



Special thanks to our webinar guests, Judd Jeansonne of Volunteer Louisiana and Karen Austin of DCFS, who helped us identify numerous volunteer opportunities across the state.

Benefits of volunteering include:

- Volunteering connects you to others, giving you a chance to meet new friends, make important contacts, and improve your social skills.
- Volunteering is good for you physically and emotionally, as it counteracts the effects of stress, anger, and depression.
- Volunteering can help your career by giving you opportunities to learn new skills and practice workplace skills you want to develop.
- Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life because you make a meaningful impact on those around you and become more connected to your community.

For more tips on volunteering, check out the article: Volunteering and Its Surprising Benefits at: <u>HealthGuide</u>

# How you can make a difference...

### TIPS FROM THE WEBINAR

Our guests and viewers shared ideas of places to find unique volunteer opportunities across the state.

#### **VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA**



Visit <u>VolunteerLouisiana.gov</u> to find opportunities to volunteer your time and efforts toward a variety of good causes. Your organization can also request to have your volunteer opportunity posted.

It's your one-stop shop for the best ideas in making a difference in your community, your state, and your world.





## LOUISIANA FOSTERS



Louisiana Fosters: Louisiana's Children - Our Childrei

LouisianaFosters.la.gov is where you can find out information on how to make a difference in a child's life. You can find information on fostering a child or performing support roles for foster families.

#### THE FOSTER VILLAGE



Paul LeJeune shared that his wife, Amy, runs a donation center for foster children. They supply clothing, toys, and practical items that would be useful to foster children of all ages. They only serve the direct needs of placed foster children and stay busy year round, always welcoming help in sorting donations. facebook.com/TFVWalker/

A news story on The Foster Village: <u>Foster Village</u>

# SUICIDE PREVENTION

Danielle Hunt, Vice President for Jacob Crouch Suicide Prevention Services announced a number of opportunities for those in Lafayette and the surrounding areas. Volunteers are needed to help with everything from support groups to the Flamingo Fund Raiser, where volunteers drive around to place flamingos in yards at night to raise donations. A light-hearted and fun way to make a difference for a serious cause. Visit JacobCrouch.org for more information.

## VISITS WITH THE ELDERLY



Angelia Collins of Shreveport had the wonderful idea of visiting nursing homes to spread cheer. Activity ideas with seniors include:

- Reading to visually impaired
- Singing, playing instruments, or doing arts and crafts projects
- Bringing little gifts soft drinks, hand lotion, lap blankets, flowers, treats
- Spending time and taking photos with residents and family members
- Coordinating visits from pet therapy animals
- Simply sitting and talking

Additional opportunities for offering company and comfort to the elderly are available through your local councils on aging and senior citizen centers. Visit <u>https://bit.ly/2KitBS1</u> for a list of senior citizen centers across the state.

Coming January 17, 2019



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