

Monthly Volunteer Connection

February 2012

A monthly listing of volunteer opportunities in Sedgwick County

The Biggest Youth Volunteer Event of the Year



The United Way Volunteer Center is once again gearing up for Youth Days of Caring 2012. Hundreds of area youth volunteer at nonprofit agencies all over Wichita during the entire week of Spring Break, March 19 – 23. This week gives youth the chance to help the community! Minimum age is 12 (depending on the project). Registration begins Monday, February 20. A complete listing of projects is available after Thursday, February 16, at

unitedwayplains.org/youthdaysofcaring or by contacting the United Way Volunteer Center at 267-0202.



**Find more
volunteer
opportunities
or get more
information:**

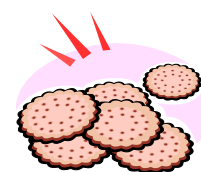
PHONE:
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**VOLUNTEER
ONLINE:**
www.unitedwayplains.org

Click on "Volunteer Center" and then "Volunteer Online" to search by areas of interest, times available, length of commitment and more.

C is for Cookie

You can help in many ways to make this year's Girl Scouts of the Heartland cookie sales the best yet! Ready, Set, Jet is the annual kickoff celebration on Saturday, February 18, and volunteers are needed to help with setup, check-in and general assistance running the event. Minimum age is 18. Then help in the Cookie Cupboard with distribution of the cookies to leaders. Flexible daytime and evening hours. Minimum age is 14. Contact Stephanie Sykes at 684-6531 ext. 534 or ssykes@gskh.org



Reality U



This event gives high schools students a chance to pretend they are 28 years old, with careers, families and financial responsibilities in a simulation of adulthood. As they walk through a series of booths staffed by community volunteers, the students make financial decisions from car and home purchases to insurance and child care commitments while trying not to spend more than they can afford. Volunteers are needed at each booth to assist students in making their purchases and/or selecting a service. Reality U is scheduled for February 7 and 8 at Derby High School. Minimum age is 21. Contact Diane Graham at 973-5115 or dgraham@ciswichita.org.

Continued on back




Do a World of Good

Rainbows United needs volunteers for the following:

- Kids' Cove Receptionists – Duties include answering phones, monitoring door, welcoming guests and other office work as assigned. Shifts are flexible, Monday – Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Minimum commitment two hours/week. Located at 2258 N. Lakeway Circle (near Sedgwick County Park).

- Quality Assurance Members – Help us provide quality care! Travel with Rainbows' staff to a client's home, observe provider's care and perform an evaluation. No prior experience necessary. A few hours each month subject to needs, perfect for someone with a flexible schedule! Minimum age is 18. Contact Kayla Hamilton at 558-3422 or khamilton@rui.org.




Please tell agencies that United Way referred you!

Summertime Fun

If you're 16 or older, you're invited to apply to join the MDA team as a camp volunteer. Volunteer counselors work one-on-one with campers around the clock providing the care, close supervision and attention children with muscular dystrophy need. Counselors push wheelchairs, meet the daily needs of each child and become a youngster's friend for a week. MDA camps are especially in need of male camp volunteers; female volunteers also are needed. Wichita's MDA camp will be held June 17- 23, 2012, at Camp Tawakoni in Augusta, KS. Proper training, safety information, and policies are important for a successful camp; therefore, the first day and half is reserved for camp counselor training. From there, we will proceed with a week filled with lots of fun, arts and crafts, games and, of course, swimming! Counselor applications are due May 6, 2011. Contact Stefanie Flax at 773-7962 or sflax@mdausa.org.



Cruise Night

Catholic Charities needs your help with Cruise Night, a benefit for Harbor House, on Sunday, February 26, from 5:30 – 9 pm. Volunteers needed to serve and bus tables and other miscellaneous tasks. Great group opportunity! Minimum age is 18. Contact Rachel Hittner at 264-8344 ext. 1261 or rhittner@catholiccharitieswichita.org.



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 enough advance notice if for some reason you cannot participate.
- Please let the contact person know United Way Volunteer Center referred you.
- Give the organization and United Way Volunteer Center feedback on the project.
- **Most importantly, have lots of fun!**



United Way of the Plains

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United Way Volunteer Center:
 (316) 267-0202

www.unitedwayplains.org