

Local Volunteer Resources:

ACTS (Action in Community Through Service) [ACTSPWC](#)

Back in 1969, 13 area churches banded together to alleviate suffering and hunger. Today, ACTS fulfills community needs by operating a food bank, thrift store and providing vital emergency services. After filling out an online application, families are matched with age-appropriate volunteer positions.

Volunteer Alexandria [Volunteer Alexandria](#)

Volunteer Alexandria fosters connections between nonprofits, city agencies and volunteers. Families can sign up for a free account to find fitting service opportunities and link up with partner organizations through its website database.

Volunteer Arlington [Volunteer Arlington \(leadercenter.org\)](#)

Volunteer Arlington partners with organizations seeking volunteers of all ages. A special section on their website is dedicated entirely to youth and family volunteering. Current opportunities are organized with project descriptions, age requirements and links to apply.

Volunteer Fairfax [Volunteer Fairfax | Volunteering Opportunities & Services](#)

Volunteer Fairfax is a complete resource to find volunteer opportunities in the greater Fairfax County area. The VolunteerNow! tool makes it easy to search for age-specific service activities. Volunteer Fairfax also publishes an annual Directory of Youth Services, a comprehensive guide to youth volunteering in Fairfax County.

Together We Rise [Team Building Activities, Decorating Duffle Bags For Foster Kids \(togetherwerise.org\)](#)

Every year, thousands of children enter the foster care system with very few things to call their own. Trash bags often hold their belongings, and birthdays come and go without celebration. But with the help of Together We Rise, a 501(c)3, those individuals who are often the most neglected by the public are given duffle bags, bikes, skateboards, and opportunities to celebrate their birthdays. This nationwide program sheds light on the foster care system's issues, advocates for these children, and now you can help too!

Together We Rise is always seeking individuals and groups to come together to decorate duffle bags, build bicycles and skateboards, and put together birthday or superhero boxes. These activities are just some of the ways you can help children in the foster care system and show you care! Come together as a group, create a fundraiser,

or volunteer within the local chapter. All ages welcome; you're never too young to bring a service project to your town!

Animal Welfare League of Arlington [Volunteer - Animal Welfare League of Arlington \(awla.org\)](#)

Thanks to the "Passion into Action Challenge," volunteering at the Animal Welfare League of Arlington is available for children in Kindergarten through the 12th grade. A variety of volunteer positions are open, including the Paws and Read Program, monthly service projects, and additional experience-based opportunities that include working directly with animals.

NEST4US [NEST4US](#)

NEST4US is dedicated to making the world a better place! Through various programs, initiatives that serve underprivileged children and low-income families, and partnerships with local businesses, NEST4US makes an impact far and wide. Many volunteer opportunities are available for children as young as 8-years-old, and multiple events are scheduled each month. Learn more about NEST Tutors, NEST Buddies, NEST Kares, and more [online](#).

GIVE Youth [GIVE Youth](#)

Created by high-schoolers, GIVE Youth is a nonprofit organization that offers free tutoring for students in Kindergarten through 6th grade! Volunteers are always needed to tutor and fulfill obligations in various Northern Virginia locations. To volunteer, GIVE tutors must be in 8th- through 12th-grade.

Hopkins House [Volunteer Opportunities | Hopkins House](#)

Hopkins House, a nonprofit, community-based learning center for children and families, has many opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in the lives of children, teens, and adults! Opportunities are available for children of at least 14-years of age and include reading with preschoolers, tutoring, cleaning, planting, and more!

Color a Smile [Volunteer, all ages and abilities, color cheerful drawings \(colorasmile.org\)](#)

Smiles are such a simple gesture that the world can absolutely use more of! Color a Smile, a nonprofit organization, is on a mission to create more smiles by sending senior citizens, overseas troops, and anyone in need of a smile a unique, handcrafted coloring page!

Anyone can help support their mission by printing out one of their fun coloring pages, then color it, add your first name and age, and mail to those in need of a smile! Make it even more fun by getting a group together to color for a great cause. Ready to get started?

Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation [Kids & Teens | Lost Dog & Cat Rescue | Donations for our Animals \(lostdogrescue.org\)](#)

Did you know that every week the Lost Dog and Cat Rescue Foundation holds off-site adoption events at local PetSmart and PetCo stores to help them place over 2,000 rescued animals annually? This great pet rescue organization rescues homeless animals and helps to rehome them through adoption events.

While they can use adult volunteer help at the Lost Dog and Cat Ranch, teens 14 years and older (accompanied by an adult) can volunteer to help at one of the cat adoption centers.

Columbia Baptist Church Hunger Ministry: Food Pantry and Gardens

[Columbia Baptist Church: Become a Volunteer](#)

The Columbia Baptist Food Pantry depends on the help of hundreds of volunteers. Volunteers bag, distribute, drive, plant, glean, grow, help in the office and warehouse and organize and assist at special events. Last year, volunteers donated over 5,000 hours to Spend Yourself® Pantry & Gardens – that's over \$36,000 saved in staffing costs that can be used to feed members of the community. Gardens volunteer opportunities include harvesting, weeding, collecting items for compost bin, planting and watering.

Mary Riley Styles Library [Teen Volunteers | Falls Church, VA - Official Website \(fallschurchva.gov\)](#)

The library provides opportunities for area students to fulfill community service requirements by providing valuable services for the library. The Youth Services Department accepts a limited number of teen volunteers year round. All library volunteers must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Students in grades 7-12 can apply to volunteer. Volunteers in grades 7 and 8 must be residents of the City of Falls Church. Anyone wishing to volunteer should fill out the [online volunteer application form](#). This form must be completed and volunteers must attend training before beginning service.

Food for Others

Food for Others is an important part of Northern Virginia's safety net for those needing food when an emergency strikes and for the growing number of working poor who need to supplement their inadequate food supplies.

Our Power Packs Food Drive is in partnership with Food for Others!

Volunteers are needed for working in the warehouse (individuals and groups) and must be at least 12 years old. Children ages 12-15 must be accompanied by an adult.

Share of Mclean https://www.shareofmclean.org/get_involved

Share supports our neighbors in need are economically distressed families and individuals, seniors living on limited pensions (often facing medical issues), impoverished immigrants, and victims of spousal abuse, as well as the homeless.

Our Giving Tree gifts are distributed by Share of Mclean!

There are a variety of long and short term volunteer opportunities available. Some volunteers prefer physical work, such as moving furniture, sorting clothing, or restocking the shelves of the food pantry, while others enjoy greeting and registering our clients.

Cornerstones <https://www.cornerstonesva.org/volunteerops/>

Cornerstones is able to help more than 15,000 neighbors each year who are in need of housing, childcare, food or financial assistance. They have many volunteer opportunities including sorting food donations, volunteering at the Reston Farmers Market (seasonal) and assisting with their Winter Coat closet and more. The SNAP at Market Assistants would be benefited by those that can speak Mandarin to their clients.

The Lamb Center <https://www.thelambcenter.org/get-involved/prepare-a-meal/>

The Lamb Center is a daytime drop-in homeless shelter for individuals who are experiencing homelessness in Fairfax, Virginia. They provide breakfast, lunch, showers, laundry service, Bible studies, employment opportunities, housing and job counseling, AA meetings, a nurse practitioner clinic, a dental clinic, and much more.

Volunteers are required to be 18 years old, but they do have opportunities for meal preparation/donation and supply donation.

Lasagna Love <https://lasagnalove.org/volunteer/>

Lasagna Love is a nationwide grassroots movement that aims to positively impact communities by connecting neighbors with neighbors through homemade meal delivery.

If you love to cook, this is the perfect opportunity for you!

HERE IS A LIST OF EVEN MORE OPPORTUNITIES:

<https://foodforothers.org/other-volunteer-organizations/>