VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

BethlehemHaven

Do you want to incorporate volunteer activities into your family, scouting group, youth group, or the like?

Volunteering is a great way to teach children about helping others and giving back to the community. First, decide whether you're interested in a one-time project or a more long-term commitment. Then, explain to the children exactly what to expect. Be enthusiastic and explain why the job is important.

While Bethlehem Haven doesn't permit children under the age of 12 to volunteer on site, there are still plenty of ways to help.

WAYS YOUTH CAN HELP THE HAVEN:

- *Collect items for our residents* such as wash cloths, towels, socks, etc. You may wish to do a special drive around a holiday season or work the drive into a scavenger hunt. Visit our website at www.bethlehemhaven.org for a list of needs.
- *Donate special treats for our guests*. Have your child pick out one item each time you go to the store. Fresh fruit, snack bars or even homemade treats are great.
- *Prepare food for the shelter.* A number of opportunities exist to prepare lunch or dinner for the guests. If you cannot do an entire meal you may consider making a dessert, providing special snack bags, or donating a bagel & juice breakfast.
- *Send holiday cards to our guests.* You could also include a little treat such as candy or cookies as the residents enjoy the sweets.
- *Make placemats or centerpieces* for our dining rooms, especially seasonal ones. We also have bulletin boards where we would love to display "artwork" to brighten up the space.
- *Put together activity boxes.* This is a great way for kids to show their creative sides. They can decorate shoe boxes and fill them with a deck of cards, small games, puzzle book, etc.
- *Participate in a fundraiser, either with the Haven or on your own.* Have a penny drive ("Pennies for Haven"). We can supply the containers. Hold a car wash, bake sale, lemonade stand, or flea market. Hold a marathon event with pledges donated such as a walk-a-thon, dance-a-thon, jump rope-a -thon, etc.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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