Tips on Volunteering Wisely

- **Research the causes or issues important to you.** Look for a group that works with issues about which you feel strongly. If you can't find such an organization, why not start one yourself?

- **Consider the skills you have to offer.** As a future teacher, you may want to look for volunteer work that would incorporate what you are learning in your education classes.

- **Would you like to learn something new?** Perhaps you would like to learn a new skill or gain exposure to a new situation. Consider seeking a volunteer opportunity where you'll learn something new. Or, volunteering can simply offer a change from your daily routine.

- **Combine your goals.** Look for volunteer opportunities that will also help you achieve your career goals.

- **Don’t over-commit your schedule.** Make sure the volunteer hours you want to give fit into your hectic life, so that you don’t frustrate your family, exhaust yourself, shortchange the organization you’re trying to help or neglect your college classes.

- **Nonprofits may have questions, too.** While most nonprofits are eager to find volunteer help, they have to be careful when accepting the services you offer. It is in the organization’s interest and more beneficial to the people it serves to make sure you have the skills needed, that you are truly committed to doing the work, and that your interests match those of the nonprofit.

Give voice to your heart through your giving and volunteering! Bring your heart and your sense of humor to your volunteer service, along with your enthusiastic spirit, which in itself is a priceless gift. What you'll get back will be immeasurable!
To find links to the volunteer opportunities listed in this brochure and others, visit these websites.

- Bloomington Volunteer Network (bloomington.in.gov/volunteer)
- IU Office of Service-Learning (www.indiana.edu/~copsl)
- IU Student Organizations & Leadership Development (sao.indiana.edu)
- Indiana Campus Compact (indianacampuscompact.org)
- Ivy Tech Center for Civic Engagement (thecenter.ivytech.edu)
- Service Based Scholarships & Grants (bloomington.in.gov/documents/viewDocument.php?document_id=735)

These are just a few of the many organizations looking for volunteers in Bloomington and surrounding areas.

### Arts & Culture
- Bloomington Area Arts Council & John Waldron Arts Center
- Bloomington Youth Theatre
- Buskirk-Chumley Theater
- Diversity Theatre
- Mathers Museum of World Cultures
- Musical Arts Youth Orchestra
- T. C. Steele State Historic Site
- Wylie House

### Recreation & Sports
- Bloomington Parks & Recreation Dept.
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
- Girls Incorporated of Monroe County
- Monroe County YMCA
- Special Olympics Indiana-Monroe County

### Teaching & Tutoring
- American Red Cross-Monroe County Chapter
- Bachelor Middle School
- Bloomington Developmental Learning Center
- Edgewood Junior High School
- IU Hilltop Garden & Nature Center
- Latino Community Center, Inc.
- Middle Way House
- Monroe County Public Library
- Monroe County United Ministries
- Monroe County YMCA
- Native American Community Center of Bloomington
- South Central Community Action Program
- Villages of Indiana
- Youth Services Bureau of Monroe County

### Mentoring
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Indiana
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
- Latino Community Center, Inc.
- Middle Way House

### Health Education
- American Cancer Society
- American Red Cross
- Bloomington Meals on Wheels
- Bloomington Parks & Recreation Dept.
- Center for Sustainable Living
- Hoosier Hills Food Bank
- Middle Way House

### Literacy/English as a New Language
- Bloomington-Latino Programs & Outreach
- Habitat for Humanity of Monroe County
- Monroe County Public Library
- South Central Community Action Program

### Helping People with Disabilities
- Christole, Inc.
- Citizen Advocacy of South-Central Indiana, Inc.
- Goodwill Industries
- Options for Better Living
- People & Animal Learning Services
- Special Olympics Indiana-Monroe County Chapter

### Environment & Sustainability
- Bloomington Parks & Recreation Dept.
- Bloomington Restorations, Inc.
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington
- Girls Incorporated of Monroe County
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### Additional Volunteer Opportunities

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