



Be the
Change

Brought to you by:

Ottawa Volunteer Center
a service of ECKAN

Phone: 785-242-7450, ext. 205
Email: livers@eckan.org



2010
Volunteer Connection

Your guide to volunteer opportunities in Franklin County

Thank you for taking an interest in making our community a better place! The Ottawa Volunteer Center, a service of ECKAN, serves as a hub for volunteer opportunities in Franklin County. This booklet is intended to provide a central location for finding all of the volunteer opportunities in Ottawa. For more information on different agencies or if you would like to add your agency to this booklet please contact Lisa Rivers at 242-7450, ext. 205 or by email at lrivers@eckan.org.

The Volunteer Center meets the following objectives:

1. Connect people with opportunities to serve by recruiting and referring volunteers to agencies in the community, by coordinating national days of service (such as Make a Difference Day) and by promoting special events that are in need of volunteers.
2. Build the capacity for effective local volunteering management through trainings to local agencies.
3. Heighten awareness of volunteering in the community and recognize community volunteers.

The Ottawa Volunteer Center inspires, equips, and mobilizes people to take action and change their community for the better.



1320 S. Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

P.O. Box 40 Ottawa, KS 66067

Phone: 785-242-7450, ext. 205

Fax: 785-242-0305

Email: lrivers@eckan.org

To register on-line for many of these volunteer opportunities, visit
www.1800volunteer.org/1800vol/FCVC

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The nonprofit organizations in this guide are by no means a complete listing. Information included in this guide is provided as a community service and does not necessarily constitute endorsement by ECKAN, nor does omission constitute disapproval.

How to Use This Guide

- 1. Scan through the listing of volunteer agencies and mark those of interest to you.**
- 2. Narrow your search by identifying which of these opportunities fits your schedule and age requirement.**
- 3. Contact the agency directly to volunteer. Be sure to tell them that you read about the opportunity in the *Volunteer Connection*.**
- 4. If you can't find a volunteer opportunity that fits your needs, call Ottawa Volunteer Center at 785-242-7450 ext. 205.**

4-H Franklin County Extension

Contact: JoEllen Arnold 785-229-3520

Address: 1418 S. Main, Ste 2 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: jearnold@ksu.edu

Position: **Project Leader**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Help local youth develop leadership and social skills through individual projects.

ACT Ottawa

Contact: Teri Howard 785-242-3535

Address: 1324 S Elm, Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: tleanmey@yahoo.com

Website: www.actottawa.org

Position: **Box Office Manager**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Production nights (responsibilities can be shared)

Description: Selling tickets/ keeping track of sales.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Ushers for Production**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Production nights (responsibilities can be shared)

Description: Seating/ handing out programs

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Backstage Help**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Every show or certain production nights

Description: Errands, set help, program/ graphics/ etc.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Executive Board**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Year long (six meetings per year)

Description: Oversee production and committees.

Training provided: Yes

American Red Cross

Contact: Sharon Cassaway 913-321-6314

Address: 1600 Washington Blvd. Kansas City, KS 66102

Position: **CPR/First Aid Instructor**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Teaching lifesaving CPR/First Aid skills to local businesses and members of the community.

Training provided: Yes

American Red Cross - Franklin County

Contact: Carol Bulmer 785-242-8827

Address: 4009 Hwy 59 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: rcbulmer@kitusa.com

Position: **Blood Drive Assistant**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: 2 hr - 6 hr Shifts

Description: Bi-monthly volunteers work in the canteen, registration, or escorting donors.

Training provided: No

Bea Martin Peck Animal Shelter

Contact: Shelter Staff 785-242-2967

Address: 230 W. 19th St. Ottawa, KS 66067

Position: **Shelter Assistant**

Age: Any (Under 18 must be accompanied by adult)

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Building repair-fences in pens, fundraising, sorting/organization, and clean up around the shelter grounds.



Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Contact: Meg Hooper-Pearson 785-214-8141

Address: 517 E. 3rd Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: mhooper@ksbbbs.org

Position: **Big brother, sister, couple or family**

Age: 15 and older (HS Soph. Min.)

Time Commitment: Flexible

Description: In the Bigs in Schools program, volunteers meet with their Littles once a week at the child's school for 30-45 minutes. They can meet for lunch, recess, or help during class. Community-Based volunteers spend time with their Littles 2-3 times per month doing things that interest them such as fishing, cooking, watching movies, playing games, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Boy Scouts of America

Contact: Curtis Gibson 785-242-5946

Email: elespeak@classicnet.net; d-j.nowat@sbcglobal.net

Position: **Troop Leader**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Help local youth develop leadership and social skills through individual projects.

Training provided: Yes

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

Contact: Sara Caylor or Nikki Banzhaf 785-229-8996

Address: 315 South Main, Third Floor East Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: scaylor@mail.franklincoks.org; nbanzhaf@mail.franklincoks.org

Position: **CASA Advocate**

Age: 21 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: CASAs are first and foremost a child's advocate. They serve as a friend to the child they are matched with who are in the court system due to abuse or neglect, looking out for their best interest at all times.

Training provided: Yes

COF Training Services

Contact: Vicki L DeLaTorre 785-242-5035
Address: 1516 Davis Rd Ottawa, KS 66067
Email: vickid@cofts.org

Please call for available volunteer opportunities serving individuals with developmental disabilities

Communities in Schools

Contact: Becky Nevergold 785-229-8010
Address: 416 S. Main Ottawa, KS 66067
Email: neverb@usd290.org

Position: **Youth Friend**

Age: High School and Older

Time Commitment: 1 hr/week

Description: Nationally recognized mentoring program matches volunteers with students during school hours for homework help, social interaction, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **BackSnack Helper**

Age: Flexible

Time Commitment: 1 or 2 hrs/wk. on Thursday or Friday afternoons

Description: Clean, load, and/or deliver backpacks with nonperishable food to elementary schools for weekend distribution to students in need.

Training provided: No

Compeer

Contact: Alli Jackson 785-242-3780 ext 314
Address: 204 East 15th Ottawa, KS 66067
Mailing PO Box 677. Ottawa, KS 66067
Email: ajackson@laytoncenter.org

Position: **Mentor to a Client**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 4 hours each month (any days or evenings)

Description: Volunteers become a friend/mentor to a child or adult who are currently receiving mental health services.

Training provided: Yes

ECKAAA (East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging)

Contact: Leslea Rockers 785-242-7200

Address: 132 South Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: leslear@eckaaa.state.ks.us

Position: **Friendly Visitor**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Volunteers to go into the homes of older adults to visit, play a game of cards, read, or just interact with the older adult.

Position: **Friendly Paws**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Volunteers to go into the homes of older adults with trained pets.

Position: **Heart by Heart**

Age: Older Adults

Time Commitment: During School Hours

Description: Volunteer will be available to go to different schools for tutoring, mentoring, and sharing history or personal stories.

ECKAN Head Start

Contact: Dawn Cubbison 785-242-4405

Address: 225 E. 2nd Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: dcubbison@eckan.org

Position: **Classroom Helper**

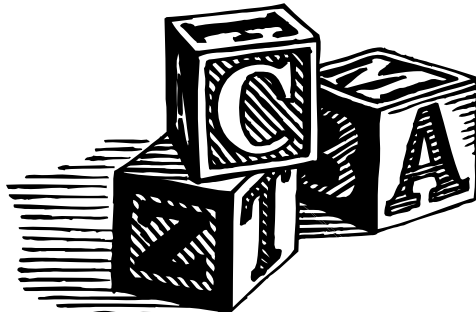
Age: 16 or older

Time Commitment: Between 9am to 3pm

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes (Must pass KBI)

Description: Read to kids, eat lunch with students, assist teachers with projects, provide kitchen help.

Training provided: Yes



ECKAN Community Center

Contact: Kristina Zhilkina 785-242-7515

Address: 1320 S. Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: freckan@eckan.org

Position: **Client Services Volunteer**

Age: High School and Older

Time Commitment: Varies

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: The volunteer could help with commodity distribution, stock food pantry, or greet clients seeking services.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Commodity Outreach**

Age: 18 and Older

Time Commitment: 1-2 hrs/month

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Call commodity clients to remind them of food distribution day and answer questions from clients. Distribute food to clients.

Training provided: Yes

ECKAN Youth Services

Contact: Michelle Hafer 785-242-7450 ext. 215

Address: 1320 S. Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: mhafer@eckan.org

Position: **Youth Mentor**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 1 hr/week at breakfast or supper times

Description: Adult mentors are paired up with an at-risk youth as a Breakfast or Supper Buddy. They take them out to breakfast or supper once a week, to a local community restaurant. The children's meals are provided free of charge by the restaurant owner.

Training provided: Yes

Eisenhower Elementary

Contact: Nancy Johnson, Principal 785-229-8040

Address: 1404 South Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: johnsonn@usd290.org

Position: **Homework Helper**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Help children with homework.

Franklin County Cancer Foundation

Contact: Joann Cook 785-242-2272 or Martha Keller 785-242-6703

Address: 215 S. Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: fccf@att.net

Position: Board Members

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 2 hr/mo, Wednesday evening

Description: Make policy decisions, organization budget, determine best practices for meeting needs of cancer survivors and their families.

Training provided: No

Position: Event Helpers

Age: Any

Time Commitment: 2-4 hours

Description: Help with Events - Golf Tournament, Ice Cream Social at Car Show, Refreshments at Christmas Lighting, Cancer 5k Run.

Training provided: No

Franklin County CVB & Visitor Center

Contact: Kristi Lee 785-242-1411

Address: 2011 East Logan Ottawa, KS 66067

Mailing: PO Box 203 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: director@visitottawakansas.com; marketing@visitottawakansas.com

Position: Visitor Center Volunteer

Age: Any

Time Commitment: 10-1:30 M-F, 9-12:30 and 12:30-4 SA, 12-4 Sun

Description: Meet and greet visitors who come to the center, provide them with maps and brochures on our area and other communities across the state and help the visitors find our motels, restaurants, etc. We also have opportunities to help with community events.

Training provided: No

Franklin County Children's Coalition

Contact: Brenda VanNess 785-229-8603

Address: PO Box 1004 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: brenda.vanness@srs.ks.gov

Position: Children's Activity Helper

Age: High School and Older

Time Commitment: Varies, During Spring Break

Description: Provide activities for children while out of school for spring break and winter break. Supervise, serve food, arts and crafts helper, etc.

Training provided: No

Franklin County Day Care

Contact: Jamie Ater 785-242-2714

Address: 410 South Hickory Street, Ottawa, KS 66067

Position: **Classroom Assistant**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies; Available times from 5:30 am – 6:00 pm

Description: Assist head teacher in supervising children and help with classroom activities.

Training provided: No

Franklin County Historical Society/Old Depot Museum

Contact: Kim Hanson 785-242-1250 or Deb Barker 785-242-1232

Address: 135 West Tecumseh Ottawa, KS 66067

Mailing: PO Box 145 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: santafemuseum@sbcglobal.net; history@old.depot.museum

Position: **Front Desk**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Greet visitors, sell tickets to the museum and answer questions.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Building and Grounds**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Planting flowers, pulling weeds and paint fences.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Various Committees**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Volunteers are needed to sit on various committees, such as the Collections Committee and the Exhibits Committee.

Training provided: Yes



Franklin County Recycling Center

Contact: 785-229-8476

Address: 2038 S Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies (Open M-F 7-3pm and Sat. 9-1pm, especially needs help Mondays)

Description: Volunteers needed to sort materials to be recycled and empty recycling bins.

Franklin County Rural Firefighter

Contact: James Savage 620-757-6754

Email: poopoo1138@yahoo.com

Position: **Fire Fighters**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 24/7, As Needed

Description: Fire response volunteers needed in Centropolis, Cutler, L.O.H, Ohio, Pomona, Pottawatomie, Richmond, Wellsville, & Williamsburg.

Girls Club of Ottawa

Contact: Anita Poe-Wiley 785-229-8010

Address: 416 S. Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email:

Age: 16 and older

Time Commitment: 2 hr./wk

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Lead girls in projects, crafts, instruction, etc. to increase self-esteem.

Training provided: Yes



Habitat for Humanity

Contact: Board of Directors 785-242-2600

Address: PO Box 291 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: hfhofc@sbcglobal.net

Position: **Construction/ Supervisor**

Age: 16 and older

Time Commitment: As needed-mainly Saturdays

Description: General construction at worksite. Could include framing walls, roofing, sheetrock, painting, etc.

Training provided: No

Position: **Committees & Office Work**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Committees meet 2-3 hrs./mo, Office work 2-3 hrs/wk.

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Committees seeking members: fundraising, public relations, family support, site selection, family selection. Office work includes filing, data entry, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Family Advocate**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Work one-on-one with partner family in their transition to homeownership. Help plan homeowner education classes for families prior to closing.

Training provided: Yes

His Way Ministries/Buffalo Ridge Retreat Center

Contact: Lauri Green 785-746-5418

Address: 1203 Finney Road, Williamsburg, KS 66095

Mailing PO Box 400, Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: buffaloridge@hiswayministries.org

Position: **Housekeeping / Kitchen**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Periodically

Description: Help to prepare guest house/rooms for guests. Also help with meal preparation and serving when hosting small groups. Training provided: No

Position: **Maintenance & Groundskeeping**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Periodically

Description: Carpentry, painting, staining, clearing brush, weed eating, etc.

Training provided: No

Hope House

Contact: Mary Lois Yates 785-242-4444

Address: 304 S. Walnut St. Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: fchopehouse@copper.net

Position: **Clothing Assistant/ Food Pantry**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Tue, Wed, and Thur. & 2nd Sat. from 9-12

Description: Sort and arrange clothing, Prepare food orders,

Position: **Office Assistant**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Tue, Wed, and Thur. & 2nd Sat. from 9-12

Description: Working on the computer, typing the newsletter and filling out forms for information center and for those seeking emergency assistance.

LifeCare Center

Contact: Liz Posey 785-242-4500

Address: 225 S Walnut Suite 102 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: hope@lifecarecenter.org

Position: **Mentor/Teacher**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 3 or more hrs. per wk.

Description: Lead discussion of parenting lessons with clients

Position: **Receptionists**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 3 or more hrs. per wk.

Description: Answer phones, schedule appointments, greet clients, file charts, and make copies.

Position: **Store Keeper**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 3 or more hrs. per wk.

Description: Help sort and clean donations, stock shelves, and assist client "shoppers."

Position: **Nurse Volunteer**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 3 or more hrs. per wk.

Description: Volunteers trained in sonography needed to do pregnancy testing and perform ultra sounds.

Lincoln Elementary School

Contact: Vicki Schweinler 785-229-8080

Address: 1102 N. Milner St. Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: schweinv@usd290.org

Position: **Teacher Helper**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Assist children with homework.

Meals on Wheels - MidAmerica Nutrition

Contact: Florene Hart 785-242-7440 or Sharon Geiss 785-242-8341

Address: 134 South Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: sdgeiss@midamericanutrition.org

Position: **Delivery Driver**

Age: 16 and older

Time Commitment: M-F 11-12:00, 1 hr per week

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Deliver meals to homebound people. Volunteer must provide their own transportation.

Training provided: No

Midland Hospice Care

Contact: Suz McIver 785-232-2044 ext. 410

Address: 635 South Main Ottawa, KS 66067,
200 SW Frazier Topeka, KS 66606

Email: smciver@midlandcc.org

Position: **Patient Care Volunteers**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 2 hrs/wk

Description: Visit patients in their home, nursing home, hospital or at Hospice House. Provide companionship to the patient and family and assist with activities that include running errands, reading to a patient, relieving a caregiver and helping with household chores.

Training provided: Yes

Ottawa Community Arts Council

Contact: Debra Sue Dunlap 785-242-3169

Address: 501 S Main, Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: dunlapdebra2@yahoo.com

Position: **Gallery Volunteer**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Afternoon during the week and on weekends

Description: Staff the gift shop desk, host/hostess of the art exhibits, answer phones, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Ottawa Library

Contact: Shannon Leonard 785-242-3080

Address: 105 South Hickory Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: shannonleonard4@gmail.com

Position: **Summer Reading Program Volunteer**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: 2-3 hours/week during June and July

Description: Assist with summer reading program registration and/or special activity days.

Ottawa Library

Contact: Robin Flory 785-242-3080

Address: 105 South Hickory Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: robinflory@ottawalibrary.org

Position: **Book Sale Sorter**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Mon. 1-2:30, 1st Sat. of the month from 8-12

Description: Sort donated books into categories at the Friends of the Library Bookstore (209 East 2nd).

Training provided: No

Ottawa Retirement Village

Contact: Lisa Masingill 785-242-5399

Address: 1100 West 15th Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: lisamasingill@yahoo.com

Position: **Special Visitor to Elderly Residents**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: 9-11 and 2-6

Description: Playing games with elderly, helping with crafts, and distributing mail

Ottawa Wellsville Infant Toddler (OWIT) Program / Fr. City Early Childhood Coord. Council (FR-ECCC)

Contact: Sarah Walters 242-0910

Address: 416 S. Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: sarah.walters@greenbush.org

Position: **Board & Committee Members**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 2 hr./mo

Description: Board and Committee members work to ensure that children ages birth to 5 will grow and thrive. Committees include: Service delivery, fundraising, developmental screening, publicity, by-laws.

Training provided: No

Ransom Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

Contact: Jody Lancaster 785-229-8231

Address: 1301 South Main Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: jodyl@ransom.org

Position: **RMH Volunteer**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Positions serve the hospital in the following areas: Cafeteria Cashier, Surgery, Gift Shop Cashier, Information Desk, Gollier Center, or X-ray

Training provided: Yes

Salvation Army

Contact: Adam Lynch 785-242-6604

Address: 500 W. 10th Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: adamlynch509@yahoo.com; kellylynch@hotmail.com

Position: **Kettle Bell Ringer**

Age: 15 and older (14 & Under w/ adult)

Time Commitment: Varies (1-2 hr. shifts)

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Bell ringers are needed at local retail establishments to raise money for families in need in Franklin County.

Training provided: No

United Way

Contact: Brian Clayton 785-229-6440 ext 3031

Address: PO Box 233 Ottawa, KS 66067

Position: **Board/Campaign Drive**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Year-round/Sept-Nov

Description: Board: share responsibilities on 12-member board to operate charitable funding organization/call on potential donor for charity drive. Leadership opportunities in campaign, strategizing, marketing, organization.

Volunteers in Police Service

Contact: Ron Hughes 785-229-3600 ext. 32

Address: 715 W. 2nd Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: rhughes@ottawaks.gov

Position: **Volunteers in Police Service**

Age: Any

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Administrative, outdoor special events, handicapped parking enforcement, finger printing job applicants, assist court clerk and more. Volunteers must agree to a background check including criminal & driving history along with references.

The Willow Domestic Violence Center

Contact: Crystal Camis or Melissa Haenchen 785-242-6300

Address: PO Box 997 Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: ccamis@willowdvcenter.org; mhaenchen@willowdvcenter.org

Position: **Advocate**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: Varies

Description: Direct service to DV survivors-transportation, court support, kids groups, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Position: **Office/Clerical Assistant**

Age: 18 and older

Time Commitment: 2-3 hrs/wk.

Description: Answer phones, file, data input, attend court hearings, etc.

Training provided: Yes

Youth Action Council - ECKAN

Contact: Lisa Rivers 785-242-7450 ext. 205

Address: 1320 S. Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: Lrivers@eckan.org

Position: **Youth Volunteer**

Age: Grades 6-12

Time Commitment: 6 Hrs. per month

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Students attend meetings twice a month to discuss, plan, and reflect on service projects such as Senior Socials, Make a Difference Day, literacy projects, etc.

Training provided: No

Youth in Government- ECKAN

Contact: Lisa Rivers 785-242-7450 ext. 205

Address: 1320 S. Ash Ottawa, KS 66067

Email: Lrivers@eckan.org

Position: **Junior City Commissioner**

Age: Grades 8-12

Time Commitment: 6 Hrs. per month

Comm. Service/Probation: Yes

Description: Students serve as liasons to the City Government speaking on behalf of Ottawa's youth. Meet twice monthly and represent City at state-wide & national conferences.

Training provided: Yes



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Junior City Commissioner

Group Opportunities and Special Events

4-H Franklin County Extension

Contact: JoEllen Arnold - 785-229-3520 or jearnold@ksu.edu

Special Events

Franklin County Fair

Dates: June-July

Descriptions: Building Watchers, Judges, Superintendent (Manage Entries)

Location: Franklin County Fairgrounds

County Club Days

Dates: Feb. or Mar.

Descriptions: Judging (Par-Law, Drama, Music)

Location: Ottawa Middle School

American Red Cross - Franklin County

Contact: Carol Bulmer – 785-242-8827 or rcbulmer@kitusa.com

Group Opportunities

Blood Drive Volunteers

Dates: Bi-monthly

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Celebration Hall, Ottawa

Communities in Schools

Contact: Becky Nevergold – 785-229-8010 or neverb@usd290.org

Group Opportunities

Prepare student materials for afterschool crafts, games, etc.

Dates: Varies, Sept-May

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: USD 290 Office

Clean, load, and/or deliver backpacks with nonperishable food to elementary schools for weekend distribution to students in need

Dates: Thurs and/or Friday afternoon

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Don Woodward Center

ECKAN Community Center

Contact: Kristina Zhilkina – 785-242-7515 or freckan@eckan.org

Group Opportunities

Christmas Adopt-a-Family to provide food, clothing, and/or toys to a family in need

Dates: December

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Franklin County

Conduct food drive and/or health and basic hygiene drive to benefit food pantry

Dates: Ongoing Need

Size of Group: Any

ECKAN Head Start

Contact: Dawn Cubbison – 785-242-4405 or dcubbison@eckan.org

Group Opportunities

Clean playground

Dates: Flexible

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: On-Site

Assist in Classroom or Kitchen

Dates: Aug-May

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: On-Site

ECKAN Youth Services

Contact: Michelle Hafer – 785-242-7450 ext. 215

Group Opportunities

Provide meal to at-risk youth & parents prior to social activity

Dates: Varies monthly

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: In Ottawa

Franklin County Children's Coalition

Contact: Brenda VanNess – 785-229-8603 or brenda.vanness@srs.ks.gov

Special Events

Spring Fling

Dates: Spring Break (March)

Description: Sponsor event/activity for kids, Activity Helper

Location: Ottawa

Franklin County CVB & Visitor Center

Contact: Kristi Lee – 785-242-1411 or director@visitottawakansas.com

Group Opportunities

Landscaping/Weeding

Dates: Flexible

Size of Group: 2-11

Location: On-Site

Special Events

Old West Cowboy Days (Sept), Power of the Past (Sept), AgriTourism Day, Veteran's Day,

Dates: Various, September

Description: Parking, Traffic Control, Clean-up, Info. booth, Set-up



Franklin County Historical Society/Old Depot Museum

Contact: Kim Hanson – 785-242-1250 or santafemuseum@sbcglobal.net

Group Opportunities

Distribute posters for Museum exhibits

Dates: 4 times per year

Size of Group: 2-11

Location: Downtown

Holiday Decorating at Old Depot Museum

Dates: Seasonal

Location: On-Site

Special Events

Haunted Museum at Old Depot Museum

Dates: October

Description: Set-Up, Ticket Sales, Drama Team

Location: Old Depot Museum

Esoteric & Terrible Order of Pie Eaters Conclave

Dates: Fall

Description: Bake Pies, Set-up, Sell tickets for historic Pastry Event

Location: TBD

Habitat for Humanity

Contact: Board of Directors – 785-242-2600 or hfhofc@sbcglobal.net

Group Opportunities

Build a house for a family in need

Dates: Flexible, depends on build schedule

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Building Site

Childcare for Habitat partner families

Dates: Saturdays during build schedule

Location: Church nursery is best

Provide Lunch for Construction volunteers

Dates: Saturdays during build schedule

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Deliver to build site

His Way Ministries/Buffalo Ridge Retreat Center

Contact: Lauri Green – 785-746-5481 or buffaloridge@hiswayministries.org

Group Opportunities

Carpentry, painting, staining, clearing brush, weed eating, etc.

Size of Group: 2-11

Location: On-Site

Meals on Wheels - MidAmerica Nutrition

Contact: Sharon Geiss – 785-242-8341 or sdgeiss@midamericanutrition.org

Group Opportunities

Deep Cleaning at Central Kitchen

Dates: Flexible

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: 1538 Industrial Ave, Ottawa, KS 66067

Salvation Army

Contact: Adam Lynch – 785-242-6604 or adamlynch509@yahoo.com

Group Opportunities

Group bell ringers are needed at local retail establishments

Dates: Nov. 20th-Christmas Eve

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Retail Stores



The Willow Domestic Violence Center

Contact: Crystal Camis – 785-242-6300 or ccamis@wtcskansas.org

Group Opportunities

Holiday Adopt-a-Family to provide food and/or gifts

Dates: Thanksgiving & Christmas

Size of Group: 2-10

Location: Franklin County

Special Events

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Dates: October

Description: Brochure distribution, info tables, planning committee, fundraisers, set-up Comm. Events

Location: Varies in Franklin County

Youth Action Council / Ottawa Volunteer Center – ECKAN

Contact: Lisa Rivers – 785-242-7450 ext 205 or lrivers@eckan.org

Special Events

National Youth Service Days

Empower young people to serve and capture their energy, commitment and idealism through sustainable service. Sponsored by Youth Service America, Nat'l Youth Leadership Council, & Parade Magazine

Dates: 4th Weekend in April

Size of Group: Any

Join Hands Day

Bring adults and young people together to create new and better relationships by working as a team within their own neighborhoods. Sponsored by America's Fraternal Benefit Societies (e.g. Modern Woodmen of America)

Dates: 1st Saturday in May

Size of Group: Any

Make a Difference Day

"National Day of Doing Good" seeks to inspire and reward volunteers. Everyone who helps others on this day is eligible for a national or local award. Ottawa won this regional award in 2006. Sponsored by the Points of Light Institute & USA Weekend Magazine

Dates: Last Saturday in October

Size of Group: Any



The Five W's of Volunteering

Who can volunteer?

Anyone. Any age.

What is volunteering?

Anything you do to help someone or to better the community out of the goodness of your heart is volunteering.

When can I volunteer?

Days, evenings or weekends. On an ongoing or short-term basis.

Where can I volunteer?

At home, in your neighborhood or at an agency.

Why should I volunteer?

Volunteering is a fun, educational way to learn about the community; seeing how you can make a difference in the lives of others.



Tips for Volunteers

- Wear appropriate clothing for outdoor activities.
- If you would like to bring young children, please check with the organization to make sure supervision is available.
- Check with the organization prior to the activity about what you need to bring (tools, lunch, safety gear, etc.)
- Give the organization adequate advance notice if for some reason you cannot participate.
- Please let the contact person know the Ottawa Volunteer Center referred you.
- Give the organization and Ottawa Volunteer Center feedback on the project.
- *Most importantly have lots of fun!*

*Volunteers do not necessarily have
the time; they just have the heart.*

-- Elizabeth Andrew

*When the story of these times gets
written, we want it to say that we
did all we could, and it was more
than anyone could have imagined.*

-- Bono

*In every community there is work to be done. In
every nation there are wounds to heal. In every
heart there is the power to do it.*

--Marianne Williamson

*You make a living by what you get.
You make a life by what you give.*

-- Winston Churchill

*Never doubt that a small group of
committed people can change the world.
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

-- Margaret Mead

NOTES: