

Reaching Through Serving | groups & individuals

adult groups & those interested in serving

Signup to serve and learn more on the web
bhbconline.org/reachingthroughserving

Q&Ps should be directed to
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866.9597 x145

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Carpool** | Many ministries have limited parking.
2. **Dress very casual** | Jeans and sweatshirt or t-shirt are best. Always wear sleeves, even in very warm weather. Be modest. Avoid church t-shirts that single your group out.
3. **Pray** | Ask God, as a group, for wisdom, love, patience, insight, protection and to be a blessing.
4. **Debrief** | Discuss as a group what you experienced and pray again for God's blessing on the people you served.
5. **Report** | Have the group leader report to Sylvia so she can learn and better prepare other groups to have a positive experience.

Ministries

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. *1 Peter 4:10*

Women at Risk International (WAR)

Overview | WAR helps women around the world who are at risk for human trafficking. In the states WAR addresses this problem by selling products made by women so they can support themselves and have something of value to offer their families. WAR relies on volunteers to prepare this product for distribution; eighty percent of their effort is volunteer.

WAR Option One

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | Mon - Fri, 9am-9pm and Sat, 9am-7pm. Volunteers should plan on serving a two hour window during these hours.

Tasks | product preparation (sort, count, price, bagging)

Volunteer Age | Children welcome, use discretion

WAR Option Two

Table Volunteer

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | Mon - Fri evenings 4-10pm; Sat - all day

Tasks | Pick up products from WAR facility; take to event & set up table. Sell product and share stories of the product. Pack up and return product to 44th Street WAR facility.

Volunteer Age | Children welcome, use discretion

North Kent Community Services

Overview | NKCS provides food, clothing and household supplies to families who have these basic needs. Their clientele has tripled due to the recent economic climate. When you help them process donations and clean their facility, you are serving many of your own neighbors.

NKCS Option One

Days | Mon-Thurs

Times | flexible (two to four hrs, between 8am and 6pm)

Tasks | sorting and displaying donations

Volunteer Age | children allowed with adult supervision

NKCS Option Two

Days | Mon-Thurs

Times | 12-4pm

Tasks | client checkout - count, record and bag items for clients once afternoon weekly.

Volunteer Age | High School age and above

Dégagé Ministries

Overview: Dégagé provides broad support to Grand Rapids' homeless population. Their clients need to feel loved and cared for. When you take time to interact with them you are affirming their worth as human beings fully loved by Jesus.

Dégagé Option One

Days | call for openings

Times | varies

Tasks | serve dinner (food provided by Dégagé) or provide dessert to go with meal (ice cream, pie, cookies, etc)

Details | Serving group size 6-10 people

Volunteer Age | 16 or older

Dégagé Option Two

Patron Outing

Instructions | Arrive 30 minutes before start time so you can get set up. Park in the SW corner of the LaGrave Christian Reformed Church lot located at the corner of Sheldon and Cherry streets. Leave purses locked in the trunk of your car. Walk as a group to the front door of Dégagé. Ring the bell and when the supervisor comes to the door explain who you are and why you are there.

Note | As you are walking, stay together, but be friendly (smile and say "hello") as patrons will probably be hanging around outside Dégagé.

Volunteer Age | Children allowed with parent supervision.

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | varies (planned by serving groups)

Tasks | patron outing

Outing Ideas | Bowling, Whitecaps game, Frisbee golf at park

Notes | At least one Dégagé staff person will go along. Plan on providing at least one meal for all attending.

Dégagé Option Three

Join eV in a Tuesday night Patron Outing

Days | Tuesdays, every other month

Times | Evening

Tasks | Help eV provide food, help set up, and if they wanted to - stay for the event that EV plans. Often it is a movie or game night.

Details | Serving group size 6-10 people

Volunteer Age | 16 or older

Dégagé Option Four

Fill a weekly volunteer role

Days | as you are available

Times | choose a shift that works for you on a weekly basis

Tasks | Serve one shift per week in kitchen, Life Enrichment Ctr. or Open Door Women's Drop-In Ctr.

Volunteer Age | 16 or older

Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC)

Overview | PRC provides prenatal screening, counseling and care for many hurting women and men. They are literally saving lives! When you clean their facilities, you are freeing the staff to do the much needed work of rescuing babies and their families. Each cleaning directs \$150 to client services!

Days | Mon (Wyoming) or Wed (GR) evenings. GR facility dates for 2012 include: May 2, 9, 23, 30, June 13, 27, July 4, 11, 25, Aug. 1, 8, 22, 29, Sept. 5, 12. Wyoming facility dates for 2012 include Apr 23 & 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10.

Times | Two hours in the 5-8:30pm range

Tasks | Cleaning

Volunteer Age | High School age and above

Shepherds of Independence

Overview | Shepherds is a residence that provides consistent food and shelter for mild-medium mentally ill people who were previously homeless. Many of these people are taking medication to manage their illness and are thankful for opportunities to interact. We brought several of these clients to our dinner theater which was a huge blessing to them. When you spend time with these clients you are providing them with social interaction and fun rarely experienced. When you clean or do yard work you are helping to care for their basic needs.

Instructions | Upon arrival enter through the doors at the east end of the building. Go through the second door; the office is the first door to your right. A staff person will meet you to give directions. If you are doing a social event you will be setting up in the cafeteria. Your event will be posted for clients in advance so they will be waiting for you.

Shepherds Option One

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | flexible (two hrs.)

Tasks | Interacting with clients

Activity Ideas

- Pizza night (expect 30-35 people)
- Ice cream social (expect 30-35 people)
- Dessert and special music
- Board games or bingo with prizes (expect 20-25 people)
- Be creative

Volunteer Age | Children allowed with parent supervision

Shepherds Option Two

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | flexible (two - three hrs.)

Tasks | Cleaning main facility and resident rooms. Yard work in summer. Bring your own hand protection.

Volunteer Age | Post high school and above

Life International

Overview | Life International supports ministries all over the world that are engaged in the battle for life – helping to protect men, women and children from the horrors of abortion. When you serve them at their local office, you are enabling LI staff to spend their energies saving lives around the world.

Instructions | Free parking on the streets. Enter the front doors and a staff member will be there to greet and instruct you. They would love to give you a half hour tour if you have never been there before.

Life International Option One

Days | Mon – Thurs

Times | Flexible; one hour, done by 9pm.

Tasks | Praying for life around the world in their prayer room. They can help guide this prayer time if you desire.

Volunteer Age | Adults only

Life International Option Two

Days | Mon – Wed

Times | Flexible; two hours, done by 9pm.

Tasks | Cleaning

Volunteer Age | Children allowed with parent supervision.

Life International Option Three

Days | Mon – Fri days, Tues – Thurs evenings

Times | Flexible

Tasks | Outdoor cleaning/landscaping or indoor cleaning crews

Volunteer Age | Children allowed with parent supervision.

Guiding Light Mission (GLM)

Overview | Guiding Light Mission provides food and shelter while equipping men with social, emotional, spiritual and intellectual skills. When you give time and strength to help accomplish the daily needs of these men, you are helping them heal and grow to the place where they can also serve others in the community.

Instructions | Park on south side of the building off Bartlett and behind God's Kitchen. Enter doors located on south/east side of the building. A staff or volunteer will greet and instruct you.

Note | A volunteer application needs to be completed and submitted to GLM before serving date can be arranged.

Guiding Light Mission Option One

Greatest need | mentors for the men in our program. Please talk with Pastor Gary Heim (gheim@bhbcconline.org) to find out more.

Days | flexible

Times | flexible

Tasks | Mentor a man from our addictions recovery program.

Guiding Light Mission Option Two

Speak or share the gospel at one of our twice-daily chapel services.

Days | Mon – Sat

Times | 12-12:30pm or 6-6:30pm

Tasks | Speak. Preferred pastor license/ordination certificate, seminary student with recommendation letter from church, or music ministry with reference letter from church.

Guiding Light Mission Option Three

Days | Mon – Sat

Times | Flexible, two – three hrs, done by 7pm

Tasks | Cleaning and miscellaneous maintenance projects

Volunteer Age | Young adults

Guiding Light Mission Option Four

Days | Mon – Sat

Times | Lunch 11am-1pm; Supper 5-7pm

Tasks | Help prepare, serve and cleanup meals. Interact with residents and community members.

Volunteer Age | Adults only.

Feeding America

Overview | Feeding America West Michigan serves 1,300+ food pantries, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, domestic violence shelters, rescue missions and other charity agencies across 40 Michigan counties who in turn provide that food aid to approximately 100,000 needy families of West Michigan each year. Your group can help this agency provide food to those whose most basic needs, food and drink, are otherwise unmet.

Instructions | The warehouse is located right off of West River Drive and has accessible parking.

Note | Your group leader or someone in your group can opt to receive emails when specific needs arise and then communicate those needs to the group. To get on this list contact Dena,

DenaR@feedingamericawestmichigan.org, 784.3250.

Days | Mon – Fri, 9am to 4:30pm, or as indicated on email from Dena

Tasks | Serving at Feeding America is almost always a task oriented job (i.e. unpacking, shelving, weighing or sorting donated goods).

Volunteer Age | Children allowed with parent supervision

The Other Way

Overview | The Other Way Ministries is focused on walking alongside families as they set goals and seek growth through services, programs and leadership development centered around three pivotal areas - Spiritual, Relational and Economic. Volunteers are the heart and hands of their ministry.

Instructions | Park at 704 W. Fulton. Enter the activity center to receive instructions. There will be a 15 min orientation and a debriefing session at the end.

The Other Way Option One

Days | Tues

Times | 6-8:15pm

Tasks | Provide activities for children during adult programming. Child care for ages zero to four. Crafts, games and stories for ages five to twelve.

The Other Way Option Two

Days | Mon

Times | 6-8:30pm (arrive 5:30pm)

Tasks | Provide and serve dinner for bi-monthly family meal. Approx 40 people (8-10 families).

The Other Way Option Three

Days | Mon – Sat, as available

Times | two - four hrs

Tasks | Seasonal external maintenance on property (raking, community garden, trash pickup); painting or other interior upgrades

The Other Way Option Four

Days | Mon – Sat, as available

Times | two - four hrs

Tasks | Working on housing projects through partner, Westown Jubilee Housing – skilled and unskilled opportunities

The Other Way Option Five

Days | Mon – Sat, as available

Times | two - four hrs

Tasks | Moving donated food or product to and from storage

The Other Way Option Six

Days | Tues

Times | 3-5pm

Tasks | Be a discipleship group mentor to a small group of children in grades 3 – 6. Help with reading and going through a Bible lesson.

The Other Way Option Seven

Days | Tues

Times | 3 or 6 month commitment, 6-8:15pm.

Tasks | Teach ESL, limited Spanish knowledge necessary.

Open Door Ministries

Overview | Open Door Ministries provides a safe haven during the overnight hours to adult women in need due to substance abuse, domestic violence situations, psychiatric issues, etc.

Open Door Ministries Option One

Help on an evening

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | evenings

Tasks | provide an activity – spa night, crafts, games, music

Open Door Ministries Option Two

Help from home

Days | any day

Times | ½ hour

Tasks | write an encouraging note or card expressing love & prayers

BHBC Single Ladies

Overview | Caring for our own is a God-honoring way to show the world how we love each other.

Tasks | minor home repair [plumbing, electrical, carpentry] & yard work [cutting down a tree, spring/fall cleanup, sprinkler repair or maintenance].

Days & Times | as you are available

Wedgewood

Overview | Wedgewood extends God's love to youth and families through counseling, education, homes for at-risk youth, mentoring, and outreach programs. They are helping to provide hope and a future so that young people can live productive and fulfilling lives.

Wedgewood Option One

Mentoring (this is their greatest need)

Commitment | 1-2 hours per week for 6-9 months

Tasks | Build a supportive one-on-one relationship with an adolescent (ages 12-17)

Volunteer Age | Adult

Wedgewood Option Two

Facility Maintenance

Days | Mon - Sat

Times | 8am – 8pm

Tasks | yard work, painting, cleaning

Wedgewood Option Three

Small Group Bible Study

Days | As available

Times | As available

Tasks | Facilitate bible study in one of the residential homes

Wedgewood Option Four

Passing on a skill

Days | As available

Times | As available

Tasks | teach a skill such as piano, guitar, knitting, cooking, etc.

Bethany Christian Services [geared for individuals to serve]

Overview | This is the nation's largest adoption agency. They care for children of all ages and in all stages of life. We serve children at conception by counseling women with unplanned pregnancies and by providing frozen embryos a chance for a full life through our embryo adoption program. Our commitment extends to children and teens who are living in foster care or in orphanages—children who need a “forever family.”

Tasks | Mentors needed for four girls [ages 9, 10, 12 & 13] in the Rockford area. Training provided.

Days & Times | As you are available. Minimum of four hours per month commitment.

United in Christ Ministries [geared for young families to serve]

Overview | This is an inner city organization formed by four inner city churches joining their efforts together to reach their communities for Christ. Pick as date to help at the Saturday God's Club - this is

like VBS. You would join in helping one of the three different churches that run the Saturday you pick to serve. This would give you and your children a chance to be exposed to people of different cultures and life challenges and would foster a heart of gratitude and compassion.

Days | Saturdays [first, second or fourth of the month]

Times | 10:45am to 1:30pm

Family serving tasks include:

Gather | Walk around the neighborhood with a UICM volunteer and help gather kids for the club. The kids know about it but sometimes need a reminder or encouragement to come.

Love | Show love while they play, sing, hear a Bible story, say Bible verses, do a craft and have lunch.

Participate | Your children (depending on age) would participate along with the other kids – mingle with them showing kindness and friendship. This is a very valid way to serve – building bridges of understanding and acceptance.

Kids Food Basket [geared for young families to serve]

Overview | This ministry has onsite and offsite opportunities for young families. Evening volunteer slots start anytime 6pm or later and last for an hour. Families must signup and get details at: kidsfoodbasket.org. Click "Get Involved."

Days | Any day of the week, see below

Times | see tasks below for specific times

Family serving tasks include:

Make & Pack Sandwiches | Packing takes place every Sunday through Friday and sandwich making every Sunday through Thursday. Throughout most of the school year and summer we have opportunities during the day, after school, in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons.

Deliver Sandwiches | Drivers come to Kids' Food Basket on a scheduled day each week, between 1:30 and 2pm to deliver sack suppers to assigned schools.

Food or Juice Box Drive | Organize, collect and deliver food items on the wish list found on kidsfoodbasket.org (click "get involved" and select "food drive").

Decorate supper bags | This is great for anyone who wants to make a child's dinner special with more than a plain brown sack. Purchase Eight lb. paper sacks (or extra large) and decorate them for an upcoming holiday, with positive messages, or cheerful decorations. Since these sacks are going to public schools, we ask that there be no religious messages on the sacks.

Trail Mix Project | Scoop recipe ingredients into bags. Must be prepared at licensed food facility.