

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Together with our partners we offer a variety of corporate engagement volunteer activities

Volunteerism not only brings about a positive impact on our community, but it also inspires personal happiness and joy. Volunteers are important partners in our work to build a stronger, thriving community – particularly for struggling families. Get involved, make a difference.

Corporate Engagement and Volunteer Opportunities

Literacy Kits*

Prepare a STEM, Literacy or Arts Kit with colleagues at your location. Now more than ever, we need the community to step up and provide resources to children who are especially vulnerable trying to catch up on lost school instruction time. Help UWGMC provide educational resources by creating an age-appropriate kit!

Create a Personal Care Kit

UWGMC will provide a list of much needed personal items that families in need can use. Participants can collect items or UWGMC will facilitate acquiring the items and bring them to your workplace for a kit prep event.

Resume Review

UWGMC will provide resumes from clients looking for work from a local non-profit. The volunteer will review the resume for clear concise content, fix grammatical and spelling errors and closely look at the format to ensure that the resume is professional and easy to follow.

School Supply/Book Drive

Whatever the new school year looks like, students will still need school supplies and books. Virtual drives can be created at any time of year and will be delivered directly to designated schools and agencies. In person drives can also include a sorting day – books should be checked for condition and then boxed by grade level. UWGMC will provide the location for the team to drop off the donations.

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Holiday Drive

With the holidays approaching and many families still struggling, we can organize a virtual holiday gift drive and/or winter clothing accessories drives. You will receive a link to a dedicated Janssen donation page to share with your team. Shopping can be done with a click of a button and all the donations will be shipped directly to an agency in Mercer County.

Start a Food Drive

The pandemic has increased the number of NJ families experiencing food insecurity – or not knowing where their next meal is coming from. Prior to COVID, about 8% of Mercer County families were food insecure, now it's over 14% – almost doubled! Start a drive within your community or business and look for the designated food drop off days beginning in June through the UWGMC STRIKE OUT HUNGER campaign.

In addition, we will have opportunities for volunteers to help at food collection drop off sites, and help glean fresh produce at local farms throughout the summer.

Flavors of the Community

Help ensure local food pantry shelves are stocked with culturally relevant food items, so people of all cultures have access to food, flavors and spies they are familiar with.

Become a VITA Volunteer

United Way of Greater Mercer County is seeking volunteers for our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program which provides families and individuals making less than \$65,000/year with FREE tax return preparation.

Various opportunities available including:

- <u>Tax Preparer</u>: train to prepare and review tax returns,
- Greeter: confirm if individuals have all of the documents needed for filing and assist individuals in filling out an
 initial intake form (will not be preparing tax returns),
- Site Coordinator: review tax returns and manage tax site, and
- Translator: translate for Spanish speaking clients
- · No prior tax experience required
- · Become IRS certified
- Flexible volunteer hours (3-4 hour blocks)
- College students can earn course credits and build up their resumes
- · Tax professionals can earn Continuing Education Credits

Volunteers are needed from February -April. Free IRS training begins December and test certification is required by January 15th. Tax sites are located throughout Mercer County (exact locations TBD) and virtual volunteer opportunities may be available. For more information on becoming a VITA volunteer contact Carrie Pabreza at carrie.pabreza@uwgmc.org or call 609-896-1912

