

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a way to help out in your community? Here are some ideas of places to start; please contact these agencies for additional information.

**The Times**  
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This list details volunteer opportunities submitted directly to The Times. Please contact these agencies for additional information. Listings are published in rotation on a bi-weekly basis.

**American Cancer Society.** Drivers to transport cancer patients to and from treatment centers. Contact 770-297-1176.

**American Red Cross.** Disaster relief teams needed to train the community in preparedness services such as CPR, first aid, baby-sitting and life guarding, to welcome and register blood donors and serve refreshments, to assist in administrative services such as fundraising, public relations, translating, interpreting and office support. Contact Barbara Barber, 770-219-0343.

**Angel Flight Southeast.** Need pilots to provide free air transportation to medical facilities for citizens who are financially distressed or otherwise unable to travel on public transportation. Contact Scarlett Auten, 770-904-0904.

**Autumn Breeze Assisted Living.** Help residents stay active with activities such as bingo, indoor horseshoes and music. Contact Ellen Bates, activities director, 770-297-1100.

**Boys and Girls Clubs.** Help with general supervision of children, tutoring, art and physical education programs. Need coaches and referees. Help needed after 2 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact 770-532-8102.

**BPI-Safe Rides.** Volunteer to drive an impaired driver home. In need of licensed drivers 25 and older to volunteer for upcoming holidays. 770-965-2870 or [www.bpi-saferides.org](http://www.bpi-saferides.org).

**CASA.** Court Appointed Special Advocates are needed to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children. Volunteers are trained, screened and supervised. Contact Lisa McCarthy, 770-531-1964 or [casaofohall@bellsouth.net](mailto:casaofohall@bellsouth.net).

**Catholic Social Services Inc.** Bilingual volunteers needed to assist in serving low-income Latino population. Needs include translation and interpretation for clients in the community, office assistance and computer class instruction. Contact 770-534-3337.

**C.C. Cloud Youth Center — Veterans and Community Outreach Foundation.** Assist children in afterschool program with homework, arts and recreational activities. Provide computer lab instruction for children and adults. Work in community garden, office and kitchen. Weekend coaches and mentors needed for young adult basketball league. Flexible schedule. 770-531-0046 or [vcof@bellsouth.net](mailto:vcof@bellsouth.net).

**Center Point Mentor Program.** Mentors Hall County and Gainesville students. Time requirements include a two-hour training session and a commitment to meet with your student one hour a week (this includes travel time) for the duration of the school year. Trainings are offered at noon and 6 p.m. throughout the year. Contact Kate Hoffmann, mentor coordinator, 770-535-1050, or [mentor@centerpointgainesville.com](mailto:mentor@centerpointgainesville.com).

**Challenged Child and Friends.** Work in classrooms with children 6 weeks old to 6 years old at Northeast Georgia's Early Intervention Center. Contact Joy Green, 770-535-8372, ext. 120 or [joy@challengedchild.org](mailto:joy@challengedchild.org).

**Compassionate Hospice.** Help people and their families cope with a terminal illness. Flexible scheduling. Also looking for organizations to sponsor or participate in a charity event each year. Contact Steven Vanlerberghe, 678-717-0969.

**Court Visitor Program.** Monitor the care, condition and assets of dependent adults, work with families at problem solving and report to the court. Volunteers will be screened, trained and supervised. Contact Denise, Hall County Probate Court, 770-533-7830.

**Crossroads Hospice.** Hold a hand, listen, sing, run errands for a family or help in the hospice office. Free ongoing training. Flexible hours. Contact Ella, 770-270-9898 or [hospicevolunteer@bellsouth.net](mailto:hospicevolunteer@bellsouth.net).

**Disability Resource Center.** Help people with disabilities remain independent through peer support, advocacy and helping with independent living skills. Also, volunteers needed to build ramps and make other home modifications. Contact Bob McGarry, 770-534-6656.

**The Disabled American Veterans Transportation Network.** Drive veterans between Gainesville and the VA hospital in Decatur in the organization's van. Contact Gene Boccumini, 770-869-7062.

**Embracing Hospice.** Visit with patients in homes, read to patients, write letters, provide transportation, run errands, prepare meals, provide hair care and light housekeeping. Contact 678-570-7363 or [mandisha.thomas@americanhospice.com](mailto:mandisha.thomas@americanhospice.com).

**Feed My Sheep The Grace of Christ Ministries.** Help serve free lunches ever other Saturday. Contact Eric Johnson, 678-622-1458.

**First Steps.** Volunteers needed to help support, educate and give referrals to parents in early months of parenting. Contact Angela Ricks, 770-219-7959.

**Gainesville Action Ministries.** Answer phones, schedule appointments, greet clients, help with building maintenance and entertain children while parents are being counseled. Will train volunteers to work with clients if desired. Bilingual volunteers needed. Contact Steve Napier, 770-531-0144.

**Gainesville-Hall County Alliance for Literacy.** Tutor in basic literacy class serving adults up to a fourth-grade reading level. Contact Dorothy Shinafelt, 770-531-4337.

**Gateway House.** Work with children who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence. Contact Shelby Kinsey, 770-539-9080.

**Good News Clinics.** Need Spanish-speaking interpreters, medical assistants, dental assistants and hygienists, nurses, physicians, nurse practitioners and volunteers to assist with administrative duties for the hours of 9 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Contact Jean Peebles, 770-503-1369 or [jpeebles@goodnewsclinics.org](mailto:jpeebles@goodnewsclinics.org).

**The Guest House Adult Care Center.** Talk with clients, help with activities and crafts. Contact Sandy Pearson, 770-535-1487.

**Habitat for Hall County.** Assist in pickups and store inventory at the Habitat ReStore. Contact Dee Ann, 770-718-1070. Also need volunteers for builds. 678-450-5998.

**Hall County Animal Shelter.** Volunteers needed to walk and play with animals, assist at Rabies Clinics and off-site mini adoption events. Please contact Gwen Trimmer at 678-450-1587 or 770-531-6831.

**Happy Tails Pet Therapy Inc.** Need volunteers 18 and older and their pet dogs, cats or rabbits to brighten patients' days at local health care facilities. Orientations held periodically. Contact 770-740-8211.

**Hospice of Northeast Georgia Medical Center.** Sit with terminally ill patients in their homes, run errands and provide relief for family members in Banks, Barrow, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, northern Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Jackson, Lumpkin, Stephens, Union and White counties. Also need help with clerical work in hospice office. Free office support volunteer training is available from 12:30-4:30 p.m. second Tuesdays at the hospice office. Contact Carol Jewell, Hospice of NGMC volunteer coordinator, at 770-533-8888 or 888-572-3900.

**Humane Society of Northeast Georgia.** Play with and walk shelter adoption pets, assist with adoptions taking place at Gainesville PetSmart on Saturdays and help with special events. Options no matter how much or how little time available. Contact Kelley Uber, 770-532-6617.

**Interactive Neighborhood for Kids.** Supervise exhibits, lead story time or teach arts and crafts activities on a one-time or ongoing basis. Contact 770-536-1900.

**Judicial citizen review panel.** Review the circumstances of children in Hall County who are in the custody of the State Department of Family and Children Services and work to ensure they are being properly cared for and are given the opportunity to be placed in a permanent home. Two-day training period required along with one morning a month thereafter. Contact Brenda Boring, 770-531-6928 or bboring@hallcounty.org.

**Junior Achievement of Georgia: Gainesville District.** Present classes in kindergarten-12th grades to inspire young people to value free enterprise, business and economics. Material and training provided. Serving Northeast Georgia counties. Contact Tanya Applebaum, 770-297-1222.

**Keep Hall Beautiful.** Assist with administrative duties, make phone calls, do outside presentations or litter pickups. Contact Cindy Reed, 770-531-1102 or hallbeautiful@windstream.net.

**Lanierland Civitan Club.** Help people with developmental disabilities and work on various area projects. Meet 12:30 p.m. first and third Tuesdays, Turnstile Deli, 109 Green St., Gainesville. Sue Andrews, 770-297-7333.

**Legacy Link.** Help Medicare recipients getting prescription drugs and other services. Need clerical help and outside speakers. Training provided. Contact 770-538-2650.

**LifeLink of Georgia.** Assist with educational programs pertaining to organ and tissue donation and transplantation in North Georgia and other areas of the state. Contact 800-544-6667.

**Make-A-Wish Foundation of Georgia and Alabama.** Create, design and implement wishes in North Georgia. Contact Shandy Arwood at sarwood@ga-al.wish.org or 888-517-9474, ext. 14.

**Meals on Wheels.** Deliver meals within the city of Gainesville. Routes take approximately one hour; training provided. Contact Milon Christman, 770-503-3330.

**Mended Hearts of Northeast Georgia.** Visit with heart patients and their families at Northeast Georgia Medical Center. Volunteer in Ronnie Green waiting room or attend meetings at 6 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month. Must be former heart procedure patients or spouses. Training provided. Contact Peggy Vardeman, 770-532-2326.

**Mentor Me North Georgia.** Volunteer for one-on-one and group setting programs with at-risk youth. Call Amber at 678-341-8028 or e-mail amber@mentormenorthga.org. For more information: www.mentormenorthga.org

**Northeast Georgia History Center.** Provide assistance with day-to-day tasks — greet visitors, answer telephones, prepare mailings, help with special events, guide tours, serve on standing committees. 770-297-5900 or www.negahc.org.

**Northeast Georgia Medical Center.** Assist with non-medical duties and provide comfort and support to patients, family members and visitors. Call 770-219-1830 to request an application and schedule a time for a brief interview.

**Odyssey Healthcare Athens.** Provide support and companion-

ship for patients and families. Free training required; no minimum time commitment. Contact Erin Dawkins, 706-621-9055.

**Pacific Intercultural Exchange.** Host families for foreign teens are needed for the new school year. There are also travel/study program opportunities available for American high school students as well as possibilities for community volunteers to assist and work with area host families, students and schools. Call 866-546-1402 for more information.

**The Phoenix Society of Gainesville.** Raise funds to support local service organizations. Meetings held at 7 p.m. third Thursdays of every month at the Gainesville Civic Center. Contact Deanna Fawcett, 770-532-4641, DDFawcett@aol.com.

**Premier Hospice of Georgia.** Provide companionship during end-of-life vigils. Bilingual volunteers needed. Free training, ongoing support. Contact Valerie or Cecil, 770-533-4422 or 866-533-4422.

**Prevent Child Abuse.** Help in the nursery from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays. Contact Dottie Turner, 770-287-3071 or 770-536-1443.

**Rape Response.** Respond to hotline phone calls. Training and support is provided, and on-call volunteers can maintain their own schedule while using a cell phone to respond. Contact Heather Weaver, 770-503-7273 or heather@raperesponse.com.

**Regency Hospice.** Provide assistance and care to patients and family members. Contact Elizabeth McFarland, 888-603-1303.

**RSVP: Retired & Senior Volunteer Program.** Looking for volunteers 55 and older to help at the following sites in Hall County: Center Point, mentors for public school children; Keep Hall Beautiful, event volunteers; Hall County Senior Life Center, computer teachers and scrap booking teachers; Meals on Wheels, delivery drivers and phone reassurance volunteers; and Hall County Emergency Management, CERT and Web site volunteers. Contact Terry Shuler, RSVP director (Legacy Link Inc.), 770-538-2650.

**Safe Kids Gainesville/Hall County.** Help with educational programs about car seat safety, helmet safety, fire safety, poison prevention and more. Contact Kim Martin, 770-533-8095, kimberly.martin@nghs.com.

**Sautee Nacoochee Community Association.** Meet and greet visitors at the History Museum of Sautee Nacoochee and the Folk Pottery Museum of Northeast Georgia. Contact Sam Schultz, 770-380-7414, or Chris Brooks, 706-878-3300.

**United Hospice.** Provide companionship, family support and respite for caregivers in homes and nursing facilities. Training provided. Contact Sandy Hatfield, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, 800-844-9641.

**Veterans Community Outreach.** Help with after-school program, computer lab and homework assistance. Contact 770-531-0046.

**Vietnam Veterans of America.** Help create a network for the local families of soldiers who will be overseas next Christmas and plan a party for next Christmas. Contact Ron Kelner, 770-534-2509, or Dave Dellinger, 770-718-7676.

**Widowed persons volunteer aides.** 5:15 p.m. fourth Tuesdays, Community Service Center. 770-536-0072.

**Willowood Nursing Center.** Adopt a grandparent, spend free time with residents. Contact Tina Gipson, 770-967-2070, ext. 20.