

Why People Volunteer

(just a few possible motivations)

- To feel needed
- To share skills
- For a change of pace
- To get to know a new community or neighborhood
- To help someone
- Because a family member or friend pressured them
- To gain leadership skills
- To get a change from being a leader
- To act out a fantasy
- To do their civic duty
- To earn academic credit
- To be with people who are different than themselves
- To keep busy
- The agency is geographically accessible
- To do something with a friend or family member
- To learn the truth
- To do one's share
- To see that resources are well allocated
- For recognition
- To make new friends
- To explore a career
- Parenthood
- To demonstrate commitment to a cause or belief
- To help a family member
- As therapy
- To do something different than their daily job
- For fun!!!
- For religious reasons
- To keep skills alive
- To repay a debt
- As an excuse to do something they love
- To donate their professional skills
- As a family tradition
- To be able to criticize without personal jeopardy
- Because there is no one else to do it
- To get the meals, transportation or other benefit
- To assure progress
- To protect clients from an institution
- To feel good
- To have an impact
- Because their boss expects it
- To be part of a team
- To learn something new
- To be an advocate
- To gain status
- To get out of the house
- For freedom of schedule
- Because they were asked
- Because of who did the asking
- To test themselves
- For escape
- To become an "insider"
- To be an agent of change
- Because of their personal experience with a cause or problem
- Guilt
- Because of interest in or concern for the particular client group
- To gain access to services for themselves
- To be challenged
- To experiment with new ways of doing something
- As an alternative to giving money
- To be a watchdog
- To feel proud
- To stand up and be counted