Motivators for Volunteerism

Knowing what drives people to volunteer is essential in determining what projects and activities are the best fit for an individual. Before filling any position, it’s important to have a conversation with every applicant to determine if their motivators and passions are the best fit for their position. While this can add time to your process, it’s a worthwhile step so that volunteers feel fulfilled and they stay engaged.

- Meet the need for affiliation
- Learn new skills and/or maintain skills that might not be currently used
- Desire for a new challenge
- Return good fortune
- Extend religious/spiritual convictions and/or fulfill a religious duty
- Spend "quality time" with members of the family/friends/colleagues by volunteering together
- Make a difference by helping others
- Be a part of a certain group or team of volunteers, clients, or members
- Pay society back and/or create a better society
- Alleviate the feeling of guilt
- Feel useful while having a great time
- Gain knowledge of community problems and/or attempt to improve the community
- Meet new professional, personal, and community contacts and gain new status
- Become part of a prestigious group
- Help those less fortunate
- Experience a new skill set or career
- Be in charge of something and/or gain work experience to qualify for a job
- Pursue a personal interest in the cause
- Gain a sense of civic duty
- Continue a family tradition