

VOLUNTEER.

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

LEND A HAND:

NEWS RELEASE FOR JANUARY 19, 2012

CONTACT:

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ONE-TIME ONLY EVENTS:

Following are special, short-term opportunities that take place during a limited time frame.

STANISLAUS LITERACY CENTER

Spotlights on Reading fundraising event to support literacy efforts will be held on Feb. 17 and 18 at the Petersen Event Center in Modesto. Following in the footsteps of last year's successful "Children of the Dust Bowl" Reader's Theater production, this year's event will feature **"All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten"** by Robert Fulghum, adapted by Ernest Zulia, and produced by Kimberly Ogden. The Feb. 17 performance will begin at 7 p.m. with a wine and cheese reception at a ticket price of \$25. The Feb. 18 performance will begin at 6 p.m. with a dinner at a ticket price of \$30. Tickets are available by calling 522-0656 or on the agency's website. (Please click [here](#) for tickets and additional performance information.) Volunteers, ages 14 years and older, are needed at each event to assist with set up at 1 p.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. on Saturday. Volunteers are also needed to serve and replenish refreshments, and assist with silent auction activities during the events, and clean up from 6 to 9 p.m. after each production. The Stanislaus Literacy Center is a nonprofit corporation which teaches adults and their families basic education skills, helps parents become their child's first and best teachers and prepares a more productive workforce.

ON-GOING OPPORTUNITIES:

Following are continuing volunteer jobs that are generally available on an on-going basis.

THE FIRST TEE OF CENTRAL VALLEY

Tee it up with time and be a positive influence in the lives of youth with the Learning Life Skills Through Golf Program. The program offers life skills instruction, clinics, rounds of golf, and outings to benefit over 3,000 Central Valley area youth, ages 5 to 17, each year. Ten-week 1-hour clinics will be held between March and October weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings primarily at the Modesto Municipal Golf Course. Volunteer coaches and mentors interact with kids during icebreaker skills games, accompany youth playing nine holes of golf, teach specific golf skill focus for that day, assist with skill testing, and participate in "wrap up" games. No special skills are needed and it is not necessary to know how to play golf. Interested volunteers are asked to attend one of the following program trainings on Thurs., Feb. 23 at 5:30 p.m., Sat., Feb. 25 at 9 a.m. and Wed., Feb. 29 at 5:30 p.m. All trainings will be held in Modesto. Mentors meet with youth in a group setting every other Tuesday continuing throughout the season at Mancini Hall and participate in two summer field trips. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, complete a background check, and participate in at least three clinic sessions each year. The First Tee mission is to impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, STANISLAUS

Help low-income families build their dream of home ownership. Volunteers, ages 14 years and older, are needed to assist customers, receive, catalog, and price donations, stock and dust merchandise, etc. at the Habitat ReStore. The newest store, at 3124 McHenry Avenue in Modesto, is open Mon. - Sat. from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun. from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Kearney Avenue store is open Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., and Sat. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thurs. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The stores are filled with everything you could possibly need...new and used doors, windows, tiles, lights, flooring, cabinets, large appliances, furniture, tools, hardware, and much more. Merchandise is priced at 50-75% off retail to help the general public improve their own homes while helping low-income families. Donations of sellable building materials, home improvement items, appliances, furniture, etc. is always needed and appreciated. Volunteers, ages 16 years and up, are also needed to assist in all areas of house construction under trained supervision at the Hope Village subdivision Tues. - Sat., between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Prior to volunteering, all interested individuals must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation held every Thursday and the third Saturday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Habitat for Humanity, Stanislaus is a faith-based housing ministry connecting people from all faiths and walks of life to work with families in need to improve housing in this community and worldwide.

SALVATION ARMY TURLOCK CORPS

Help K - 8th grade youth excel at the Winners Circle after-school program. Volunteers, ages 16 years and older, are needed to provide tutoring, homework, and computer lab assistance to youth weekday afternoons between 3 and 6 p.m. Volunteers may also interact and supervise youth in the recreation program with sports, games, and arts and crafts activities. All volunteers complete a volunteer packet, interview, and adults must pass a background security clearance. The Salvation Army Turlock Corps is a worship and service center providing a variety of community and social service programs including an emergency pantry, utility assistance programs, youth and family programs, and senior services, etc.

SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Friendly pets and their humans are needed to visit seniors in convalescent hospitals and care facilities through the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Pet Outreach Program. Volunteers accompany their pets as they socialize with residents in facilities throughout the community. During these visits animals are often successful in increasing communication, decreasing anxiety, and in cutting through the barriers that isolate people. Pets need to be friendly and like to be handled. Visits are made the first and second Saturday mornings and the third Wednesday mornings of each month. The SPCA provides education and information to the community and helps find homes for animals in need.

VolunteerCenter of United Way of Stanislaus County

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