

## Workplace Volunteerism

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 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 Elizabeth with United Way Volunteer Connection at 715-298-5719 to schedule your project and get complete instructions.

## Small Group Volunteer Projects:

United Way's Small Volunteer Projects can be done safely, at your location. We provide instructions and coordinate delivery to local agencies. Please adhere to CDC guidelines regarding wearing masks and social distancing.

\*Projects can be done at no cost if company holds a drive for needed supplies. Contact Volunteer Connection for more information.

Volunteer Project	Approximate Cost	People / Time / Estimated Packs
Birthday Bash	\$5-10/bag	5 people / 30 min / 50 bags
Breakfast Packs	\$5/pack	5 people / 30 min / 50 packs
Calm Kits	\$5-10/kit	5 people / 30 min / 50 kits
Fun & Game Night	\$5-\$10/kit	5 people / 15 min / 20 kits
Honor Flight Mail Call	No Cost	5 people / 30 min / 50 kits
If You're Happy & You Know It	No Cost	3 people / 1 hour / 12 kits
Laundry Time	\$.50/kit	5 people / 30 min / 100 packs
Literacy Kits	\$3.75/kit	5 people / 30 min / 20 kits
Personal Care Kits	\$5-10/kit	5 people / 30 min / 50 kits
Ready to Read Book Prep	No Cost	5 people / 1 hour / 75 books
Senior Care Kits	\$5-10/kit	5 people / 30 min / 40 kits
Snack Attack	\$5/kit	5 people / 30 min / 50 packs
Welcome Home Baskets	\$50/basket	2 people / 30 min / 3 baskets

## Project Descriptions:

**Birthday Bash:** Everything needed for a birthday celebration in one bag! Birthday bags include supplies for making a birthday cake, party décor, a small gift and card. 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 celebration that a child might not otherwise receive.

**Breakfast Packs:** Poverty impacts children, families, people over age 65+, veterans, and persons with disabilities. In Wisconsin, one in ten individuals struggle with hunger, and of these, one in six are children. Breakfast packs your company purchases and assemble will be given to local schools, shelters or other area agencies depending on where the need is greatest in an effort to reduce hunger in our community.

**Calm Kits:** Assemble kits with items to support students' emotional well-being as they adjust to the school year. These items are tools for students to manage anxiety, stress, and sensory overload during the school day.

**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 popcorn and a note to the packages.

**Honor Flight Mail Call:** Let our veterans know you care! Show how much your company appreciates what 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 and will be held for the next flight scheduled to take place in 2021.

**If You're Happy and You Know It:** Assemble and create kits of activities for preschool children. The goal is to provide materials that 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. This must be for a small group of 2-3 people.

**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.

**Literacy Kits:** Putting books into the hands of kids is so important to build the love of reading! Literacy kits include a book, reading chart, cut-out character, bookmark and a card with a personal message by you.

**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.

**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 development during the early stages of childhood.

**Senior Care Kits:** Bring needed items and the joy of a surprise gift into the lives of homebound seniors. Collect or purchase personal care items, socks, puzzles, etc.. and create kits to be distributed through local agencies to seniors.

**Snack Attack:** 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. Purchase or collect healthy snack items and package them for distribution to school age children for snow days and/or weekends.

**Welcome Home Baskets:** Collect or purchase items and create baskets to be distributed to people moving out of shelter into housing. Common needs are household basics for the kitchen, cleaning, and personal hygiene. Baskets will be distributed via The Women's Community, Catholic Charities and other organizations that assist families with housing.