

United Way of Pioneer Valley Young Leaders

Harnessing the **Power** of the *Next* generation

Current Volunteer Opportunities

as of July 16, 2008

Be a Mentor Adult and youth mentoring opportunities are available to Young Leaders membership through Mass Mentoring Partnership. Mass Mentoring empowers and supports existing mentoring programs and new statewide efforts through training, technical assistance, resource development, and public awareness outreach.

Other area volunteer opportunities:

The following is a list of volunteer opportunities for **July 2008**.

All Out Adventures, Inc.

A nonprofit based in Easthampton, is seeking volunteers for our winter outdoor recreation programs in the Pioneer Valley. We run year-round adaptive outdoor recreation programs for people with disabilities and their family and friends. Volunteers learn and apply their outdoor leadership skills at programs, assisting our trained program staff in providing positive encouragement and physical support to participants with physical, cognitive, and other disabilities in winter activities such as x-country skiing, snowshoeing, kick sledding, ice skating and sled skating (both indoor and outdoor).

Best Buddies: Try making a new friend

Best Buddies is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing one-to-one friendships for people with intellectual disabilities. We are currently seeking volunteers who would like to share their time with a new friend. Average time commitment is estimated at 5-6 hours per month. Spend time with your new found friend in any situation. Go to the movies, go hiking, and go out to eat. It is a proven fact that things are more FUN with friends. This is your chance to make a new friend and make a difference in people's lives. We would love to hear from you! Contact us today!

Community Enterprises

Become a Volunteer Companion to an adult with a mental health or developmental disability. Share mutual interests such as sports, the outdoors, movies, shopping, going out to eat, arts and crafts or other interests. Assist with transportation to appointments. Build a friendship and share your time together. Very flexible times, weekdays, evenings, weekend times available. Ongoing training and supports will be provided.

Court Appointed Special Advocate

Volunteers are needed to be court advocates for children and youth in Hampden County. Volunteers are assigned to help an abused or neglected child who may not have an effective parental figure in their life. The chief responsibility is to provide reports to the juvenile court judge overseeing the case, to update them about the child's situation. We offer intensive training before you take a case and plenty of support afterwards. Hours vary week to week, but are extremely flexible.

Educational Surrogate Parent Program

Are you interested in supporting kids in your community? You can help to solve the puzzle by volunteering to become an important member of the special education team for a student in the custody of the Department of Social Services (DSS). You can piece together their special education program by becoming an Educational Surrogate Parent. Join us at our free training at the Chicopee Public Library Monday May 12th from 10am -1pm. You will learn about the role of an Educational Surrogate Parent, the special education process, and resources in the community and how you can make a difference in the life of a child!

Faith in Action

Faith in Action services the frail elderly in their homes. Visitors do little things that a relative or neighbor would do, if only there was one. need for volunteers is ongoing.

Food Bank of Western MA

Meat Rescue volunteers are needed by The Food Bank to visit supermarkets and bring meat and seafood products back to The Food Bank. This position requires driving a truck (no special license required) and lifting of up to 40 lbs. The position is located in Hatfield.

The Food Bank seeks volunteers to offer administrative, coordinative and facilitative support to the Target:Hunger program for the Mason Square Community in Springfield. These positions are located in Hatfield. Additionally, the program is looking for volunteers to help with set-up and other tasks on Saturday's at the Concerned Citizens of Mason Square's Farmers Market. You need not be available for every Saturday in the summer to volunteer. These positions are located in Springfield.

A part-time Programs Assistant volunteer is also needed to work with our Director of Programs in the up coming year assisting in administrative work and special projects. The volunteer position is also an excellent opportunity to gain an understanding of the programs of The Food Bank along with the fine work of people and organizations in our community. This position is located in Hatfield.

Volunteering opportunities are available for Marketing and Communications. We are seeking volunteers with excellent written communication skills and experience with computer applications.

Food Pantry Assistant

Help unload trucks, pack food in bags, and help bring in donations, sort food, and help consumers carry food.

Girls Incorporated of Holyoke

Inspires all girls to be strong, smart and bold by providing them the opportunity to develop and achieve their full potential. We reach over 1,000 girls annually through programs that are cutting edge, research driven, and proven to be effective.

School Age Programs – Ages 5-12

Youth Development Programs – Ages 11-18

Mentoring Programs - Ages 11-18

At Girls, Inc. we have a number of volunteer opportunities that include:

- Working with the girls (tutoring and/or leading workshops/classes)
- Becoming a Mentor
- Technology Support (website design/updates, database creation)
- Volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors and/or on a Committee

We are always willing to work with a volunteer to find the right match!

Holyoke Soldiers' Home

Part-time clerical volunteer (preferably someone with computer skills) to answer phones and assist the Maintenance Dept. with facility-wide maintenance requests.

Urgent need: Volunteer Transporters. Volunteers are desperately needed on Tuesday and/or Thursdays to transport male residents from the wards to the ground floor "Train Room". The Train Room is used as a therapeutic activity and is open between the hours of 10 and 2 pm.

Real opportunity to give back to those who have served us! Seeking caring volunteer to stock and re-stock veteran care center units with: snacks, crackers, cookies, soda and juice, two or three hours a week. No heavy lifting (will use a utility cart) Ideal job for retiree! Volunteer opportunity to answer phones in busy Soldiers' Home Dental office on Tuesdays or Fridays.

Holyoke Tutor/Mentor Program

The Holyoke Tutor/Mentor Program is currently recruiting volunteer tutors to help adults studying basic reading, writing and math or English for Speakers of Other Languages. Volunteers tutor in morning, afternoon or evening classes, either individually or in small groups. No previous skills are necessary; we will train you.

60 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW TO PLAY WITH HOMELESS CHILDREN!!

Horizons for Homeless Children is immediately seeking 60 volunteers to interact and play with children living in 17 family, teen parent, and domestic violence shelters in Western Massachusetts. A commitment of 2 hours a week for 6 months is required. We offer daytime and evening shifts, so there is likely to be one that fits your schedule. It is a rewarding and fun experience for everyone involved. The next training sessions will be in June. Playspaces and shelters in Springfield, Holyoke, Adams, Northampton, Orange/Athol, Greenfield, and Pittsfield.

Longmeadow Adult Center - Meals on Wheels Delivery

If you are looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity performing a vital service for our community, we have the position for you. The Longmeadow Adult Center is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels to home-bound town residents. The hours would be 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., one day per month.

Longmeadow Adult Center - Drivers Needed

Help area seniors maintain their quality of life and stay in their own homes by volunteering at the Longmeadow Adult Center. We are looking for volunteers to drive senior town residents to their doctor's appointments in the Springfield area. The schedules are flexible and you choose the trips that are convenient for you.

Volunteer Drivers for Medical Transportation

MAB Community Services (formerly Mass. Association for the Blind) needs drivers to help transport consumers who need sighted guides to medical appointments.

Share your vision with a neighbor

Volunteer to help blind and visually impaired neighbors with simple tasks:

- Reading the mail
- Writing a letter
- Assist with the bill writing
- Go with them grocery shopping
- Drive to doctor appointments

MAB Community Services (Formerly the Massachusetts Association for the Blind) HAS MOVED TO: **267 High Street, Holyoke, MA 01040**

Massachusetts Justice Project

Volunteers for Justice: Massachusetts Justice Project is looking for volunteers to serve as lay (Non-lawyers) housing advocates on behalf of tenants facing eviction in Springfield Housing Court. Volunteers will receive comprehensive training and continued supervision by an experienced attorney.

Salvation Army of Holyoke

Is looking for someone who is artistically gifted (not musical) to do a classroom art (craft) project or projects for the youth that participate in our Bridging the Gap program. BTG happens Mon, Wed & Fri from 3 to 6 PM here at the Holyoke Salvation Army - 271 Appleton Street.

Shriners Hospital is looking for Dispatchers to volunteer in our transportation Department.

Duties would include answering phones, confirming patient transportation pickups and scheduling drivers according to time and destination. Good communication, organizational and phone skills are a must. The hours are from 12-4 either on a set day or an on call basis.

Special Olympics Massachusetts

Volunteer Equipment & Logistics Coordinator

10-15 hours per week working out of our West Springfield, MA office

Description: Organize and inventory medals, sports equipment and volunteer shirts; prepare orders of new supplies; research sources of possible in-kind donations and track all such donations; help loading and unloading equipment trucks before and after competitions.

Springfield Partners for Community Action

Volunteers needed!

Help low-income families file income tax returns.

We need:

-Tax preparers

-Greeters

-Translators

-Site Coordinators

IRS will train and certify all tax preparers. Come and fill out a registration form or download one online at springfieldpartnersinc.com.

The Jimmy Fund

The Jimmy Fund wants YOU to team up with us on a fun volunteer project this summer – the 2008 Jimmy Fund/Variety Children's Charity Theatre Collections Program. Volunteers are needed each weekend from June 13th – August 3rd during a variety of four-hour shifts at your local movie theatre. You decide the amount of time you can commit. Volunteer just once or each week throughout the program!

Each summer, local movie theatres show a brief clip about the Jimmy Fund before the previews. Then, volunteers and theatre personnel circulate canisters throughout the audience for contributions. With help from many volunteers, we raised over \$650,000 last year and hope to be just as successful this year!

Volunteers are needed each weekend between June 13th and August 3rd. We offer great volunteer incentives!

Top Floor Learning, Inc.

Literacy volunteers: Top Floor Learning is seeking adult volunteer tutors for their Adult Reading/Writing program and English as a Second Language Program held on the third floor at the Palmer Public Library. Volunteers must be high school graduates with good reading, writing, and speaking skills. All necessary materials and training will be supplied.

Stavros Center for Independent Living

VOLUNTEER SURROGATES NEEDED - Stavros is seeking compassionate volunteers to help disabled people manage their Personal Assistance Services Program a few hours a month. Your help enables a disabled person to remain living independently in their home, rather than face institutionalization. Training and a mileage stipend provided. Stavros offices are located in Springfield, Amherst and Greenfield.

YWCA

Teen Transitional Living and Youth Build Programs

Help our teens take their first step towards a better future. Become a math or literacy tutor and guide 1-3 teens as they prepare for their GED

exam. Be willing to commit to 1 hour a week Mon.-Thurs. between 3:30-6pm.

Supervised Visitation Volunteers

YWCA Western Massachusetts Visitation Program seeks volunteers at YWCA Visitation sites in Springfield and Northampton to assist site Coordinators in supervising visits between non-custodial parents and their child or children in a safe and neutral setting. Volunteers will have the opportunity to work with families through intakes, visits, and addressing co-parenting skills. Volunteers need a basic knowledge of family dynamics. Site coordinator will provide on-going training to volunteers.

Safe Plan Volunteers

YWCA Western Massachusetts seeks volunteers to assist YWCA Safe Plan advocates in providing crisis intervention information, referrals, legal advocacy, and safety planning to domestic violence victims seeking protective order through Hampshire or Hampden Probate Courts. Safe Plan volunteers needed Monday- Friday. On going, volunteer training provided by Safe Plan Coordinator.

To coordinate these volunteer opportunities with the respective agencies or if you wish to get involved by serving on a local board of directors please contact Young Leaders chairperson [Kimberlynn Cartelli](mailto:Kimberlynn.Cartelli) at kcartelli@fathers-sons.com or call (413) 737-2691.