



## Tips on Volunteering for Job Seekers

Every day in Wisconsin people help others by volunteering, and it can also benefit the volunteer. Individuals looking for employment may find it valuable to get involved in the community to maintain or learn skills, network, develop job references or stay positive! No matter what the motivation, you will feel good about helping others. With our listing of volunteer opportunities, job seekers should be able to connect with activities that fit their specific needs.

### 1. The benefit for Job Seekers: volunteering is a two way street.

Volunteers help others and help themselves at the same time. Think about how volunteering can assist you now that you are looking for work:

- **Keep your skills sharp.** Do you want to maintain your keyboard skills or keep informed about what's happening in the accounting field? Look for an opportunity that fits your interests and career goals.
- **Meet new people and network.**
- **Gain new ideas and job possibilities.** Some volunteers find they love their volunteer work, it may open new job opportunities.
- **Maintain a schedule.** Volunteering can give your day a focus and meaning. You will be active and helping others.

### 2. Research the causes or issues important to you.

What concerns you? Is it people in need, the environment, a disease, or a local problem that people are working to solve? Use this time to help a cause that has special meaning to you. You can sort opportunities in our searchable database by your interests, location in the city, or type of work at [www.volunteerwisconsin.org](http://www.volunteerwisconsin.org).

### 3. Consider the skills you want to offer.

Think about your specific abilities and the skills you want to use in volunteer work. Maybe a change from your usual area of interest is in order. Volunteering is a good way to try something new.

### 4. Combine your goals.

Look for a volunteer opportunity that will also help you achieve other goals in your life.

### 5. Don't over-commit your schedule.

Don't frustrate yourself and shortchange the organization by being unrealistic about your time. Let the agency know that you may need to take time for job interviews and other commitments.

**Volunteer Wisconsin can help you get started!**