

## INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

# Volunteering

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

To learn more about volunteer opportunities:

- Look in your community newspaper for ideas
- Contact The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism  
1-800-321-8657  
[www.gosv.state.md.us](http://www.gosv.state.md.us)
- Local community colleges often have a list of groups looking for volunteers

For more information on topics discussed in this fact sheet, contact

Service Coordination  
Phone: 301-663-8044  
[www.servicecoordinationinc.org](http://www.servicecoordinationinc.org)



**Volunteers** give their time and service to others without being paid. Many people volunteer when they are not in school or working.

### Why do people volunteer?

- To share their skills and feel good about helping others
- To give something to their community
- To make a difference in the world
- To try new activities and learn new skills
- To meet new people and have fun

### What do volunteers do and where?

- *All kinds of things*, like clean up neighborhood parks, care for animals, serve refreshments, raise money, visit people, participate in walk-a-thons or bowl-a-thons, play games, bake, and collect food.
- *All kinds of places*, like animal shelters, churches, day care centers, hospitals, libraries, nursing homes, parks, schools, and soup kitchens.

### How do I decide where to volunteer?

- Think about what skills and interests you have and look for places where people do the things you like to do.
- Think about issues that you are interested in, for example, animal rights, the environment, or homelessness. Look for groups that are involved in the causes you care about.

### How can I find out about volunteer opportunities in my area?

Your **Service Coordinator** can help you get connected to volunteer opportunities in your community.

*These Fact Sheets are designed to provide general information only and are not designed to substitute for the assistance of a Service Coordinator.*