

A Guide to Volunteer Opportunities in the Baraboo, WI Area

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY HANDBOOK

This volunteer opportunity handbook is the creation of the Baraboo Area Senior Citizen Organization, Inc. located at 124 2nd Street, Rm. 24 of the Civic Center in Baraboo, WI.

The idea for it came from the desire of our members to become more involved in their own community, benefitting not only the community, but themselves.

If you would like an agency to be included that we may have missed, or if you would like to offer corrections or additions, please call us at (608) 356-8464.

Acknowledgements

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*Comments by George Bernard Shaw
On the value of Volunteerism*

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can.

What would you like to do?

Work with:

1. Children
2. Adults
 - A. Literacy
 - B. Senior Services
 - C. Senior Settings
 1. Senior Hospice Settings
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 3. Senior Living Facilities
3. Animals and the Environment
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Volunteer Opportunities

Category 1, Working with Children

Working with Children and Youth

(Note: Organizations that work with children require a certified background check & orientation)

Schools offer a very wide range of opportunities to volunteer in our area school systems, some are listed below. You may be a parent, grandparent or anyone who loves children and wants to help our youth expand their learning.

Tutoring at risk students
Read to children
Help a child read
Classroom helper
Office helper
Library helper
Help with sports
Supervise children at lunchtime
Supervise children in playgrounds
.....and many more options!

For more information, contact the school of your choice listed below.

Note: On-line registration for volunteering at Baraboo Public Schools available, Search: "Baraboo Public Schools Volunteer Opportunities".

Public Schools:

Baraboo High School, 1201 Draper, 608 355-3940
Jack Young Middle School, 1531 Draper St., Baraboo, 608 355-3930
East Elementary School, 815 6th St., Baraboo, 608 355-3920
West Elementary School, 707 Center St., Baraboo, 608 355-395
Al Behrman Elementary School, 400 Mulberry St., Baraboo, 608 355-3910
Gordon L. Willson Elementary, 146 Berkley, Baraboo, 608 355-3925
University of Wisconsin, Baraboo campus, 608 355-5200

Private Schools:

St. Joseph Catholic School, 4K-8th, 310 3rd St., Baraboo, 608 356-3083

St. John's Lutheran School, 4K + extra curricular activities, 608 355-3860

Community Christian School, E12654 Co. Rd. T, Baraboo, 608 448-2191

Pre-School:

Baraboo Head Start Programs, 1531 Lake St., Baraboo, 608 356-3883

(3 & 4 year olds; read stories, do art projects, help teachers, help with nap and meal times, evening child care, general straightening of rooms and materials.)

Day Care:

Children's Day Care, 608 356-4116, 525 Madison Ave., Baraboo

Bear a Boo/Sunshine Daycare, 608 356-5583, 620 Commerce Ave., Baraboo

Li'l Treasurers, 608 356-5227, 231 4th St., Baraboo

Youth Organizations

Baraboo Boys & Girls Club, 124 2nd St. (Civic Center) 608 355-2582, enables all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Meet at Civic Center every day after school, 7-18 years old. Play games, help with homework, arts & crafts projects or mentorship.

Kids Ranch, S4800 County Rd D, Rock Springs, WI, 608 393-1081. Connects at-risk youth, ages 6-10 with caring community members, offering a literacy program & a summer day camp program at their 50 acre ranch. Many various volunteer opportunities.

4H Youth Development – Sauk Co., West Square Building, 505 Broadway, 3rd Floor, Baraboo Operated through UW Extension – Sauk Co. 608 355-3255 Volunteer opportunities as project leaders. Share your skills in arts, crafts, clothing, foods, woodworking, etc. in a small group of 5-10 young people at a schedule & designation that you like.

BASCO, Baraboo Area Seniors, 608 356-8464, members participate in a community partnership with Baraboo High School connecting members with students in the following:

- Community book club
- Volunteer for EM classes
- Mentor at-risk students
- Program collaboration with the Boys & Girls Club
Thursday pm art program and summer bingo

Baraboo Children's Museum, 608 963-1205, 203 4th St., Baraboo. Open Monday (not Tuesday) thru Sunday, 9 am to 5pm, Sun. -5pm. A wonderful place that is dedicated to providing experiences and memories for children's life-long learning. Help is needed in setting up the displays and working with children explaining and interacting the materials.

<p>2. ADULTS A. Literacy</p>	
<p>Baraboo Area Literacy Council 608 356-6166: Tutoring basic English as 2nd language, Baraboo Email: potentialtutor@barabooliteracy.org</p>	<p>Requirements: competent in reading, able to commit to 1-2 hours per week and complete the tutor training program.</p>
<p>WI Dells Literacy Council, 254-2146, Kilbourn Public Library, WI Dells, offers classes in adult basic education (assisting those who have never learned to read in English and tutoring those to learn to speak and read English where English is their second language</p>	<p>Anyone who can read and English is their first language can help teach someone else to read. This is a very rewarding one on one experience. You can realize by helping one person you are helping a whole family.</p>

<p>2. Adults B. Senior Services</p>	
<p>“Helping Hands” You can offer your particular services to Baraboo & Sauk County residents by being listed on ADRC’s “Helping Hands” list.</p> <p>Call the Aging & Disability Resource Center in Baraboo at 608-355-3289. They require a security background check and interview in order to add your name to this listing.</p>	<p>Services such as light housekeeping, running errands, yard work, packing for storage, cooking, attic, garage & basement cleaning are among the services listed.</p> <p>Call them for help with choosing your own individual type of service.</p>
<p>Home Delivered Meals/Meals on Wheels</p> <p>Home delivered meals through Sauk County Aging & Disability Resource Center, 608 355-3289, 505 Broadway, Baraboo</p> <p>Meals on Wheels, call 608 963-5201 and ask for coordinator.</p>	<p>Drivers needed to deliver meals to local clients, Monday thru Friday at 11am to 12 noon. You may also get on the substitute list for one-time needed deliveries.</p>
<p>Reminisce Adult Day Services</p> <p>442 S. Albert Ave., Ste. A, Reedsburg, WI Contact Mandy Retzlaff, 608 495-1344</p>	<p>Adult day care in a compassionate caring place with peace of mind as the focus for those caring and those being cared for. Volunteers welcomed. You are invited to come and visit.</p>
<p>Sauk County Aging & Disability Resource Center, 355-3289, 505 Broadway, Baraboo</p>	<p>Volunteer opportunities in: Senior Companion Program Medicare Counseling for WI residents Drivers Escort Program AARP Income Tax Assistance</p>

<p>2. Adults C. Senior Settings</p>	<p>Volunteering here would be a great way to accept and support others in our inevitable act of passing on.</p>
<p>1. Senior Hospice Settings</p>	<p>Offering end of life care and services.</p>
<p>Agrace Hospice Care, 1670 South Blvd., W., Baraboo 608 676-7792</p>	<p>Work at Agrace thrift stores. Help with special events, even gardening help is needed. Training available for specialized assistance opportunities.</p>
<p>Home Health United, now SSM Health at Home, Hospice services. 912 Twelfth St., Baraboo, 608 355-4708 for volunteer coordinator.</p>	<p>Come in and join the many activities being offered daily. Opportunities for one on one sharing with patients, reading, etc.</p>
<p>St. Croix Hospice, 608 448 4200, 414 Broadway, Suite #200, Baraboo</p>	<p>General office help, read to patients, play card games, join in Veteran-to-Veteran dialogs with patients.</p>
<p>2. Hospital Settings</p>	
<p>St. Clare Hospital, 356-1400, 707 14th St., Baraboo</p>	<p>Help at St. Clare Auxiliary Gift Shop, be a front-door greeter, perform general office help.</p>
<p>3. Senior Living Settings</p>	
<p>Greenbriar Assisted Living Center, 1-800-755-1458, 1350 Jefferson St., Baraboo</p>	<p>Studio, 1 bed. & deluxe assisted living apts. Help with games and birthday parties. Read to residents.</p>
<p>Meadow Ridge Assisted Living, 356-8770, 1700 Jefferson Street, Baraboo.</p>	<p>24 assisted living apartments & 17 memory care units. Partners with St. Clare Hospital.</p>
<p>Our House Assisted Care, 355-2344, 1200 Washington Ave., Baraboo</p>	<p>19 assisted living rooms. Assist with daily activities, Mon & Fri 1:30-2:30 call Bingo.</p>

3. Working with Animals and Environment	
Working with Animals	
Baraboo River Equine-Assisted Therapies , 1-760-212-8031, at Wild Rose Ranch, E12311 Sauk Co Hwy. W., Baraboo. Offering program called "BREATHE" for handicapped children & adults.	New organization, lots of opportunities for volunteers from working with horses, chores to administration, and desk jobs. "We welcome your ideas!"
Big Cats Rescue & Educational Center , (608) 524-5466, 305 Pine St., Rock Springs, WI 53961	Owners will make suggestions depending on your interest and qualifications for working with wild animals.
International Crane Foundation , (608) 356-9462, E11376 Shady Lane, Baraboo. The ICF works worldwide to conserve cranes & the ecosystems, watersheds & flyways on which they depend.	Many various volunteer opportunities from working directly with the birds to working directly with tourists. ICF will work with you to find the best fit for you, your interests & physical abilities.
Ochsner Park & Zoo , 355-2760, 903 Park St., Baraboo. Open all year long.	In summer – work at the concession stand. Year-long animal maintenance of every kind.
Sauk County Humane Society , (608) 356-2520, 618 Linn St., Baraboo. Animal shelter.	Many opportunities to work with animals and the people coming into the shelter to adopt animals, mostly cats & dogs.

3. Working with Animals and the Environment	Share with visitors the places you love to visit.
Environment:	
Aldo Leopold Foundation , 608 344-0279, E13701 Levee Rd., Baraboo	Call to inquire about becoming a guide.
Baraboo Parks, Recreation & Forestry 608 355-2760, 124 2 nd St., Rm. 17, Civic Center, Baraboo	Help maintain flower beds at various park locations. Assist with youth programs offered at all park locations.
Baraboo Range Preservation Association 608 355-7512, 124 2 nd St., Rm. 33, Baraboo	They protect the Baraboo Range. Outdoor volunteer opportunities with staff to inspect the range & perform necessary maintenance.
Friends of Devils Lake , 608 356-8301, S5975 Park Rd., Baraboo	Be a Camp Host and clean sites for work-exchange. Train to volunteer at the Nature Center.
Friends of Mirror Lake , 608 254-2333, E10320 Fern Dell Rd., Baraboo	Help direct parking at their outdoor concerts.
The Nature Conservancy , 608 356-5300, 124 2 nd St., Rm. 33, Civic Center, Baraboo. Protecting nature, preserving life. Baraboo Hills Land Stewardship.	Great outdoor activities, offered one Saturday per month. Volunteer opportunities include trail clearing, brush cutting, removal of evasive plant species. Call on Friday for Saturday's schedule.
Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance , 608 358-7120, P.O. Box 403, Baraboo, manages Sauk Prairie State Recreation Area including some of the Badger Lands.	Volunteer & get outdoors, join the DNR, become a safety instructor, join the Citizen Monitoring Network of WI. Help with a nature program or event. Guide Training offered, call to apply.

<p>4. Working with Arts & Humanities</p>	
<p>B. Area History Resources:</p>	
<p>August Derleth Society, 608 643-4569, 300 Water St., Sauk City, WI 53583 email: derethsociety@gmail.com</p>	<p>Preservation & conservationist. Office at entrance to the August Derleth Park. Call for seasonal volunteer opportunities.</p>
<p>Badger Army Ammunition Plant/Badger History Group, 608 448-0244, P.O. Box 113, Prairie du Sac, WI</p>	<p>Purpose is to preserve the history of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant.</p>
<p>Circus World Museum & Robert L. Parkinson Circus Library, 608 356-8341, 550 Water St., Baraboo, WI</p>	<p>Now state owned, volunteers must undergo a background check. This is your volunteer opportunity to “run away” to the circus without leaving town!</p>
<p>H. H. Bennett Studio Foundation, 608 253-3523, 215 Broadway, WI Dells, WI. Opens May 4, 10-4pm daily.</p>	<p>Part of WI Historical Society. All volunteers must undergo a background check. Train to give group tours & work at special events.</p>
<p>Lake States Railway Historical Association, 608 356-5555, 330 Lynn St., Baraboo</p>	<p>Work in the library, computer data input. Document and organize a large variety of drawings & blue prints.</p>
<p>Mid-Continental Railway Museum, 608 522-4261, E8948 Museum Rd., North Freedom, WI 53951</p>	<p>Every other weekend help is needed in the restoration shop working on the train cars. Sort & catalog railroad materials. Be the greeter for the day.</p>
<p>Sauk County Historical Society & Museum, 531 4th Ave. & 900 2nd Ave., Baraboo, 608 356-1001</p>	<p>Help with outreach events, Christmas Open House, Tour of Historic Homes, Steam & Gas Show, Fair on the Square. They always need filing assistance.</p>

4. Working with Arts & Humanities	
A. Arts & Theatre:	
Al. Ringling Theatre , 608 356-8864, 136 4 th Avenue, Baraboo	Volunteer opportunities in ushering, concession sales & office procedures.
Al. Ringling House Bed & Breakfast , 608 448-7455, 623 Broadway St., Baraboo	Give tours of the mansion. Help with special weekend events. This is a beautiful place to work.
Baraboo Theatre Guild, Performance Art Theatre , P.O. Box 276, Baraboo	Volunteer at performances, seating guests, help set up and brake down the set.
CAB Theatre (Creative Alliance of Baraboo Theatre, Inc.) , P.O. Box 229, at Circus World Museum	Volunteer at performances, seating guests, help set and brake down the set.
Stage III Children's Theatre Group , P.O. Box 38, 124 2nd St. Rm.31, Civic Center, Baraboo. Stage3forkids@gmail.com	Performances at UW campus theatre in Baraboo. Help with costume maintenance. Work with actors individually on their presentations.
Sauk County Art Association & Gallery , 608 448-6693, P.O. Box 222, Baraboo.	They love volunteers to help at their special events like Earth Day in April, Art-June Art Fair, etc.

<p>5. Community Needs: Emergency/Crisis & Homeless Services</p>	
<p>Catholic Charities, Administered through St. Joseph Catholic Church, 300 2nd St., Baraboo. 608 356-4773</p>	<p>You need not be a member of the church to volunteer. Help with any of the church's many community outreach programs, for example the free month community dinner held once a month on 4th Tuesday, 5pm.</p>
<p>Hope House, 356-9123, 720 Ash St., Baraboo provides short-term emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence.</p>	<p>Volunteer opportunities in general office work, daily help with light housekeeping. Special training available for answering the crisis hot line.</p>
<p>St. Vincent de Paul, 356-4649, 100 S. Blvd., Baraboo.</p>	<p>Many various volunteer opportunities, processing donated items. Let them know if you need a sit-down job.</p>
<p>St. Vincent de Paul, 254-4011, 15210 Hwy 16, WI Dells, WI</p>	<p>Various volunteer opportunities from office help to unloading trucks. There is something for all levels of participation. Let them know what would be comfortable for you.</p>

6. Community Organizations & Resources	
Baraboo Food Pantry , 356-4649, 100 S. Blvd., Baraboo. Hours: Mon 1-3pm, Fri 5-7pm, 2 nd & 4 th Wed. 1-3pm, 1 st & 3 rd Thu.	Stocking shelves. Distribute food to the pantry users during hours pantry is open.
Baraboo Public Library , 230 4 th Ave., Baraboo, 608 356-6166. Ask for volunteer coordinator.	Come at a set time every week to pull books, process new books, repair books. And help is always needed at one of our special family events such as "Poo at the Zoo" which drew 90 participants.
Habitat for Humanity , 608 448-2888x18, 1211 8 th St., Baraboo. Building homes for income challenged families who assist in the construction.	Great opportunity for retired skilled tradesman. All volunteers will be used.
Kilbourn Public Library , 608 254-2146 620 Elm St., Wisconsin Dells, WI. Every Monday various senior activities are also offered by the library at the Frank Fischer Senior Center in Lake Delton.	Light library tasks as well as assisting with programs & activities being offered at & through the library on Mondays at the Frank Fischer Center in Lake Delton.
Neighborly Free Store , 615 Broadway St, Baraboo, 608 356-3991	Volunteers needed to sort & launder clothing, staff the store, greet our customers & assist them finding clothing.
Re-Store , 608 356-0332, 615 S. Blvd., Baraboo, Hrs. 9-5pm M-F, 9-4pm Sat.	Assist customers to find what they need. Organizing & putting away donations.
St. Vincent de Paul , 100 South Blvd., Baraboo, 608 356-4649	Outdoor yard work needed. Always can use help loading & unloading trucks.
St. Vincent de Paul , 608 254-4011, W15210 Hwy. 16, WI Dells, WI	Look up the more valuable donations on the computer for pricing. Straighten shelves.

7. Working with Senior Health Care Services	
Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of WI, Caregiver Support Groups , 608 742-9055, 2825 Hunters' Trail, Portage, WI, ask to speak to Janet Wiegel, Outreach Specialist	Volunteers needed for general office procedures. Extra help is always welcomed at the Memory Cafes in Portage and Sauk City.
Parkinson's Exercise Group , 356-1400, St. Clare Hospital, Baraboo, every other Wednesday at 1pm	Volunteers needed to assist with exercise activities.
Parkinson's Support Group , 608 356-7096, meet every 3 rd Monday at 2pm at First United Methodist Church, Baraboo	Volunteer welcomed to support participants and care givers.
Reminisce Adult Day Services , 608 495-1344, 442 S. Albert Ave, Suite A, Reedsburg, Wis.	Volunteers welcomed to assist in many programs, one being they need a person to pick up food daily from hospital for facility.
SSM Health at Home , 608 355-4708, 1111 8 th St., Baraboo,	Volunteers needed in programs: Summer day-camps for children, "No one dies alone" hospice program, in home visits to clients.