



UNDERSTANDING THE VOLUNTEER COMPONENT OF THE IMPACT PROGRAM

Why volunteering is an important aspect of the program:

- Volunteering provides the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the community organizations located within the Sauk Valley area while helping the community, making valuable connections with community leaders, and building lasting friendships with others
 - Taryn Bates states, "93% of young people report that they have a desire to volunteer and make a difference in the world by volunteering, however a much smaller percentage of young people actually volunteer." (p.2)¹
- Volunteering also helps students develop the soft skills employers are looking for

¹ Bates, T. L. (2016). Impact of volunteering on self-esteem development of middle school students (Order No. 10119242). . (1805168786). <https://www.proquest.com/dissertations-theses/impact-volunteering-on-self-esteem-development/docview/1805168786/se-2?accountid=57479>

What **are** good volunteering opportunities?

- Any non-profit organization event or service
 - Ex: Big Brothers Big Sisters, churches, homeless shelter, United Way, YMCA, and YWCA
 - Volunteering as a camp counselor, food pantries, mission trips, and vacation bible school
 - Service organizations like Kiwanis, Lions, Optimists, and Rotary Clubs
 - Local hospitals
- Community Events
 - Ex: Amboy Depot Days, Christmas Walks, Dutch Days, Petunia Fest, Polo Town & Country Days, Summer Splash, and Taste of Fiesta
- School Events
 - Concession stands, clean up days, and club events such as: Adopt-a-Highway, Hotdog Days, Night of the Homeless

What **are not** good volunteering opportunities?

- Volunteer activities not sponsored by a community organization such as mowing your neighbor's lawn, shoveling their snow, or raking their leaves
- Accepting money in exchange for your volunteer service

If you have any questions, please email impact@svcc.edu



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