

Community Service at Commonwealth

2006

Suggested organizations

Working with children

Acorn Child Care

Two sites in Chinatown, 214 Harrison and 90 Tyler

Bilingual (Chinese/English) child-care program, operating five days a week, year round, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Students can volunteer late in the afternoon during the school year or for longer periods during the summer.

Contact Hanna Gebretensae, Program Director, at (617) 635-5261 or Maura at (617) 635-5263.

Salvation Army

Dorchester

www.salvationarmy-ma.org

Summer camp, child-care, and after-school programs.

Contact Heather Odom, Volunteer Director, at (617) 338-4155, ext. 172 or at hodom@use.salvationarmy.com.

Salvation Army Day Care Center - "Our Place"

402 Mass Ave, Cambridge 02139

Child care program for children aged three months to five years, organized in four classrooms, operating five days a week, year round, from 8am to 3:30pm. Most staff and children are bilingual (English/Spanish). Students can volunteer in the summer too. The center also needs volunteers to help serve the Community Dinner on Wednesdays (4-6pm).

Contact Darleen or Clara at (617) 547-3400.

Hyde Square Task Force

7 Bolster Street, Jamaica Plain

www.hydesquare.org

Volunteers help with after-school activities for first- through fourth-graders at the Kennedy School, working along with a youth leader on literacy, art, and sports activities.

See the Web site's "contact us" page for instructions about receiving a volunteer's information packet, and contact Yichin Chen at (617) 524-8303, ext.303, or at yichin@hydesquare.org.

Breakthrough Collaborative/Summerbridge Cambridge

Cambridge

www.summerbridgecambridge.org

Intensive summer programs to support under-served middle-school students as they prepare to apply to independent secondary schools. Teachers are high-school students (only after completion of sophomore year; be sure to talk with Frederique about this) and college students. Submit applications for summer teaching positions in February and April.

Call (617) 349-6647 (Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 6:00), or e-mail summerbridge@cpsd.us.

Working with older people

Hale House

www.halebarnard.org

273 Clarendon Street, Boston

A home for 56 older women and men. Volunteers can help with activities.

Call Activities Director Jane Pothier at (617) 536-3726 for more information.

Neville Center

No Web site

640 Concord Avenue, Cambridge

Volunteers provide companionship and participate in recreational activities with nursing-home residents.

Call Kate Waldo at (617) 497-0600 for more information.

Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged

www.hebrewrehab.org

Centers in Roslindale and Brookline

Opportunities to provide companionship and participate in recreational activities with nursing-home residents.

Call (617) 363-8459 to ask about volunteering or write to the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for the Aged, Department of Volunteer Services, 1200 Center Street, Boston, MA 02131-1097.

Sancta Maria Nursing Home

No Web site

799 Concord Avenue, Cambridge

Opportunities to provide companionship and participate in activities with nursing-home residents. Call Jean Citarella at (617) 868-2200, ext. 2113 for more information.

Environment and conservation

Student Conservation Association

www.sca-inc.org

Landmark Volunteers

www.volunteers.com

Gardening and farming

Food Project

Roxbury and Lincoln
www.thefoodproject.org

Youth workers and volunteers farm land in Lincoln and in Roxbury to produce organic foods that are donated to homeless shelters and sold at urban farmers' markets and to families in suburban Boston. The summer program runs from the end of June to mid-August; ask for an application by December of the year before.

Contact Pertula George at (781) 259-8621, ext. 23 or at pgeorge@thefoodproject.org.

Waltham Fields Community Farm

240 Beaver Street, Waltham
www.communityfarms.org

Provides fresh produce to local soup kitchens, food pantries, and shelters. Volunteers help plant, transplant, weed, and harvest at designated "drop-in" times, including Sundays in the spring.

Call (781) 899-2403 or e-mail walthamfields@communityfarms.org

People living with HIV-AIDS

Community Servings

125 Magazine Street, Roxbury
www.servings.org

Volunteers prepare and deliver free, hot meals to people too sick to prepare meals for themselves. High-school students can work in the kitchen, which is open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Call Jason Maddix, Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator at (617) 445-7777 or at jmaddix@servings.org.

People with disabilities

Outdoor Explorations

98 Winchester Street, Medford
www.outdoorexplorations.org

Offers outdoor excursions, including kayaking and hiking, for people with disabilities. High-school students, after training, can serve as guides.

Call (781) 395-4999 or send an e-mail to info@outdoorex.org

Charles River Arc

59 East Militia Heights Drive, Needham (also has a site in Newton)
www.crarc.org

Offers services to adults and children with developmental disabilities and to their families. Volunteers can participate in recreational after-school, Saturday, and spring camp programs; and lead art, sports, and other activities.

Contact Catherine Miles at (781) 972-1032 or Sarah Richmann at (781) 972-1058.

Perkins School for the Blind

175 North Beacon Street, Watertown
www.perkins.org

Extensive opportunities to work with children and adults who are blind, deafblind, or who have multiple disabilities. Opportunities include working in the horticulture program, in a summer volunteer program, or with older adults. See the “volunteers” section of the Perkins Web site for detailed information.

Contact Mike Cataruzolo, Director of Volunteer Services, at (617) 972-7224 or at Volunteers@Perkins.org. Requires CORI (Criminal Offenders Records Investigation) check. (Perkins supplies the form.) You must be 16 to work directly with students

Special Olympics of Massachusetts

Danvers

www.specialolympicsma.org

Opportunities to volunteer at Special Olympics sports events for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Complete a short form online to receive information about current volunteer opportunities in the Boston area.

Homelessness and hunger

New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans

17 Court Street, Boston

www.neshv.org

Provides services, including free meals seven days a week, to homeless veterans. Students can volunteer as meal servers.

Call the Volunteer Line at (617) 854-4857 for more information.

Women's Lunch Place

67 Newbury Street (corner of Newbury and Berkeley, in the basement of the Church of the Covenant), Boston

www.womenslunchplace.org

Provides meals and services to homeless women and their children. Requires volunteers to make a minimum commitment of eight hours a month for six months. The program is open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Call (617) 267-1722 or e-mail volunteer@womenslunchplace.org. There is a volunteer application form online.

Pine Street Inn

www.pinestreetinn.org

Serve breakfast or dinner at any of the inn's sites. Dinner servers are needed at locations in Dorchester, Quincy, and downtown Boston. Sandwich preparers are sometimes also needed.

Contact the Volunteer Department at (617) 521-7626 or scottie.wait@pinestreetinn.org. Requires CORI (Criminal Offenders Records Investigation) check and attendance at training session.

Haley House

23 Dartmouth Street (corner of Dartmouth and Montgomery)

www.haleyhouse.org

Offers a breakfast program for homeless men, an evening meal program for the elderly, and a bakery-skills training program for homeless people.

Students can volunteer in the breakfast program (open Sunday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.) or in the evening meal for the elderly program (open 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday). Opportunities are also available in the bakery-skills training program, running cash registers and performing other tasks related to operating the retail bakery program.

See the Web site and contact volunteer@haleyhouse.org for information about volunteering in the meals programs, and jmoss@haleyhouse.org for information about the bakery program. You can also call (617) 236-8132 for more information.

Rosie's Place

www.rosies.org

889 Harrison Avenue, Boston

Shelter, meals, and services for homeless women. Students can work in the meals program, preparing, serving, and cleaning up, or in the clothing program, sorting and packaging clothes. Orientations are provided.

See the Web site, e-mail mwengert@rosies.com, or call the Volunteer Services Office at (617) 442-9322 for more information about volunteering.

Greater Boston Food Bank

www.gbfb.org

99 Atkinson Street, Boston

Volunteers sort food to be distributed to community agencies serving the hungry in eastern Massachusetts.

See the Web site, e-mail volunteer@gbfb.org, or call (617) 427-5200, ext. 7067, and ask for Volunteer Services.

Sandra's Lodge Family Shelter

www.mhsainc.org
200 Trapelo Road, Waltham

An emergency shelter for homeless single mothers and their children. Volunteer opportunities include organizing food in the food pantry, sorting clothes, and, for a group of students working together, landscaping and painting.

Access the Middlesex Human Services Agency Web site (see above), then click on Contents, then click on Sandra's Lodge. Call Volunteer Director Dick Rogers at (781) 883-2050.

Food for Free

www.foodforfree.org
11 Inman Street, Cambridge

Gathers, sorts, and delivers food to local community agencies for distribution to hungry people.

See the Web site, e-mail development@foodforfree.org, or call (617) 868-2900.

Bread of Life

No Web site
511 Main Street, Malden

Serves evening meals at several churches in Malden, and also sponsors a food pantry.

Call (781) 397-0404 to ask about volunteering.

Other

Bikes Not Bombs

www.BikesNotBombs.org

59 Armory St. #103, Roxbury, MA 02119

An organization that collects and repair old bicycles then ships them to various countries, mainly in Africa. Volunteer opportunities include mechanical training courses, loading bike shipments, Bike-A-Thon, teaching and tutoring, and a lot more. Wednesday nights from 6-10pm or Saturdays 12-6pm.

See the Web site, e-mail mail@bikesnotbombs.org, or call Carl Kurz at (617) 442-0004 for more information about volunteering.

Spanish-language opportunities

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second street Cambridge, MA 02141

Volunteer opportunities include event promotion, public relations, and helping teachers in the Youth Arts and Media program (YAM).

Contact Karla Romero at 617 577 0125

Casa Nueva Vida

53 Glen Road

Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Homeless shelter for Latino families. Uses volunteers as homework helpers and to help with children in the shelter's play space.

Contact Doris Riera or Carmel Aronsón at 617 524 6332

Vida Urbana

Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Promotes social justice for multicultural Jamaica Plain communities through initiatives such as defending housing rights.

Contact Jennifer Marshall at 617 524 3541

Concilio Hispano

105 Windsor Street,
Cambridge, MA 02139

Provides a youth center, protective services, HIV programs, mental-health programs, and English-as-a-second-language classes for Latino families.

Contact Antoinette Easualdo at 617 661 9406 or at concilio@conciliohispano.org

Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (and Technology Center)

www.iba-etc.org/
405 Shawmut ave
boston, MA 02118 (South End)

IBA provides various services for Latin American immigrants, including English classes, after school programs, lawyers, etc. The El Batey Technology Center trains residents to use computers to give them the skills they need to compete in today's society.

Contact Barbara Collins at 617 927 1707.

Centro Presente

www.cpresente.org
54 Essex street, 2nd floor
Cambridge, MA 02139

Centro Presente provides various services for Latin American immigrants, including English classes, after school programs, lawyers, etc.

Contact Mirna at 617 497 9080

I have more information and brochures about other programs, in the Boston area, the US and abroad. Come and see me!