

First Observe, Then Serve— Getting Started

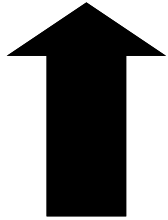
What can I provide?

Remember your goal should be to meet a real need, not just do a project!

Time: In what capacity can you volunteer? As an individual or a group?
One time or ongoing? On-site or from home?

Talents: skills (crochet, quilt, cook, language, sew, organize), computer skills, musical talents, teaching, etc.

Resources: Can you provide materials? Items? A group of volunteers?
Could you do a fundraiser or donation drive, etc.?



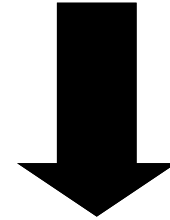
Serve

Get details and make a plan to serve:

Time: When do they need help? Can you serve at that time? Do they need one-time or ongoing help?

Talents: What talents or skills are you providing? What preparation is needed to share those talents/skills?

Resources: What is needed? Could be donations, materials, people to help accomplish the project, a location to complete the project, transportation, storage space, a way to deliver the completed project, etc.



Observe Community Needs

Connections: Is there a need in your family, ward, school, local hospital, etc. that you can fill? Is there an agency in your community that you can contact?

Online: Do an online search! Many agencies have websites identifying their greatest needs. (See “Types of Agencies” PDF for ideas.)

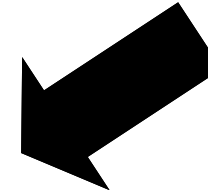
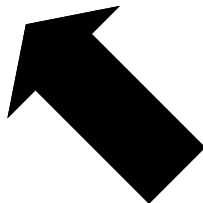
Hidden Gems: Remember! There are many lesser known agencies that are doing great things and could use support.

Contact

Don't be shy. They would love to speak with you!

Call/e-mail: Ask for their volunteer coordinator or the person over volunteers/contributions (many times this is the same person). Don't give up—sometimes coordinators are hard to reach.

Ask: What kinds of service opportunities do they have available? What needs do they have? Do they have a list of needs they could send you? (See Agency Script PDF).



Women's Conference