

Fall 2009

Volunteer Opportunities

The Volunteer Center
Volunteer Coordinator: Susan Stearns
1110 North Blvd. ** (new address)
Oak Park, IL. 60301
Phone: (708) 386-3393 or Fax: (708) 919-1565

Make volunteering a part of your life!!

You can check out the opportunities on our website:

www.oprfvolunteercenter.org

You can make an appt. to consult with the Volunteer Coordinator

Check out our opportunities sheets every two months at various locations in the
OP/RF/FP and 20 neighboring communities

**Are you looking for volunteer opportunities for youth?
See the special section on our website for youth opportunities.**

www.oprfvolunteercenter.org

If you find yourself out of work at this time, the Volunteer Center has listings of opportunities for professional or otherwise unemployed individuals. Call us for an appointment and we will work with you to find an opportunity where you can give your time, use your skills, learn new skills, and keep your mind active and alert.

West Suburban PADS (1)

(a shelter program for the homeless)

Nurses, doctors, and podiatrists are needed to provide medical care for the PADS program. The commitment is for 3 hours every 4-6 weeks from September thru May at an Oak Park location. **Call Heather at (708) 338-1724 x226.**

The Oak Park River Forest Walk-in Ministry(1)

The Ministry is looking for volunteers who will treat those who they serve with respect and open-mindedness and be willing to comply with the client confidentiality guidelines. Vols. are needed to serve in various capacities: direct client service, research into resources, data input, information technology, community outreach, website, faith community outreach, fundraising, and job/housing board. **Contact Brenda at (708) 386-1946 or send an e-mail to info@walk-in-ministryoprf.org (please indicate volunteer in subject line.)**

Wonder Works (1)

Wonder Works is looking for vols. to help at their 6th annual Fundraising Gala being held at the Radio Flyer Headquarters from 7-11 PM on Oct. 24th. Helpers can pass out appetizers, check in guests, etc. **Call Liz at (708)383-4815.**

Clustor Tutoring

(sites in the Austin area and Oak Park)

Volunteers are needed to serve students who need to develop better academic skills, study habits, and improve life skills such as communication and personal responsibility. Students may be from 1st through 12th grades. Tutors are asked to choose either Tuesday or Thursday nights for the remainder of the school year. **Contact Kathy McCabe at (773) 378-5530.**

NAMI-Metro Suburban (2)

(the local affiliate serving the West Cook area is located in Oak Park & provides programs / services for persons with mental health issues)

Nami-Metro Suburban is looking for new board persons, persons willing to serve as committee members, or persons willing to perform clerical chores. Volunteers or board members need to be willing to give their time and energy to help lead and govern the local affiliate. Vols. do not have to have a mental illness or a family person who experiences such an illness, but must have an interest in serving persons who do. **Contact Susan at (708) 386-3393 for more info.**

Oak Park Township Senior Services

OPTSS is looking for vols. to help with its AARP Illinois Volunteer Money Management Program. The program is for seniors who have difficulty managing their financial affairs. A good candidate would have math aptitude, ability to balance a checkbook, available 5-7 hours per month between 9-5, have access to a computer, and have their own transportation. Persons interested can contact **Steve Smith at (708) 383-8060.**

More Opportunities for Fall 2009

SCC– The Lifelong Learning Center (OP) (2)

(the oldest arts/ crafts center for seniors in Illinois)

The Lifelong Learning Center needs a volunteer to provide clerical assistance (computer skills would be very helpful). A volunteer to teach a class in digital photography, a leader for a walking activity, or a biking group would be most welcome. **Call Domenica Abbott at (708) 848-5251.**

Hospice of Illinois (2)

(covers 5 Illinois counties including the Chicago area)

Hospice of Illinois is seeking vols. who want to work with the terminally ill or dying patients. Vols. would be asked to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual comfort to those in the last stages of life. All volunteers must be 18 yrs. or older. **For additional information or to begin the recruitment process contact Nicole Perez at (773) 539-3554.**

Oak Park Library (2)

The Oak Park Public Library needs vols. for the Art Appreciation Tours at the main branch. Carole Aston, a docent with the Art Institute in Chicago will provide training for the volunteers so they will be prepared to give tours. **Call Carole at (708) 848-1280 or caroleaston@sbcglobal.net.**

Mother's House (2)

(provides alternative living for the homeless, ex-offenders, recovering, and abused men, women, and children)

Mother's House is seeking social workers, substance abuse counselors, office, administrative, and maintenance help. **Call Alice Jackson at (773) 287-8393.**

Oak Park Township Tax Aide Program (1)

This program provides tax assistance to persons on low income and seniors age 60 and over. An informational session will be held in early November and the training will begin in December. **Contact Kate Kaltenbach at (708) 383-1248.**

Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago & Northwest Indiana (2)

Adult volunteers are needed to serve as troop leaders, program facilitators, trainers, helpers to clean camp properties, office assistants for administrative tasks etc. **Call Julie Gilmartin at (630) 544-5900.**

Trailside Museum (1)

(located in River Forest)

Volunteers are needed to help restore and beautify Trailside's grounds and surrounding area. Work is done the first Saturday of each month. **Call Jim Chelsvig at (708) 366-6530 for more details.**

Chicago Jesuit Academy (1)

(5th-8th grade all boys' school located in Chicago)

The School is looking for volunteers available to tutor from 2:30-3:30 and / or from 5-6 to assist students with homework assignments. The school is located one block west of Laramie. **Contact Clara Chu at (773) 638-6103.**

Merit School of Music (2)

(Provides music education to students in metro Chicago)

Volunteers are needed to help with special events, as library assistants, perform clerical tasks or serve as associate board members. **Contact Catherine Painter at (312) 676-3693**

Save the Prairie (1)

(located in Westchester)

If you like the outdoors, volunteers are needed to help with brush cutting and seed collecting before the winter. **Contact Valerie Spale at (708) 865-8736.**

Aspire (2)

(with 21 sites throughout the western suburbs of Chicago and serving persons with developmental disabilities)

Aspire is looking for volunteers to help in a variety of ways. Assistance is needed at the resale shop "Aspire on Broadway" in Melrose Park sorting donations, as a sales merchandiser, to provide customer assistance, for a painter (to stencil/draw on the walls to enhance the space, as a carpenter to build art stands, and to give assistance to pick up large donated items on Saturday with staff persons. Help is also requested 1x monthly as a Resident Council / Community Member to meet with residents and staff at Aspire on Eastern in Bellwood to discuss community outings, meal selection, and suggestions for improvement. The facility is an 82 bed intermediate care facility for adults with developmental disabilities. Volunteers are also needed to share their talents (musical, dance, green thumbs, or craft wizards) with the participants at one of the community homes in the western suburbs. **Call Julie Gies at (708) 547-3550 for further information.**

Generations Healthcare (1)

(providing hospice care in Cook and DuPage County)

Volunteers are needed to provide assistance and support to hospice patients and their families at home and to hospice patients in nursing homes. Help is also needed to provide support to the bereavement chaplain. **Contact Jim White at (708) 409-3040.**

Maywood Youth Mentoring Program (2)

This program needs volunteers to serve as mentors in a group setting or 1:1 with the after school programs from 3-6PM or with the weekend activities mostly on Saturdays. Volunteers will have the opportunity to become a special person in the lives of youth. **Call Barbara Cole at (708) 344-3577.**

Rush Oak Park Hospital (1)

Volunteers for the positions listed below should be pre-med students, adults 21 yrs. or older who are entering the health care field, or have had experience working in the healthcare environment. In the *Telemetry Department* volunteers are needed to assist in providing customer service to the hospital's patients. Responsibilities include patient rounding, conducting patient satisfaction surveys, passing out water, providing clerical support to the unit staff, refilling supplies, messenger runs, transport and discharge of patients, answering phones and /or call lights. A minimum commitment of 6 months with 1 four hour shift per week is required. In the *Emergency Department* volunteers provide customer service to the patients, guests, & families. They may also be responsible for administrative assistance (computer data entry, hard copy filing, and answering phones, patient rounding, messenger runs, restocking supplies, and conducting satisfaction surveys. A minimum commitment of 6 months with 1 four hour shift per week is required. **Call Cynthia at (708) 660-5684.**