

Greater Newburyport Volunteer Opportunities
Prepared by Pennies for Poverty to Encourage Volunteerism
Updated March 2014

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community Action, Inc.

145 Essex Street, Haverhill with programs also in Amesbury, Newburyport
Contact: 978-373-1971

Website: www.communityactioninc.org

Community Action, Inc is a private non-profit organization established in 1965 to address the causes and consequences of poverty in the Greater Haverhill, Amesbury and Newburyport areas. See our current list of Volunteer Opportunities under "About CAI" on our website. We often seek volunteers for Head Start, GED Tutoring, the Income Tax Assistance Program, and for administrative tasks.

Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center (978-388-1888 (24-hour Crisis Hotline))

2 Harris Street, Newburyport , MA 01950

5 Market Square, Suite 109, Amesbury, MA 01913

Contact: Laura Sampson, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, 978-834-9710 or
lsampson@jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org

Website: www.jeannegeigercrisiscenter.org

The Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center is a nationally recognized leader in the effort to end domestic violence and provide care for victims. Our mission is to empower members of our community to live free from fear, intimidation, violence or the threat of abuse by providing support, advocacy and education. The Center provides a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week crisis hotline, legal advocacy, emergency and transitional shelter, counseling and support to victims of domestic violence in the communities we serve. Whether you would like to work in direct support of victims or offer office support, we are in need of caring, giving people, like you, to join in our commitment to create stronger, healthier families in our community.

Our Neighbors' Table,

P.O. Box 592, Amesbury, MA 01913.

Contact: 978-388-1907 or community@ourneighborstable.org

Website: <http://ourneighborstable.org>

Our Neighbors' Table serves a free community meal every Wednesday, 4 to 6 p.m., and hosts a food pantry every Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are needed throughout the week to help prepare for and implement these programs.

Salvation Army

40 Water St., Newburyport

Contact: Lt. Meghan Brunelle at 978-465-0883

Website: www.use.salvationarmy.org/use/www_use_Massachusetts.nsf

Volunteers needed to assist elderly, visit nursing homes, do odd jobs, support youth programs, feeding programs, food pantry, seasonal help.

Pennies for Poverty

Contact: pennies@penniesforpoverty.org

Website: www.penniesforppoverty.org

We are a volunteer-run nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing poverty and alleviating its devastating impact on individuals and families in the Greater Newburyport Area. We need volunteers for event planning, food drives, communications, and some research projects. If you are interested in learning more or contributing your ideas and time, please contact us by email.

Pettengill House

13 Lafayette Road, Salisbury, MA

Contact: Julie Havey, Volunteer/Program Coordinator, at 978-463-8801 or by email at jhavey@pettengillhouse.org

Website: www.pettengillhouse.org

The Pettengill House is a nonprofit social service organization serving the nine surrounding communities of Amesbury, Byfield, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Salisbury and West Newbury. Volunteer opportunities range from helping with food pantry, restocking and shelving to special events, fundraisers and programs.

Leeward Light Thrift Store

126 Bridge Rd. Salisbury, MA 01952

Contact: 978-465-1141

Website: www.leewardindustries.org

Leeward Light is a non-profit charitable thrift store. Their mission is to recycle, reuse and renew for charity. They process and sell donations from the community to feed, clothe and warm local families. In 2013 they were able to donate over \$135,000 in cash and goods to local charities. They rely heavily on the hard work of volunteers and are always looking for energetic new team members. If you would like to meet new people, form lasting friendships and experience the satisfaction of helping others, please call or visit us.

Coastal Connections, Inc

35 Water Street, Amesbury, MA

Contact: Deb Plumer, Executive Director 978-388-1119

Website: www.coastalconnections.org

Coastal Connection is a non-profit organization supporting individuals with disabilities in the community by providing programs, advocacy and individualized support. Coastal Connections also operates Thrifty Threads, a thrift store featuring clean, gently used clothing. We are always looking for donations of clothing. In addition, volunteers may come in to cover the store, or provide activities for individuals with special needs – especially music!

Community Giving Tree

572 Main Street, West Boxford, MA

Contact: Leslie Levenson at 978-223-5767 or info@communitygivingtree.org

Website: www.communitygivingtree.org

Community Giving Tree provides recycled baby equipment and children's clothing to low income families living on the North Shore. Donations can be brought to the Kent Street playground the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9am-12noon. Volunteer opportunities for businesses, scouts, social groups, teens and adults can be found on our website. Volunteers are needed to collect school supplies in the fall, toiletries in the spring, or help assemble baby bundles at our West Boxford facility Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and one Saturday each month.

Opportunity Works

10 Opportunity Way, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Karen Nicholas at 978-462-6144, ext. 240, or karen.nicholas@opportunityworks.org

Website: www.opportunityworks.org

This organization serves adults with developmental disabilities beginning at age 22. Volunteers are enthusiastic, compassionate and willing to work hard for the benefit of others while having lots of fun. The organization offers a variety of high-quality services that lead people to independence, including socialization and employment. A sampling of volunteer opportunities: landscaping, special activities such as music, exercise, hothouse gardening, community events and one-to-one relationships.

The Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce

38R Merrimac Street, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Anne Wilt at 978-462-6680 x13 or awilt@newburyportchamber.org

Website: www.newburyportchamber.org

The Chamber currently has openings for volunteers to work in our front office. The position would entail receptionist duties, such as answering the phones and greeting visitors and disseminating information about the town & general area, as well as some administrative support to the Chamber Staff. Our Volunteers work a morning or afternoon shift once a week.

HOUSING

ROOF Over Head Collaborative

Contact: info@roofoverhead.org or 978-267-ROOF.

Website: www.roofoverhead.org

ROOF Over Head works to support homeless and at-risk families in our community as they transition to permanent housing and independent living through community collaboration, education and advocacy. Volunteer opportunities include readying homes for families, serving on a committee and helping with events.

Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity

60 Island St., Lawrence, MA

Contact: Sharon Mason, email sharon@merrimackvalleyhabitat.org or 978-681-8858

Merrimack Valley Habitat builds homes, shares hope and changes lives by moving families from overcrowded, dispiriting living conditions to safe, decent and affordable homes, providing the stability and foundation they need to build a better life. It is a partnership of hope, and of a helping hand. Construction and administrative volunteers are needed to help continue the mission, as well

as volunteers to help at our ReStore, a discount retail outlet that sells donated new and gently used building materials, appliances, furniture and home improvement items at greatly reduced prices. Flexible arrangements.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

YWCA

13 Market Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Contact: 978-465-0981

Volunteers needed at the pool desk and after-school day care program, etc. Help needed for specific projects.

Big Friends Little Friends, A Program of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley

430 North Canal Street, Lawrence, MA 01840

Contact: 978-327-6600

Website: www.fsmv.org

Youth mentoring program that matches caring adult mentors, couples, or families with young people who could benefit from a relationship with a positive adult role model. Serves 15 towns in the Merrimack Valley.

Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Merrimack Valley

Maple Street, Salisbury, MA

Contact: James Keenan 978 462 7003

Website: www.bgclmv.org

The Boys and Girls Club seeks to provide every child with the essential tools necessary for a successful and bright future. The Club needs volunteers of all ages to work in the office, as athletic coaches, recreation assistants, cooking instructors, homework tutors, arts and crafts leaders and fundraisers.

Horizons for Homeless Children

60 Island St, Lawrence MA 01840

Contact: 978-557-2182 or northeast@horizonschildren.org

Website: www.horizonschildren.org

Horizons for Homeless Children is the only organization in Massachusetts focused exclusively on the needs of young homeless children and their families. We are recognized as a national leader in the education of homeless children. Today, we provide high-quality early education, opportunities for play, and family engagement services to more than 3,000 homeless children each week in Massachusetts.

Founded in 1990, our Playspace Program builds age-appropriate, child-friendly, educational Playspaces in shelters and stock them with books, developmental toys, and art supplies. Our Playspace Program ensures that each child living in a homeless shelter in Massachusetts has the opportunity for developmentally appropriate play, something we believe is essential to child development. Playspaces are staffed by trained volunteers, called Playspace Activity Leaders

(PALs), who commit two hours weekly for at least six months. PALs enable parents to participate in activities such as parenting groups, budgeting classes or job searches.

Newburyport Youth Services

60 Pleasant St., Newburyport, MA 01950

Contact: Andrea Egmont, supervisor of youth services at 978-465-4434 or by email:

aegmont@cityofnewburyport.com

Website: www.cityofnewburyport.com

Volunteer opportunities helping with programming or events.

The Newburyport Learning Enrichment Center (NLEC)

15 Storey Avenue, Newburyport, MA 01950

Contact: Nancy Earls at (978) 884-1343 or at nearls@newburyport.k12.ma.us

The Newburyport Learning Enrichment Center provides after school tutor/mentor services, literacy support, cultural arts programs and summer recreation opportunities for low income, at-risk youth. All programs are free. There is always a need for volunteer tutors, leaders of after-school clubs (book clubs, drawing, knitting, cooking, etc.) that meet weekly or monthly and “family mentors” to work with low income families.

Northern Essex County CASA Program

430 North Canal Street, Lawrence, MA

Contact: 978-327-6615 or casa@fsmv.org

Volunteers are trained to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in court by providing careful research to the court. CASA volunteers advocate for children in the Greater Lawrence, Haverhill, and Newburyport areas.

ELDERLY

Newburyport Council on Aging

40 Water Street, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Roseann Robillard, Director, at 978-462-8650 or RRobillard@cityofnewburyport.com

Website: www.cityofnewburyport.com/council-on-aging

The Newburyport Council on Aging matches the needs of elders with the resources in the community. Volunteers are needed to drive senior citizens to their medical appointments.

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.

360 Merrimack St, Bldg. 5, Lawrence, MA

Contact: Volunteer Program Manager Renee Baker at 978-946-1463 or rbaker@esmv.org

Website: www.esmv.org/get-involved/volunteer-program/

Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley is a private non-profit agency serving elders and disabled adults who reside in Northeast Massachusetts. Established in 1974, our mission is to support an individual's desire to make their own decisions, secure their independence, and remain living in the community safely. We have a number of programs, operated solely by a dedicated team of volunteers, that provide critical support and services to older adults. Each program has its own

guidelines regarding the requirements that volunteers must meet in order to participate in them, such as time commitment, and training. We welcome individuals and groups, of all ages and backgrounds, that are interested in volunteering with Elder Services.

24 HOUR HOTLINES

Parents Helping Parents

Contact: 617-926-5008 x111 or Lalita@parentshelpingparents.org

Website: www.parentshelpingparents.org

Volunteer on a Parental Stress Helpline ([800-632-8188](tel:800-632-8188), 24-hours) to defuse parental stress. Requires a one-year commitment. Calls are taken in the volunteer's home via a call-forwarding system. Ten hours of training and mentoring takes place in Watertown. Opportunities to facilitate a parent support group may also be available.

The Samaritans -- 24-hour suicide prevention hotline. (Hotline number is 866-912-4673.)

Contact: Call (617) 536-2460 or register online for training schedule.

Website: <http://samaritanshope.org/index.php/volunteer.html>

The Samaritans mission is to reduce the incidence of suicide. Volunteers are trained to take shifts responding to hotline calls.

HEALTH

Anna Jaques Hospital

25 Highland Avenue, Newburyport, MA 01950

Contact: Cheryl Satryb at csatryb@ajh.org or 978-463-1150 (volunteer office)

Website: www.ajh.org

Seeking information desk volunteers. The shifts are: Fridays from noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday from 4:00-7:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00-12:00 noon. Volunteers will greet patients and visitors, provide directions, and occasionally escort patients and visitors to their destinations. There are also available volunteer shifts for the gift shop and the mailroom. Call the Anna Jaques Hospital volunteer office at 978-463-1150 or email Cheryl Satryb, Director: csatryb@ajh.org

Merrimack Valley Hospice

360 Merrimack St Bldg 9, Lawrence MA 01843

Contact: Volunteer Manager VolunteerManager@homehealthfoundation.org or 978-552-4522

website: www.homehealthfoundation.org/mvh-volunteers

Volunteers needed to provide a wide variety of services and support to patients facing life-limiting illness and to their families/caregivers. Volunteers visit in patient homes and the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill. Volunteers are also needed in the Hospice House kitchen and at the front desk.

Merrimack Valley Hospice, Home Health VNA

Offices in Lawrence, Newburyport, Peabody, Haverhill, Lowell and Northampton, NH; York ME

Contact: 978-552-4522 or volunteermanager@homehealthfoundation.org.

Websire: www.homehealthfoundation.org

Merrimack Valley Hospice is a nonprofit organization serving northeastern Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and southern Maine. Volunteer opportunities include working with patients and families directly in their homes and at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill, administrative support to hospice staff, kitchen and reception, fundraising, and more. Volunteers receive training and ongoing support. A commitment of two hours a week is required.

Area Nursing Homes

Amesbury Village Skilled Nursing and Rehab, 22 Maple St., Amesbury, 978-388-4682

Brigham Manor Nursing and Rehab Center, 77 High St., Newburyport, 978-462-4221

Country Rehab and Nursing Center, 180 Low St., Newburyport, 978-465-5361

Genesis Health Care-Maplewood Center, 6 Morrill Place, Amesbury, 978-388-3500

Port Health Care, 113 Low St., Newburyport, 978-462-7373

SeaView Retreat, 60 Mansion Drive, Rowley, 978-948-2552

Nursing home welcome volunteers. Contact the activities director and go in for an orientation.

Typical activities are one-on-one room visits, writing or reading letters and stories, card or board games, sharing your interests and skills, and helping with their programs. Popular times are late morning and mid-afternoon.

ENVIRONMENT & ANIMALS

The Peace Garden

Waterfront, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Joanna Hammond at 978-270-3941

Seeking volunteer gardeners. Established on the waterfront to honor those who have lost their lives in Iraq, the garden was created by a local chapter of the national organization Women's Action for New Directions (WAND). Volunteers work together in the garden as part of a team and receive notice of gardening times by email once or twice a month during the growing season. Gardening times are weather-dependent and usually last about two hours.

The Garden Committee of Maudslay State Park

Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Sandee Liversidge at gardenwork2@earthlink.net

The historic gardens at Maudslay State Park need volunteers for hands-on gardening and fundraising. Times are flexible and are designed to meet many schedules - weekday or weekend.

Massachusetts Audubon Society

Joppa Flats Education Center, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Melissa Vokey at 978-462-9998 ext 3 or joppaflats@massaudubon.org

Website: www.massaudubon.org/joppaflats

Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center on the Plum Island Turnpike in Newburyport welcomes volunteers with or without a birding background. Volunteer opportunities include welcoming visitors, helping with school, children's, and family programs, providing grounds

maintenance, and assisting with data collection at the bird banding station. Volunteers receive regular trainings, discounts on local day programs, invitations to special events, and reciprocity with other non-profits.

The Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society

63 Elm Street (Route 110), Salisbury, MA

Contact: 978-462-0760 or apply online or at the shelter.

Website: www.mrfrs.org

This nonprofit, no-kill cat shelter, needs volunteers to help with cat care, administrative tasks and special events. Also need feral cat feeders (volunteers ages 15 and older), as well as volunteers for foster care, feral spay/neuter clinics, feral cat trappers and more (volunteers ages 18 and older).

Parker River National Wildlife Refuge

6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport, MA

Contact Jean Adams at 978-465-5753, ext.208.

Website: www.fws.gov/refuge/parker_river/

Volunteer positions available in visitor information and as plover wardens.

Newburyport Parks Commission

60 Pleasant Street, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Lise Reid. Email: parks@cityofnewburyport.com

Website: www.cityofnewburyport.com

Volunteers perform a variety of tasks, from playground repairs and the Spring Clean Sweep, to organizing the Winter Carnival and fundraising.

CULTURAL

Cushing House Museum

98 High Street, Newburyport

Contact: Jay Williamson, curator, 978-462-2681 or at hson@newburyhist.org

Website: www.newburyhist.org

Volunteers are needed as docents (tour guides), for historical research, special events, collections management and gardening.

Historic New England

Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm, 5 Little's Lane, Newbury, MA

Contact: Bethany Groff, 978-462-2634

Website: www.historicnewengland.org/

Volunteers needed at historic house museums in Newbury. Historic New England is looking for people to assist with a variety of positions, including animal care, landscape assistants, reception desk at visitor center, special event volunteers and others as needed. Training provided. High school and college volunteers welcomed.

Lowell's Boat Shop

459 Main St., Amesbury, MA

Contact: 978-834-0050 or info@lowellboatshop.com

Since 1793: the oldest wooden boat shop in America! Volunteers needed as docents and for maintenance projects and administrative activities.

Custom House Maritime Museum

25 Water St., Newburyport, MA

Contact: 978-462-8681 or info@thechmm.org

Website: www.thechmm.org

Volunteers needed for the museum store, guides for tours (docents), as well as assisting with research, events, marketing and administrative support.

Firehouse Center for the Arts

Market Square, Newburyport, MA

Contact: Evelyn Kovach, volunteer coordinator, at 978-499-9931 or evlkova@aol.com

Website: www.firehouse.org

Volunteers needed for ushering, the box office, backstage, office, public relations, photography, posting posters, hospitality, and clippings.

DISASTER RELIEF**Office of Emergency Management**

National Guard Armory, 59 Low Street, Newburyport

Contact: 978-465-4424

Website: <http://newburyportoem.com/>

The Office of Emergency Management is looking for volunteers to provide a variety of important support services while promoting disaster preparedness including response programs and activities throughout Newburyport and its surrounding area. Activities include public education, disaster exercises and emergency center operations.

Still can't find what you're looking for? Try www.volunteermatch.org