

# The Value of Volunteers

## Fact Sheet

### *Definition of a volunteer*

- A person who did unpaid work (except for expenses) through or for an organization.

### *Trends of volunteers*

- Women volunteer more frequently than men.
- The 35-44 year old age group is most likely to volunteer.
- Those who volunteer time are more likely to contribute financially.

### *Value of volunteers*

- 44% of adults volunteer an average of 3.6 hours/week.
- Nationwide, 83.9 million adults volunteer a total of 15.5 billion hours (equivalent to 9 million full-time employees).
- Volunteer time valued at \$18.04/hour; value of total time donated is \$280 billion.

### *Benefits of volunteers*

- Point of local contact for information
- Typically well-respected and connected in the community
- Allow organization to expand its audiences and provide more individualized attention
- Provide additional positive adult influence in the lives of youth
  - Listen to youth and spend time with them
  - Let youth know they are valued
  - Help youth recognize their talents and achieve their full potential

### *Motivation of volunteers*

- Most people volunteer when asked to do so, especially if they can volunteer with their family.
- Affiliation-motivated individuals volunteer for personal interaction with others.
- Achievement-motivated individuals volunteer to meet specific goals and overcome challenges.
- Power-oriented individuals volunteer to have an impact or influence on others.

