

Volunteer Opportunities Across Smyth County

To all Smyth Promise Scholarship recipients ... please reach out to one of the Smyth County non-profit organizations listed below to schedule your volunteer hours. When contacting them, make sure you say you are a Smyth Promise recipient.

Blue Ridge Discovery Center

- LOCATION: Konnarock
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer activities will change depending on the timing. Some activities include helping with organization around the Center, upkeep of the grounds, setting up for programs, assisting with community events, etc.
- CONTACT: Lisa Benish, 276-388-3155, lisa@blueridgediscoverycenter.org

First Church of God Food Pantry

- LOCATION: Atkins
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteers will help sort food for pantry pick-up, help with distribution, organizational tasks, etc.
- CONTACT: Harold Henderlite 276-591-8996, texting is best way to communicate

FUMC Food Pantry

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteers will help on distribution day, which is in the afternoon on the 4th Tuesday of every month. Possible tasks include interacting with food bank recipients, assisting in checking them in and distributing the food to them.
- CONTACT: Allen Johnsey, Director of Ministries, (276) 783-5194

Helping Hands Thrift Store

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteers will help with sorting donations, organizing merchandise, helping customers, assist elderly donors and customers and more.
- CONTACT: Amanda Baxter, (276) 685-7967 (W-F 10:00 – 4:30)

Hungry Mother State Park

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Assigned tasks will be determined by skills the volunteer has. Some of the possible tasks include trail maintenance, pick up trash, remove invasive species, help with special projects, work community events, etc.
- CONTACT: Erin Persinger, 276-781-7415, erin.persinger@dcr.virginia.gov.

Lifetime Wellness Centers

- LOCATION: Marion or Saltville
- DESCRIPTION: Assigned tasks will be determined by skills the volunteer has. Some of the possible tasks include answering phones, help with special projects, work community events, wipe down equipment, assist with mass mailings/communications.
- CONTACT: Bob Watkins, 276-782-1199

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

- LOCATION: Chilhowie
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer opportunities to help with client interviews and distributing food boxes on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Also, clerical duties and office organizational tasks throughout the month.
- CONTACT: Sharon Wright, 276-791-0428 (call or text), loavesfisheschilhowie@gmail.com

Mel Leaman Free Clinic

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteers will help with a variety of tasks like assisting patients, preparing patient giveaway bags, rotate supplies, general office work, records management and more.
- CONTACT: Susan Ferraro, 276-781-2090, director@melleamanfreeclinic.org

Museum of the Middle Appalachians

- LOCATION: Saltville
- DESCRIPTION: Several possible tasks include volunteering during events, setting up for demonstrations, organizational and clerical tasks around the museum and more.
- CONTACT: Janice Orr, 276-496-3633, museumofthemiddleappalachians@gmail.com

Rich Valley Fair

- LOCATION: Rich Valley
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer opportunities vary throughout the year. They include general office organization tasks, assisting with marketing, helping with events and more.
- CONTACT: Patty Youngman, 321-626-7809 or richvalleyfair@gmail.com

Settlers Museum of Southwest Virginia

- LOCATION: Atkins
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer activities may include preparing for and assisting with events, grounds keeping, etc.
- CONTACT: David Slough, 276-783-3346, SETTLERSMUSEUM1890@gmail.com (preferred)

Smyth Animal Rescue

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer with care of the dogs or cats at the rescue and other odd jobs around the facility.
- CONTACT: Complete the volunteer sign-up at bit.ly/SAR_volunteer to get started.

Smyth County Public Libraries

- LOCATION: Marion, Chilhowie or Saltville
- DESCRIPTION: Volunteer opportunities are available at the Main Library in Marion or at the branches in Chilhowie and Saltville during normal [operating hours](#). Saturday hours are available at all locations. Volunteer tasks could include cleaning and organizing returned materials, locating library materials, cleaning and tidying materials shelves, assembling craft activity kits for library programs, meeting room set-up, or cleaning and organizing children's toys, puzzles, or tablets. Volunteers could also be asked to assist with moving or sorting donated materials for Friends of the Library book sales. The specific tasks assigned to volunteers will depend on the location and the schedule of events. Due to the time needed to learn the library's procedures, volunteer shifts must be at least three hours.
- CONTACT: Rose Likins, SCPL Director, rosel@scplva.net.

Smyth County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Center

- LOCATION: Chilhowie
- DESCRIPTION: Assigned tasks will be determined by skills the volunteer has and the events we have going on during that timeframe. Some of the possible volunteer opportunities include assist with general office tasks, help with special events, volunteer in the Smyth County Tourism Center and more.
- CONTACT: Sarah Gillespie, 276-783-3161, sgillespie@smythchamber.org

Smyth County Community Foundation

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Several possible tasks include office organizational and clerical tasks, social media updates and client communications.
- CONTACT: Lynda Helton, 276-378-8091, lhelton@smythccf.org

Smyth County School System

- LOCATION: Schools Across Smyth County
- DESCRIPTION: Several possible tasks include tutoring, office organizational and clerical tasks, assist with special events, etc.
- CONTACT: Jason Kilbourne, 276-783-3791, jasonkilbourne@scsb.org

The Henderson School of Appalachian Arts

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Several possible tasks include volunteering during events, setting up supplies for classes, office organizational and clerical tasks and more.
- CONTACT: Catherine Schrenker, (276) 206-0627, cpoole@marionva.org

The Lincoln Theater

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Several possible tasks include volunteering during an event as an usher or helping in the gift shop, office organizational and clerical tasks, pre-event preparation and more.
- CONTACT: Tracy Thompson, 276-783-6092, director@thelincoln.org

VFW Post #4667

- LOCATION: Marion
- DESCRIPTION: Depending on the season, tasks may include groundskeeping, facility cleaning, assistance with special events, organizational tasks.
- CONTACT: Mike Wolfe, 276-378-0038