



# VOLUNTEER RESOURCES

KUDRAT



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## How volunteering can help you build relationships, experience and career opportunities:

1. **Community Engagement** - This allows you to better understand the needs of the people and businesses around you. Say you're looking for a job in education, and you've spent the entire summer tutoring children and helping them improve their reading skills. During interviews, you'll be able to explain what you learned about the needs of these children and how the techniques you used could also work in your classroom. This will put you far above applicants who have never worked with at-risk children and don't have the results to show for it
2. **Experience** - Employers will ask what you did for those six months you were between jobs, and answering with "I played video games" probably will not impress them. Imagine you took your "time off" between jobs and used it to make a difference. Instead of playing video games, you volunteered. You can explain to potential employers how this helped improve your leadership and organizational skills, and they'll see that you understand continuous education can come from a variety of experiences
3. **Leadership Qualities** - You don't just sit back and complain about a problem; you step up and help out for the greater good. Employers want employees who are engaged and committed, as well as problem-solvers and those willing to step up when help is needed. Volunteering proves your ability in these areas. Let's say you're looking for a job in construction or interior design, and you realize a women's shelter in town is in desperate need of remodeling. Imagine what potential employers would think if you volunteered to help the shelter raise funds for a remodel or offered your services at no charge to help make over the shelter. It would show you're an out-of-the-box thinker who gets results, and employers love seeing this type of initiative
4. **Networking** - Ever heard of "it's not what you know but who you know"? People who volunteer come from a wide variety of backgrounds — and better yet, people who volunteer like to help! By sharing your career ambitions with other volunteers, they just might be able to introduce you to a hot job opportunity. Not everyone you cross paths with will have a job opportunity for you, but if you show you're a positive person and hard worker, you're likely to get leads you wouldn't have found on your own.

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## How do you address a volunteer's lack of motivation in contributing to social impact projects?

1. **Recognize Signs** - Recognizing the early signs of dwindling motivation in volunteers is crucial for timely intervention. You might notice a decrease in enthusiasm, a drop in participation or quality of work, or even expressions of frustration or cynicism. These indicators suggest that it's time to take action to prevent a complete loss of motivation. By paying attention to these signs, you can address issues before they escalate, helping volunteers to regain their drive and continue contributing to the social impact project effectively
2. **Personal Goals** - Aligning the volunteer's personal goals with the objectives of the social impact project can significantly boost motivation. Encourage volunteers to reflect on what they hope to achieve through their involvement. Is it to gain new skills, make a tangible difference, or connect with like-minded individuals? Understanding and merging their personal aspirations with the project's goals can reignite their passion and provide a clear sense of purpose, making their efforts feel more personally rewarding
3. **Provide Support** - Providing adequate support is essential for maintaining volunteer motivation. This might mean offering training to develop new skills, providing resources to make their tasks easier, or giving constructive feedback to help them improve. Ensuring that volunteers feel valued and capable can lead to increased satisfaction and a greater willingness to stay engaged with the project. Remember, a supported volunteer is an empowered volunteer
4. **Celebrate Success** - Celebration of small successes can have a big impact on volunteer motivation. Acknowledge milestones, whether they're personal achievements or project-related accomplishments. Celebrating these moments can create a positive atmosphere and reinforce the value of the volunteers' contributions. This recognition not only boosts morale but also helps volunteers to see the tangible impact of their efforts, which is often a powerful motivator
5. **Foster Community** - Fostering a sense of community among volunteers can greatly enhance motivation. When volunteers feel part of a team, they're more likely to be engaged and committed. Encourage collaboration, facilitate social interactions, and

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build a supportive network. This sense of belonging can transform individual efforts into a collective drive, fueling motivation through camaraderie and shared purpose

6. **Reflect and Adjust** - Finally, it's important for volunteers to reflect on their experiences and for project leaders to be open to adjusting roles and tasks as needed. If a volunteer's tasks are not fulfilling, discuss alternative roles that might better align with their interests and skills. Flexibility and open dialogue can ensure that volunteers remain motivated and that their contributions are both impactful and personally satisfying.