

## HOW TO DECIDE WHERE TO VOLUNTEER

**Attention Youth Volunteers:** Here are some things to consider when deciding which volunteer site is best for you. When you are invited to Youth Orientation, that is where you will select your volunteer site.

- ◆ What kinds of activities do you have interests or skills in?
- ◆ Do you prefer spending time indoors or outdoors during the summer months?
- ◆ Do you enjoy or have experience working with children, older adults, people with disabilities, the general public, or animals?
- ◆ What kind of settings are you comfortable in - youth centers, assisted living facilities, parks, tourist attractions, zoos/animal shelters, or all of the above?
- ◆ Are you available at the times a site needs volunteer help?
- ◆ Is this a site you are interested in, and not a site someone else (friend or parent) wants you to volunteer at?
- ◆ What are the age requirements at each volunteer site? You must be the minimum age at the time volunteering begins - early June for summer and Early December for winter session. Incredible Exchange staff cannot change site age requirements. Age requirements are included on each Volunteer Site listing.
- ◆ Dress Code - All volunteer sites have some sort of dress code you will be asked to follow. Site-specific dress code information will be available at Youth Orientation.

*Volunteers have been most successful when they volunteer in settings that they have a genuine interest in. You do not have to be fully skilled in a area to volunteer there, but having an interest plus a willingness to learn new skills really helps.*

NOTE: Volunteer Site positions are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Some sites have an application/interview process to better fit their needs. You may have talked to a mentor at a volunteer site about your interest in volunteering at their site, however mentors are not able to reserve/promise volunteer spots for volunteers. Each volunteer site listing includes the number of volunteers needed. Some sites need only two volunteers, while other sites need many more.

Have more than one volunteer site in mind - In case your 1st volunteer site choice is filled when it is your time to select a site, be sure to have a 2nd and 3rd choice in mind when you come to the youth orientation.

