

Volunteer Opportunities



Public & School Partnership's
Senior and Community
Volunteer Project
Utah State University
6505 Old Main Hill
Logan, Utah

Public & School Partnership Senior and Passionate Community Volunteers

The USU Public & School Partnership Senior and Community Volunteers mission is to match seniors and other passionate community members with volunteer opportunities in Cache Valley. Our goal is, working through volunteers, to provide community members with access to the resources, education, and opportunities to elevate themselves and their neighbors out of poverty; provide for the healthy future of seniors; and support other community needs.



Regardless of your background or interests, the Public & School Partnership supports a non-profit organization or school where you can make a difference in our community and enjoy volunteering.

Take a look through this list of opportunities. If you need more details about an organization, PSP can answer your questions.

AMERICAN WEST HERITAGE CENTER

The American West Heritage Center, just off U.S. Hwy 89 in Wellsville, is a working historical farm whose mission is to “create an educational and entertaining environment that inspires our patrons to learn, live, and celebrate the American West Heritage by exploring the

diverse cultures that shaped the Cache Valley and surrounding region from 1820 to 1920.”

The center supports a number of events each year, including historic adventures, summer camps, hand-cart treks, group tours, the baby animal days festival, a pioneer festival, and the Old Ephraim Mountain Man Rendezvous. They also offer a corn maze at the farm from late September through the end of October.

All these events require support from volunteers. If you enjoy volunteering outside and would enjoy talking to visitors to the center—especially children—this might be the right volunteer opportunity for you.

Your PSP Senior & Community Volunteers Program can provide a list of where volunteers are currently needed at the center.

ADAMS ELEMENTARY

Adams is in the heart of Logan at 415 East, 500 North. With a diverse student population, the school has many volunteer needs.

According to Principal Ware, among their volunteer needs are community members who can simply lend a sympathetic ear to students during their lunch period. Some students do not receive positive reinforcement at home and need someone to listen to their hopes and fears.

As with all schools, they can always use volunteers willing to tutor struggling students in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Serve. Connect. Grow.

The elementary has a diverse student body with a large immigrant population who can use the help of caring volunteers.

BEAR RIVER HEAD START

Bear River Head Start has several programs, including a Preschool Head Start and Early Head Start programs for children and their families. They also have child care partnerships.

Bear River Head Start offers a Child Care Partnership program to eligible families. This program offers preschool services to children ages three to five who are in a center or a family home child care in the community.

Volunteers are assigned to a preschool classroom at one of four locations in Logan, with additional locations in Hyrum, Millville, Richmond, and Smithfield. They especially need volunteers in classrooms outside of Logan.

BIRCH CREEK ELEMENTARY

Birch Creek Elementary is at 675 W. 220 N. in Smithfield.

They currently need volunteers for a broad range of assignments to help students.

They have a “Read. Graduate. Succeed.” program. The program involves helping in tutoring sessions held from 8:10 a.m. until 8:40 a.m. twice a week. Students in the program have been identified by teachers and the principal as needing extra help in reading.

Children who fall behind in reading by third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school. As a volunteer, you can help a student improve his/her reading by three or more reading levels in just 30 weeks!

BRIDGERLAND LITERACY

Bridgerland Literacy offers free reading and writing tutoring to adult learners who are conversational in English. Volunteers are matched with a student for one-on-one tutoring in an open, safe, and confidential environment. Tutor training and teaching materials are provided at no cost. By improving literacy skills, individuals can function more efficiently and find more

fulfillment in their lives.

They match volunteer tutors with students and provide tutoring materials and a place—usually Bridgerland Applied Technology College—to conduct tutoring sessions. Volunteers meet with an assigned student twice a week for a 1-hour session. Volunteers are asked to make a 6-month commitment.

CAPSA

The mission of the Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse (CAPSA) is to “provide safe, caring, and confidential shelter, advocacy, and support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; and to reduce incidents of abuse through prevention education.”

CAPSA has a local shelter for those fleeing domestic violence, or after experiencing a rape or sexual assault. They also offer a 24-hour crisis line, a mobile response team, individual crisis intervention, court advocacy, therapy services and a children’s program.

CAPSA needs volunteers to help with most of the services they offer. They are always looking for dedicated people who want to join their volunteer force.

Because of the nature of their services, volunteers are required to have a criminal background check, provide a driver’s license or state identification, and complete the process to provide two fingerprint cards.

They also require that potential volunteers complete 40 hours of training prior to beginning. Those helping with Daycare are not required to take this training, and only need to complete a 4-hour training session.

A full list of volunteer opportunities at CAPSA is available at www.capsa.org/en/volunteer.

CACHE HUMANE SOCIETY

The Cache Humane Society is always looking for volunteers, and can use volunteers in a wide range of tasks. They can use help in the Cat Castle and well as at Dog Spot helping with cats and dogs of all sizes, breeds and temperaments. They promise that volunteers will nev-



er feel bored there.

You can contact them at 435-792-3920.

CACHE REFUGEE & IMMIGRANT CONNECTION (CRIC)

CRIC provides help to refugees who are unable or unwilling to return to their home country due to persecution, war, or natural disaster.

Each week, they focus “on helping refugees and immigrants cross cultural and language barriers, help fill out forms, call and set up appointments, and answer many different questions that clients may have.”

They need volunteers who are available for walk-in refugees. Volunteers for this assignment should be “detail oriented, flexible, and friendly.”

If you have a green thumb, CRIC needs help at the Community Garden during the summer months. The garden is at 355 1/2 South, 100 West in Logan.

And finally, they need help with citizenship study groups and with driver’s license study groups.

For additional information about these volunteer opportunities, go to CRIC’s website at www.cacherefugees.org/volunteer.html.

CENTRO de la FAMILIA

Centro de la Familia in Utah has served over 700 disadvantaged children yearly for over 26 years. Centro works with all kinds of Utah families, many in rural and difficult situations, to help them improve the lives of their children.

Centro offers a Migrant and Seasonal Head Start and Early Head Start program that serves pregnant mothers and children from 6 weeks to 5 years of age, and specifically serves low-income families working in agriculture. The Head Start program helps these children get ready to Kindergarten.



Volunteers are given a multi-cultural opportunity to read, interact, and speak Spanish and English with

various children of different ages. They are happy to accept English-only speakers as volunteers.

Their school season is from April to December from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Friday. They are located on Gateway Drive in Providence.

Contact Kerstin Jenson at 435-754-3730. She can answer volunteer questions and coordinate volunteer duties.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY / RESTORE

Habitat for Humanity helps families with affordable housing. Their mission is “Seeking to put God’s love into action. Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.”

Together, all of the Habitat for Humanity affiliates have built over 300,000 houses around the world.



And right now, Cache Habitat for Humanity is close to starting construction on a new house in Millville. They will need many volunteers to successfully complete the home. While they can always use any volunteers who are willing to help, they especially need volunteers with background in construction trades.

Part of the funding to build homes comes through their ReStore at 232 South Main in Logan. The store is behind a State Farm office that faces the street. Habitat for Humanity’s ReStore is a nonprofit home improvement store and donation center that sells new and gently used furniture, home accessories, building materials, and appliances to the public at a fraction of the retail price. The store is open Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. They are always looking for volunteers.

To find out more about volunteering with their home building or at ReStore, call Todd Cottle at 435-752-2786.

LOGAN FAMILY CENTER

The Logan Family Center’s mission is to educate and

empower families. They are located on the island not far from Wilson Elementary School.

They improve parenting skills through informative workshops, classes, and activities and provide parenting education with a library of books, videos, and brochures. They also have educational toys.



Volunteers help with classes, crafts, and keeping the library organized. They have a rotating group of fun projects where volunteers can help.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN GENERAL

PSP is partnering with local schools—elementary, middle, and senior highs—to support them in educating youth as well as looking after their general welfare. We can match you with a school in the area you live.

Schools, especially elementary schools, are interested in senior volunteers who can be with students during the lunch periods. They need grandparent figures who can listen to students and offer positive response to their accomplishments and a sympathetic ear to their struggles.

They need volunteers to mentor students who struggle with math, reading, and writing. Teachers often can't give students the individual help they need. They need volunteers who can help students with their studies, giving personal attention as needed.

With reduced focus on physical education, the schools need volunteers to help students to learn the rules and skills needed in sports. Many schools now lack resources to have a school staff person who can help.

General help is needed in classrooms for teachers and students.

Many schools now provide a food pantry where students can get food to supplement what they get—or don't get—at home. Some schools need help filling backpacks with food. Some need help in getting food from the Cache Food Pantry to their school.

Volunteers help students be engaged and achieve more. And they help them learn skills that will help

them find work that can help raise families out of poverty.

SOMEBODY'S ATTIC

Somebody's Attic refers to itself as "the second-hand store with a first-rate cause."

Founded in 1985, Somebody's Attic sells gently used products to help fund local abuse-prevention organizations. Its Logan and Smithfield stores give about \$106,000 each year to CAPSA and The Family Place.

They have volunteer needs Monday through Saturday, typically from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Volunteers help with processing donations, marking prices on goods, and stocking and selling on the retail floor.

STOKES NATURE CENTER

Just up Logan Canyon, the Stokes Nature Center provides nature education to people of all ages. While they can certainly use experienced naturalists, they have volunteer opportunities for anyone who would enjoy being in the canyon enjoying nature.

They are always in need of docents willing to be a friendly face as visitors come to the center. You'll hand out brochures, give advise on animals to watch for, and perhaps give travel advise to those passing through the area.

Stokes Nature Center also needs "critter caretakers," who will provide attention for specific animals, including "Flash" the turtle, "Gonzo" the snake, and "Andy" the salamander.

The center has volunteer needs year-round.

UTAH CONSERVATION CORPS

The Utah Conservation Corps (UCC) is an AmeriCorps program, based out of Utah State University, with a mission to develop the conservation leaders of tomorrow through service and education. The UCC is seeking senior volunteers to assist with the creation of a community garden at the UCC's headquarters at 1483 Canyon Road. Volunteers will be needed to build raised beds, transplant starts, weed, and water throughout the summer. Senior volunteers will also have the

chance to mentor members of the UCC's youth conservation corps program.

The UCC is also seeking volunteers to help construct a trail that will connect the UCC house to USU campus this summer. Volunteers can also join a local UCC field crew as they complete conservation projects in the summer and fall.

ABOUT THIS LIST

While we try to regularly update this list, the staff at PSP would be pleased to meet with you to talk about new volunteer opportunities.

We can also answer questions about volunteering at the organizations that we support.