1234 Oxford Street, Worthington  
507-376-9757

Compassionate Care Hospice

Compassionate Care offers hospice, home health and palliative care. Hospice is a service provided to the terminally ill and their family to ease the physical and emotional trauma associated with end of life.

Patient Care- provides patient care and support services that enhance the quality of life for patients and their families, such as grocery shopping, providing companionship, or prepare a snack as required.

Office Work- assists the clinical department in matters associated with day to day operations such as recordkeeping, answering the telephone, filing and other support tasks as required.

Pet Therapy- provides support services in compliance with hospice policies. The Pet-Therapy Certified pet is utilized therapeutically to implement the hospice plan of care, providing tactile stimulation, aid in relaxation, companionship, and other quality of life benefits to patients.

Other- Are you licensed in the field of your expertise? The opportunities to volunteer are as numerous as the individual needs of each of our patients and their families.

Laurie Timmer  
31361 State Highway 266, Worthington
Ecumen Meadows

Ecumen Meadows is a community of Ecumen, the most innovative leader of senior housing and services, empowering individuals to live richer and fuller lives.

We are looking for volunteers in our memory care to play basic games with residents, children to come visit, persons to play our piano or your own musical instrument or even sing for us. Volunteers are also welcome to give manicures. With your gift of time, the possibilities are almost endless how you could make a difference in the lives of our residents. If you have musical talents or special program presentations and are willing to give them on a larger scale, we would be delighted if you would consider a performance in our assisted living as well.

Training will be based on need and experience.

Cheryl Dinsmore, Volunteer Coordinator
1801 Collegeway, Worthington
507-372-7838
cheryldinsmore@ecumen.org
www.EcumenMeadows.org

Foster Grandparents
Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota expresses the love of Christ for all people through acts of service.

Mentor disadvantaged and disabled children and youth. Tutor children, mentor pre-school and Head Start children, offer support to youth in residential centers, provide a positive example. A minimum weekly commitment of 15-20 hours is asked of each volunteer.

Forty hours of training, hourly stipend and transportation reimbursement is provided. Volunteers must be 55 or older.

Gail Sumerfelt
1-507-337-0382 gail.sumerfelt@lssmn.org
www.lssmn.org/seniorcorps/default.htm

Habitat for Humanity
Southwestern Habitat for Humanity
Habitat for Humanity is a Christian organization that works in partnership with God and people everywhere, to develop communities with God's people by building and renovating houses so that families may have adequate, simple, affordable housing.

Volunteer during house construction as a Site Supervisor, Site Host, Volunteer Coordinator, or Meal Coordinator. Serve on a Habitat for Humanity committee or become a Board Member. Committees are:
- **Public Relations** - responsible for all public communications with regular promotions
- **Family Selection** - receives and processes family applications for homes
- **Family Support** - builds lasting relationships with Habitat families to support and educate throughout the building and ownership processes
- **Site Construction Committee** - recruits and leads subcontractors, and takes part from land acquisition to house dedication
- **Church Relations** - partners with local churches to involve church members in Habitat fundraising
- **Fund Development** - raises necessary funds through events, solicitation, and grants

Volunteer registration forms must be submitted before participating in a build.

Pam Dobson  
116 2nd Ave SW, Pipestone  
507-215-2091 swmnh4h@gmail.com  
www.swmnh4h.org

**Literacy Volunteers**  
District 518 Community Education

Tutoring and classroom help (in groups or one-on-one). Activities may include:
- **Citizenship** - Using provided flashcards, help students practice citizenship interview questions. Help lower-language level students with basic literacy skills. Conduct a mock citizenship interview.
- **ESL** - “Float” around the classroom or computer lab, helping students with various activities. Help students with pronunciation by reading stories and activities out loud. Listen to students read, helping them with pronunciation, fluency, and vocabulary. Discuss stories. Engage in conversational practice.
- **GED** - Lead students in activities: reading, writing, social studies, science, and/or math. Tutors can lead mini-lessons (information provided by the teacher). Review practice GED tests with students.
- **Even Start Preschool (3-4 year olds)** - Join children in playtime. Strengthen children’s English language skills through conversation and literacy activities. Help build skills like coloring, prewriting, cutting, etc. Assist teacher in preparing activities. Sit with children during circle time. Help with infant and 0-3 year-old childcare. Assist with field trips to the library and other community organizations.
- **After-school (Elementary, Middle, and High School)** - Aid students as they need help on their homework. Read to elementary classes. Help teachers with enrichment classes (Game Zone, art, cooking, etc.).
- **Imagination Library** - Monthly, deliver books to homes around Worthington. Spanish is a plus.

Training and orientation required, classroom observation recommended

Justin Stevenson
117 11th Avenue, Suite 3, Worthington
507-372-1219
justin.stevenson@isd518.net

Love in the Name of Christ (Love INC)

To mobilize local churches to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ.

40+ volunteer opportunities available including coordinating, taking phone calls, giving rides, repairing or delivering furniture, mentoring, financial counseling, yard work, office work, catering, data entry, child care, etc.

Volunteer orientations are held monthly for an hour. They are meant to give an overview of the opportunities available and to find which opportunities best match volunteers’ gifts, skills, and availability.

Brian Frodermann, Executive Director
1008 4th Avenue, Worthington
507-727-7290
getinvolved@loveincwgttn.org
www.loveincwgttn.org

Manna Food Pantry

The Manna Food Pantry distributes a variety of food, hygiene and household supplies with the help of volunteers to needy people of Nobles County in Southwest Minnesota.

Assisting individuals/families to choose food donations, translating, intake, unloading delivery trucks

Dennis Weeks
230 Clary Street, Worthington
507-376-3138
wpcpantry@frontiernet.net
http://www.mannafoodpantry.org
**Mobile Meals**  
Sanford Regional Worthington

Volunteer to deliver lunches (Monday thru Friday) to residents of Worthington.

No training is required.

Dee Ella  
507-376-4769

**Nobles County Integration Collaborative**  
To promote students success and community acceptance of differences by providing opportunities for students, families and staff from diverse backgrounds to learn from and with one another.

Working with youth in after school programs, chaperone college visits, help students with academic tutoring, help with cultural events

No training required, enjoys working with youth

Lakeyta Potter  
117 11th Ave, Worthington  
507-376-3321  
[Lakeyta.Potter@isd518.net](mailto:Lakeyta.Potter@isd518.net)  
[www.isd518.net/ncic](http://www.isd518.net/ncic)

**Office of Ombudsman for Long Term Care**  
MN Board on Aging  
Enhancing the quality of life and the quality of services for consumers of long term care through the advocacy, education and empowerment.

Volunteer training for 12 hours a year is required. An initial 4 hour training is first completed with educational materials provided and onsite visits to a facility that the volunteer is assigned to during orientation. And if possible we have potential volunteers shadow other volunteers to see if this is a good fit or not.

Volunteer goes into assigned facility after orientation to become acquainted with the residents, staff and programming to see how everything will fit together and feel comfortable with their positions and working with disabled and elderly in their living environment, to advocate for their rights and quality of living.
Our Lady of Guadalupe Clinic  
Saint Mary's Catholic Church

To provide a health status for our diversified community, providing quality health care that is comprehensive and culturally sensitive to the uninsured.

Meal preparation, greeters, translators, medical services, etc.

Mariana Gutierrez  
Worthington  
507-376-6005

RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program)  
Minnesota Senior Corps

The Minnesota Senior Corps improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement in Minnesota- by supporting the growth, sustainability, innovation and adaptability of the Senior Corps programs, by striving to increase the number of new volunteers and by increasing the impact and value of volunteer service.

Mentoring, Helping in Schools, Environment, Community Needs, Health Care, Frail Elderly Needs, Libraries and Museums, Youth and Children

Joanne Bartosh  
Nobles County  
507-295-5262  
rsvp@co.nobles.mn.us

Kaye Roberts  
Cottonwood County  
507-831-1803  
rsvp.cottonwood@co.cottonwood.mn.us

Lynette Deslauriers  
Murray County  
507-836-8705  
rsvpmurray@co.murray.mn.us

Greta VanDerBrink  
Rock County  
507-283-5064  
rsvp.luverne@co.rock.mn.us  
www.swrdc.org/aging/rsvp.aspx
Senior Companion Program
Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota expresses the love of Christ for all people through acts of service.

Provide support to help other seniors live independent lives. Visit homebound seniors, provide transportation, give caregivers a break, act as a resource and advocate. A minimum weekly commitment of 15-20 hours is asked of each volunteer.

Forty hours of training, hourly stipend and transportation reimbursement is provided. Volunteers must be 55 or older.

Gail Sumerfelt
gail.sumerfelt@lssmn.org
1-507-337-0382
www.lssmn.org/seniorcorps/default.htm

Volunteers in Mercy
To display the love of Christ by making available low cost, gently used clothing, furniture, and household items to the Pipestone community.

Sort donations, stock clothing racks, make minor repairs, arrange displays, etc.

Luanne Bosma
122 W Main Street, Pipestone
507-562-0378
lbosma@woodstocktel.net
www.volunteersinmercy.org

Y Pals Mentoring Program
YMCA

To address the YMCA’s goal of youth development by providing them with supportive adult role models as mentors.

The time these mentors spend with a young person, 1-3 hours a week, help enable young people to meet certain challenges in their lives. Men and women are needed at this time to act as role models for young people.
No training is required, but there is an application process.

Greg Wede
1501 College Way, Worthington
507-376-6197 x224
ypalcoordymca@frontier.com
www.YMCAWorthington.org

YMCA

No matter what your special talents, interests, or schedule may be, you can help change someone’s life at the YMCA. If you share our commitment to the continued well being of our youth and community, please consider becoming a YMCA volunteer in these areas: Board Member, Janatorial, Office Duties, Committee Member, Fundraising.

Andy Johnson
1501 College Way, Worthington
376-6197 x225
ajymca@frontiernet.net
www.YMCAWorthington.org

YMCA Youth Programs

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

YMCA Youth programs have opportunities for volunteers to lead, coach, supervise and referee games and practices in each program. The time and effort will be a rewarding experience for both you and the children in the program.

C.J. Nelson
1501 College Way, Worthington
376-6197 x229
progdirymca@frontier.com
www.YMCAWorthington.org
**Volunteering websites**

**Catholic Volunteer Network**
Catholic Volunteer Network is a national membership organization of Christian volunteer and mission programs that fosters and promotes full-time national and international service opportunities for people of all backgrounds, ages and skills. Catholic Volunteer Network supports and enhances the work of its membership by providing training and resources, networking opportunities, and national advocacy.

[www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org](http://www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org)

**Idealist**
Idealist connects people, organizations, and resources to help build a world where all people can live free and dignified lives.

[www.idealist.org](http://www.idealist.org)

**Volunteer Match**
What if, somewhere on the internet, there was a community of people who believed in the power of volunteering to enrich our lives and the world around us? What if, somewhere on the internet, millions of good people and good causes could come together to form relationships that serve us all? What if, somewhere on the internet, technology was being used to advance the values and partnerships that strengthen our civil society?

[www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)