

DECEMBER 2018: VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



United Way
of Greater Portland

ONE-TIME & SPECIAL EVENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

4th ANNUAL MITTEN MOB!



When: Wednesday, December 5,
Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Where: Machias Savings Bank
193 Middle St., Portland

What: Meet Brick & Beam members and donate mittens and other cold weather gear for kids in need. Can't make it? Shop their [Amazon wish list](#).

Questions? E-mail
brickandbeam@unitedwaygp.org.

POP-UP COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR 8TH GRADE GIRLS

E USM is looking for women who work in any computer science related field to host a table at one or both of their pop-up computer science events to be held on **Friday, December 7** from 12-2:15pm at Lincoln Middle School and **Friday, December 14** from 8-11am at King Middle School. Call (207) 780-4284 or email usm.community@maine.edu for more information.

PROJECT HEAT TELETHON

FS Keep neighbors warm this winter! Join NEWS CENTER Maine on **Thursday, January 17** for their annual **NEWS CENTER Maine Project Heat Telethon** to raise money for Keep ME Warm, Maine's statewide emergency heating assistance fund. Volunteers answer phones and process donation information in one to three hour shifts. For more information and shift times, contact Kim Charland, Kimberly.Charland@NEWSCENTERMaine.com.

GATHER A TEAM AND DELIVER FURNITURE TO CLIENTS IN NEED

FS Furniture Friends seeks one-time or reoccurring volunteer groups to help deliver furniture to clients in need. Groups commit to a three hour time frame to serve families in Greater Portland. This active opportunity builds teamwork and is ideal for service groups and corporate volunteer days. Learn more by contacting Elise Moody-Roberts, volunteer@furniturefriends.org.

BE READY TO RESPOND

FS Red Cross Disaster Volunteers are neighbors helping neighbors, trained and ready to respond in times of need. The Red Cross in Maine seeks committed volunteers. Individuals can join a Disaster Action Team (local, small disaster response), support sheltering or logistics during a large-scale disaster, or share professional mental health skills. Call (207) 874-1192 x106 or email MEvolunteer@redcross.org to apply.

Education

Financial Stability

Health

HIGHLIGHTS:

- › Pop-Up Computer Science Events for 8th Grade Girls\ Friday, 12/7 & 12/14
- › Project Heat Telethon Thursday, 1/17
- › International Artisan Craft Fair for Partners for World Health Saturday, 12/8
- › SNAP Stories
- › The Overdose Prevention Project
- › The Language Access Education Project

UWGP VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER (CONT.)

ONGOING / REGULARLY-SCHEDULED VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS BY BECOMING AN IRS-CERTIFIED TAX PREPARER

FS CA\$H Greater Portland (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) is seeking volunteers to help prepare taxes. Tax Preparers receive free training and become an IRS-certified tax preparer—no accounting experience is needed! This is a great opportunity for people with basic computer skills who enjoy working with the public and would be comfortable having one-on-one conversations with tax site clients. The ideal commitment is four shifts during the tax season but CA\$H is grateful for whatever time people can give. Each shift is approximately four hours and meals are provided. To complete a volunteer application, click [here](#). Once applications have been received, a Goodwill representative will be in touch to discuss orientation and training. For more information, email cash@goodwillnne.org.

SERVE AS AN OPPORTUNITY GUIDE THIS TAX SEASON

FS CA\$H (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) Greater Portland Opportunity Guides help tax site clients with the intake process by reviewing their tax documents to make sure they have everything they need for filing, reviewing their intake questionnaires, and providing information about local programs and services to support them with improving their financial stability. Volunteers for CA\$H roles attend an orientation and training specific to their volunteer role. The ideal commitment is four shifts during the tax season but CA\$H is grateful for any amount of time. Each shift is approximately four hours, and meals are provided. To complete a volunteer application, click [here](#). Once applications have been received, a Goodwill representative will be in touch to discuss orientation and training.

OFFER A WARM WELCOME AT TAX SITES

FS At CA\$H (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) tax prep sites, federal and state income taxes are prepared and filed for free. Greeters welcome tax filers, ask them if they've brought their required documents, verify their appointment time, and then direct them to the Asset Guide Coordinator for intake. This is a great opportunity for those who like talking with community members and helping them save money! Volunteers for CA\$H roles attend an orientation and then training specific to their volunteer role. The ideal commitment is four shifts during the tax season but CA\$H is grateful for any amount of time. Each shift is approximately four hours, and meals are provided. To complete a volunteer application, click [here](#). Once applications have been received, a Goodwill representative will be in touch to discuss orientation and training.

MENTOR A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

E The Portland Mentoring Alliance helps high school students achieve their academic and social goals and would love to have some new volunteers commit one hour per week to make a difference in the life of a student. For more information and an application, please click [here](#), or contact Asia Alexis at (207) 842-5358 or alexia@portlandschools.org.

BE A MENTOR TO AT-RISK KIDS

E The Portland Housing Authority Study Centers are an after-school program that serves low income students. The Centers' collective goal is to help students become academically and socially successful and thus thrive in school and beyond. Volunteers provide academic support to at-risk students K-12 in all subjects. A minimum commitment of two hours per week for a one-month commitment is requested. Please contact the Youth Programming VISTA, vista.youth@porthouse.org or (207) 773-4753 x8012 with any questions or to apply.

FIND MORE WAYS TO VOLUNTEER AT:
VOLUNTEER.UNITEDWAYGP.ORG

UWGP VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER (CONT.)

ONGOING / REGULARLY-SCHEDULED VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AS A FOSTER GRANDPARENT

E Join [The Opportunity Alliance](#) as a Foster Grandparent. Become part of the network of community members and organizations who work every day to help children learn to read and provide one-on-one tutoring, mentor teenagers and young children, care for infants and children with special needs, and help English Language Learners achieve success. People who are 55 or older and want to share their experience and compassion have what it takes to be a Foster Grandparent. Call (207) 773-0202 or email fgp@opportunityalliance.org today.

ASSIST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH JOB SEARCH SKILLS

FS [Portland Arts & Technology High School \(PATHS\)](#) is looking for volunteers to lead resume writing classes for their students as well as assist in Mock Interviews (questions provided). Please contact Tina Mikkelsen at mikket@portlandschools.org for more information.

TUTOR ADULTS LEARNING ENGLISH

E Want to do more to welcome and support immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in the community? Become an English Language tutor with [LearningWorks](#) and make a lasting impact in the life of an adult learner. Each tutor spends a minimum of two hours per week over a six-month period working one-on-one with a highly-motivated student to help them achieve their personal English goals. Tutors can meet with students at any convenient, public location. Prior experience teaching, tutoring, or working with adult or multilingual communities is beneficial but not required, as intensive training and ongoing support is provided. Volunteers must be fluent in English, open-minded, and desire to make a positive contribution in the life of an adult learner. Click [here](#) or contact Cora Ordway at cordway@learningworks.me or (207) 517-3123 to apply.

PROVIDE BUDGETING ASSISTANCE TO ELDERS

FS Partner with the [Southern Maine Agency on Aging](#) by participating in Money Minders. Volunteers assist a client with some or all of the following tasks: reading and sorting mail; preparing a basic monthly budget; preparing BUT NOT SIGNING checks to pay monthly bills; recording transactions in the check register; reconciling the check register to a bank statement; and communicating with vendors about billing issues. Please note that volunteers do not exercise control over any client funds. For more information, email info@smaa.org or click [here](#) to apply.

PICK-UP FURNITURE IN YOUR AREA

FS Assist [Furniture Friends](#) by collecting furniture from donors! Volunteers can choose to work directly from their office location or function as a 'satellite volunteer'. A 15 foot box truck is available for use or volunteers may use their own vehicles. Please contact Elise Moody-Roberts, volunteer@furniturefriends.org to learn more.

HELP DIFFERENTLY ABLED INDIVIDUALS ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

H [Portland Wheelers'](#) supports people of all ages living with all kinds of disabilities by taking them outdoors for refreshing, fun-filled, tricycle rides. Use your well-honed administrative skills and tech talents, while working closely with the executive director and board leadership to further a great program. This is a year round, part time commitment. To learn more, please contact Doug at info@portlandwheelers.org or (207) 232-7740.

HELP PLAN SPECIAL EVENTS

H The [Partners for World Health](#) Special Events Committee is seeking volunteers to help plan fun events, solicit donations, and help on the day of the event. Meetings are held monthly. Contact Kelsey at kelsey@partnersforworldhealth.org for more information.

UWGP VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER (CONT.)

ONGOING / REGULARLY-SCHEDULED VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

OFFER THE COMFORT OF YOUR THERAPY DOG

H [Beacon Hospice](#) seeks handlers with therapy dogs to join their volunteer team. Dogs must be certified therapy dogs with insurance, have proof of rabies shots, and be courteous citizens. Handlers must complete direct patient care hospice volunteer training offered at the South Portland office. Pet visits will take place mostly at facilities. To learn more, click [here](#) or call Donna Teague at (207) 772-0929.

HELP MOBILIZE AND WELCOME NEW RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS

FS [The Red Cross](#) seeks Volunteer Recruitment and Volunteer Intake volunteers to join their team. Recruitment volunteers assess the organization's needs and develop and execute a plan to recruit critical volunteers. Intake volunteers welcome and screen prospective volunteers and process applications submitted through Volunteer Connection. This position calls and emails applicants to remind them to complete all application steps. Candidates can be from anywhere in Maine and will have flexible schedules and options to serve remotely or at one of the five Red Cross offices located throughout the state. Contact Volunteer Services at (207) 874-1192 x106 or email MEvolunteer@redcross.org to learn more.

COMPLETE A MEANINGFUL AND DYNAMIC INTERNSHIP WITH THE RED CROSS

FS Business/Marketing Interns serve a vital role on a supportive team that promotes, recruits, and supports area blood drives for [The Red Cross](#). Interns are empowered to use their strengths to achieve outcomes and are given the opportunity to develop themselves in a supportive environment. Specific responsibilities are tailored to unique strengths, interests, and academic goals. Contact Volunteer Services at (207) 874-1192 x106 or x115 or MEvolunteer@redcross.org to learn more.

HELP WITH DEVELOPMENT TASKS

FS Enjoy researching potential corporate partners, coordinating events, or supporting general administrative tasks? [The Red Cross](#) Development Office, which oversees all aspects of fundraising, seeks volunteers with skills in fundraising, development, research, event planning, and related skills. Volunteers support the work being done throughout the state to provide assistance to those in the greatest need. Contact Volunteer Services at (207) 874-1192 x106 or email MEvolunteer@redcross.org to learn more.

VOLUNTEER WITH PARTNERS FOR WORLD HEALTH

H [Partners for World Health \(PWH\)](#) has several volunteer roles for people wishing to support their efforts to collect medical supplies to send to underserved populations in the developing world. Help out by sorting and preparing medical supplies for shipment overseas, serving as a receptionist at their front desk for three hour shifts on Thursday afternoons, Fridays, or Saturdays, or by joining their core group of drivers who pick up supplies across New England and deliver them to their Portland warehouse. No medical background or special license is needed. It's social, fun, and inspirational. Click [here](#) to apply or contact Kelsey, kelsey@partnersforworldhealth.org to learn more.

BE PART OF A LIFESAVING PROGRAM

H [The Red Cross](#) is in need of a Blood Donor Ambassador to welcome and greet blood donors, as well as assist with initial intake and hand-offs through the blood donation process. Assist by making reminder calls, re-scheduling donor appointments, and performing follow-up activities as directed. Contact Volunteer Services at (207) 874-1192 x106 or email MEvolunteer@redcross.org to learn more.

UWGP VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER (CONT.)

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES, EVENTS, & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

HELP STUDENTS KEEP WARM THIS WINTER

FS Portland Arts and Technical High School (PATHS) is in need of men's sweatshirts and sweatpants (size XL, XXL, and XXXL), as well as men's underwear (size 36-44). Women's sweatshirts and sweatpants (size M-XL) are also needed, as well as socks for all. To learn more or donate, contact Tina Mikkelsen at mikket@portlandschools.org.

INTERNATIONAL ARTISAN CRAFT FAIR

H Support [Partners for World Health](#) by shopping at their Annual International Artisan Craft Fair on **Saturday, December 8** from 9am-2:30pm at 40 Walch Drive in Portland. Find handcrafted baskets, jewelry, and scarves from Uganda, Bangladesh and more!

UNITED We Thrive Luncheon

Join us at the 2019 UNITED We Thrive Awards Luncheon on April 23, 2019 where we will recognize and celebrate the outstanding work of individuals and organizations making a difference in our community. Tickets and nomination forms are available [here](#).

GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS

If you or someone you know is facing serious illness **H** or grieving the death of a loved one this holiday season, you already know that the holidays will be different this year. For additional resources around grief and the holidays, click [here](#).

OVERDOSE PREVENTION PROJECT

H The [Overdose Prevention Project](#) promotes the health of all Portland area individuals by providing support, outreach, education and advocacy through collaborations and partnerships.

UWGP UPDATES

LEARN MORE ABOUT SNAP

Did you know that 1 in 7 Mainers can't afford food? Luckily, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is there to help our neighbors put food on the table. Check out our recent videos to learn more about this beneficial program. Click [here](#) for Meredith's story and [here](#) for Whitley's.

Has SNAP made a difference in your life? Contact Ronald Jarrett, rjarrett@unitedwaygp.org to share your SNAP story.

LANGUAGE EDUCATION ACCESS PROJECT

Through Project LEAP, East Bayside single moms will be able to increase their English language skills while their children receive early childhood education. Families will also gather once a month to share a healthy meal and learn about various topics including getting ready to work in America. All programming will be held at the YMCA and transportation will be provided. Additional benefits include: Access to a workforce advisor and support to enhance participants' path to self-sufficiency and free family membership to the YMCA, which allows moms to participate in women's-only swim time, bilingual and women's group exercise classes, and enjoy many of the YMCA's offerings funded by [Women United](#). For more information, contact Geneva Meserve, Portland Adult Education, (207) 874-8155 or meserg@portlandschools.org.