

# Volunteer Opportunity Descriptions

## Volunteer Individually OR As A Group

### Adopt-A-Program

Make a commitment to a particular program or program of your choice on a seasonal basis. Consistency is important to the participants within our programs. Seeing the same face on a weekly basis is not only important for their routines and behavior but they also look forward to seeing those individuals that assist them and help to make the program they are at successful. Programs run on a seasonal basis for 6-8 week periods of time. Some are offered year round, four times a year, while others may be offered once or twice a year. Get to know the participants you help out and develop relationships with them.

### Experience Based

Gain experiences by assisting with the different types of programs offered and work with a variety of populations, age groups and disabilities. WDSRA can help you to make a schedule of programs to visit that will fit the needs and experience you are looking for. One of the benefits of this volunteer option is that you may have the opportunity to come back to volunteer for us or even work part time after your learning experience.

### One Time Shot

Looking to make a short-term commitment but you don't have a lot of time or a flexible schedule? WDSRA has a variety of annual events in which we look for large numbers of volunteers to help. We can arrange this opportunity in advance or check to see what will work with your schedule. Examples:

- Days Off From School
- Special Olympic Meets & Tournaments
- Large Scale Special Events & Dances
- Fundraising Special Events

### Special Events

These programs are similar to the "One Time Shot" opportunity, with a few perks! This type of WDSRA program operates like a one time field trip outing for the participants. Depending on which event you sign up for, WDSRA will cover your cost for any admissions or entertainment expenses. Often, but not always, WDSRA will also cover the cost of your meal if applicable to the program. SO-- go to the movies, attend a sporting event, see a play or even enjoy a trip to Great America.....on the house, in exchange for your time in assisting persons with disabilities.

## **Lend A Hand**

Ask any full time staff who works in the WDSRA office....we ALWAYS have something we could use help with! Some examples are listed below:

- Mailings & Envelope Stuffing
- Photo Copying & Packet Assembly
- Filing & Alphabetizing
- Answering Phones
- Organizing Supply Closets
- Building Maintenance
- Gardening / Landscaping
- Assistance With Vehicle Maintenance, Running Vehicles For Service, Washing & Cleaning Vehicles, etc.

## **Volunteer For Fundraising**

On a variety of occasions WDSRA receives donations from service clubs and other various organizations in exchange for volunteer time. The number of volunteers that we provide to each club or organization often dictates the amount of donation we will receive. This money is then put towards specific programs or helps to offset the cost of program fees to our participants by making scholarship monies available. Casino Nights, Kiwanis Peanut Days, Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Days, Naperville Rib Fest, Naperville's Last Fling & October Fest are just a few examples of events that we look for volunteers to help out with for fundraising.

## **Talent Based**

Do you happen to have a special skill or talent that you would like to share with us? Sometimes people have the skills to help us move forward that we are unaware of or it may be a matter of knowing the right people. Below are some possibly examples:

- Fundraising
- Marketing & Advertising
- Website Design
- Carpentry
- Photography
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Gardening
- Specialty Training