

# Group Volunteer Projects



Educating and engaging your employees is a vital step in improving participation and employee giving. Recent surveys show that 92% of employees want to work for a company who shares their values and 63% want to work for a company that offers paid time off to volunteer.

United Way’s Group Volunteer Projects can be done at your location or at the United Way office, at a time that is convenient for you and your staff. We have projects to appeal to a wide range of interests and that have a direct impact on individuals and families in our community.

Review the projects in this document and contact United Way Volunteer Connection at 715-298-5719 to schedule your project and get complete instructions.

## To do at your location

Project Name	Cost	Time Needed	Details-Page #
Birthday Bash	No Cost to \$5.75	5 ppl/1 hour	2
Breakfast Packs	\$2 each (min of 48)	5 ppl/30 min/100 packs	2
Fun & Game Night	No Cost to \$1 each plus games	5 ppl/30 min	2
Laundry Time	\$.15-.25 per package	10 ppl/30 minutes/100 packages	2
Personal Care Kits	No Cost to \$10	5ppl/30 min/50 kits	2
Senior Care Kits	No Cost to \$10	5 ppl/30 min/50 kits	2
Snack Attack	No Cost to \$3.50	5 ppl/30 min/100 packs	3
NOW (Nutrition on Weekends)	\$3 each (Qty varies depending on school selected)	10 ppl/60 min/75-100 packs	3
Welcome Home Baskets	No Cost to \$50	2 ppl/30 min/3 kits	3

Projects can be done at no cost if company holds a collection for needed supplies.

## To do at the United Way office

Project Name	Time Needed	Details- Page #
Community Closet Work Day	2-10 ppl/1 hour or more	3
Community Outreach	10 ppl/1 hr	3
Honor Flight Mail Call	1-10 ppl/1 hr or more	3
If You're Happy and You Know It	3-10 ppl/1 hr or more	3
Ready to Read Book Prep	8-10 ppl/1 hr or more	4

United Way provides the supplies and materials needed for projects done in our office.

### Project Descriptions:

**Birthday Bash:** Fill a child's birthday gift bag with cake mix, frosting, candles, a blank card and party décor. Bags will be distributed to families living in local shelters accessing food pantries and other programs. Your team's help will provide a special birthday that a child might not otherwise receive. We provide the instructions and coordinate delivery to local agencies.

**Breakfast Packs:** In Marathon County around 8,000 children are eligible for free and reduced lunch, and often these children do not have enough food in their homes for a weekend or snow day. Breakfast packs your company purchases and assemble will be provided to local schools for distribution. (Allow 3 weeks to order supplies)

**Fun & Game Night:** Collect gently used or purchase new family games and create game night packages to encourage families to spend quality time together. Your team will add microwaveable popcorn and other items to the packages.

**Laundry Time:** Food stamps do not cover the cost of laundry detergent or soap therefore some struggling families tend to go without. Your team will portion out one-load sized packages to be distributed to pantries, shelters and other area non-profits.

**Personal Care Kits:** Collect or purchase personal care items and create kits to be distributed to low-income families and children and homeless individuals. The cost of hygiene products is high, and not covered by SNAP (traditionally known as food stamps). Items will be distributed via shelters, pantries and other agency partners.

**Senior Care Kits:** Bring needed items and little surprises into the lives of homebound seniors. Collect or purchase personal care items and create kits to be distributed through local agencies to seniors. Pack kits with items they may not buy for themselves.

**Snack Attack:** Purchase or collect healthy snack items and package them for distribution to school age children for snow days and/or weekends. Here in Marathon County around 8,000 children are eligible for free and reduced lunch, and often these children do not have enough food in their home to last over a weekend or on a snow day or two.

**NOW (Nutrition on Weekends):** Purchase the items needed to create a weekend food package for local children. Your team will make sandwiches and package other items for distribution to school age children to fight weekend food insecurity. Here in Marathon County around 8,000 children are eligible for free and reduced lunch, and often these children do not have enough food in their home and arrive at school on Monday hungry. These packs are assembled and delivered to the participating school on Thursday and the school distributes on Friday for the weekend. (Allow 3 weeks to order supplies)

**Welcome Home Baskets:** Collect or purchase personal care items and create baskets to be distributed to people moving out of shelter into housing. Pack with needed consumable items to set up house. Baskets will be distributed via The Women's Community, Catholic Charities and other organizations that assist families with housing.

**Career Closet Work Day:** Help sort and organize donations of work-appropriate clothing, shoes and boots (Boots to Work program) for local residents searching for employment/interviewing or starting a new job. Light cleaning projects and simple maintenance options, as well.

**Community Outreach:** Assemble and distribute door hanger bags with information about community resources offered here in Marathon County. The goal of this project is to increase awareness and to connect community members with community resources. This is a possible two-part project : Assembly of the bags OR delivery of the bags, OR both.

**Honor Flight Mail Call:** Let our veterans know you care! Show how much your company appreciates their service means to you and our community. Your team will create thank you cards/notes for distribution for the Honor Flight Mail Call. Cards can be made anytime.

**If You're Happy and You Know It:** Assemble and create kits of activities for preschool children. The goal is to provide materials parents, caregivers and teachers can use to help children educationally. The kits will be distributed to agencies serving children as well as via the Ready to Read Bookshelves.

**Ready to Read Book Prep:** Clean, repair, sticker and sort donated children's books for the Ready to Read Bookshelf Project. Bookshelves are located around the community. The goal is to distribute books into the hands of children that may not have books at home and also to help encourage reading and brain growth during the early stages of childhood.