

# CHANGE LIVES CHANGE YOUR COMMUNITY



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## Volunteer Today: Create Healthy Connections

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One of the simplest and best reasons to volunteer is to become a fully participating member of your community – to meet people and build new friendships and connections. Few things can compare to knowing you have contributed to helping your community.

### Skills/Requirements:

- The wide variety of programs at the YMCA allows volunteers to help their communities in ways they are best prepared to serve. If you have a skill – or just some time on your hands – the YMCA can probably help you use it for good.
- A list of volunteer opportunities is available on our website and at any YMCA branch/site.
- If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, we can work together to find a placement that fits your availability, skills and interests.

### How to Apply:

- Prospective volunteers must complete a Volunteer Application:
  - **Youth Sports Coaches** via [Player Space](https://www.playerspace.com) at [ymcawichita.playerspace.com](https://ymcawichita.playerspace.com)
  - **All other volunteers should apply via our website at [ymcawichita.org/volunteer](https://ymcawichita.org/volunteer).**
  - If you encounter any issues with the application process, please contact Lori Spencer at 316-776-8821.
- Qualified applicants will be invited to an interview (either face to face or via phone).
- Because the safety of our children and members is extremely important to us, the Y reserves the right to conduct background and reference checks on all volunteers.

### Tips on being an AMAZING Volunteer:

- Have a sincere interest in serving people.
- Attend volunteer meetings and/or training sessions.
- Understand the YMCA mission, vision and values.
- Continue to grow and learn more about your volunteer task, the YMCA and our community.
- Abide by the commitment you make.
- Speak up, ask questions, share ideas - your input is welcome and important.
- Exercise good judgment, tact, patience, cheerfulness and kindness.
- Recognize the importance of each individual - take time to listen and talk to others.
- Be a voice for the YMCA in your community and a voice for your community in the YMCA.
- Seek joy in your volunteer service. Having FUN is an essential part of volunteering at the YMCA.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

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**Am I qualified to volunteer with the YMCA?** Yes! The Greater Wichita YMCA offers a range of opportunities that require different skills. We will help you find one that fits your skills and interests and, if needed we will provide training.

**How old do I have to be to volunteer?** A minimum age of 16 years is preferred. Exceptions may be made for special events or administrative tasks.

**Do I have to meet any criteria before I can become a volunteer?** The Greater Wichita YMCA is responsible for protecting the children and other vulnerable people we serve. For this reason, we are required to perform a background check before volunteering in certain roles.

Other than that, you don't need any particular skills or background to help the people in your community! Just let us know what you are interested in, and we'll try to match you to a volunteer opportunity that suits your needs.

**Will volunteering take a lot of my time?** You can choose how much time you would like to give as a YMCA volunteer. Whether you want to help out occasionally or on an ongoing basis; we will work together to find a role that meets your availability and schedule.

**Does volunteering at the YMCA count towards community service hours required by my school?** Yes! By volunteering at the YMCA you will gain volunteer time toward the hours you are required to complete for school. You will also gain valuable experience.

**Can I get a letter of reference by volunteering with the YMCA?** By volunteering with the Greater Wichita YMCA, you can request a letter of reference. This letter is a valuable part of employment applications or resumes. In addition to providing you with work experience, volunteering can help position you for a new job within the community.

**Do I have to be a YMCA Member to volunteer?** No, you do not need to be a YMCA member to volunteer in a YMCA. Arrangements will be made to grant you access to areas that you will be volunteering.

**When can I start?** Once you have submitted your application, it generally takes 3-5 days to for processing. If more than a week has lapsed, please contact Lori Spencer at 316.776.8821. After an interview with a YMCA staff member (Via: face to face or phone), you will be placed in a department and then contacted by a staff member for training, information, and to discuss a schedule.

**What if I need to break my commitment to the YMCA or I don't like my volunteer role?** If you need to break your commitment, please just let the staff know. The Greater Wichita YMCA has many different volunteer roles, so if you are not enjoying what you are doing now, we encourage you to speak with the volunteer sponsor about other opportunities at the Greater Wichita YMCA.

**Who can I contact for more information?** Questions can be directed to Lori Spencer, Healthy Connections Director, at 316.776.8821 or email [lori.spencer@ymcawichita.org](mailto:lori.spencer@ymcawichita.org).