

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 2017/2018

DHS Mission Statement

With our partners, our goal is to prevent homelessness when possible; to provide temporary, emergency shelter when needed; and to help individuals and families transition rapidly into permanent housing. We do this through providing coordinated, compassionate, high-quality services and supports.

I. Homeless Shelter Library Program

A. Scope of Work: Volunteers will report to the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) Education AmeriCorps and shelter staff such as the Child Care Coordinator, Shelter Director, and Recreational Specialist to ensure the shelter library program runs smoothly. They will support clients with literacy assistance and educational/vocational supports, coordinate with other community organizations, and organize and maintain the Library and book lending system. They will also collect and track metrics to measure program impact.

B. Activities for Library Program volunteers will include:

- Liaise between supervisors, clients, and other organizations such as the local library to ensure clients are aware and access services available in the community.
- Organize and maintain the library and book lending system.
- Support with data collection to ensure program meets its goals.
- Assist with field trips and other activities as needed.
- Attend trainings and meetings.
- Mentor youth and link them to resources in the community.
- Support children with their homework.

II. HOPE 2018: The NYC Street Survey

On Monday, January 22, 2018, DHS will conduct its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE), a citywide community volunteer effort to count every New Yorker sleeping on the street across the five boroughs during the coldest time of the year. Thousands of volunteers are assembled and sent out in teams to survey New York's streets, subways and parks. HOPE is a point-in-time estimate of unsheltered individuals to project service needs, allocate resources for the street homeless population, and educate and engage New Yorkers. The event is from 10:00 PM to 4:00 AM. Please sign up to make this large-scale canvass a reality!

III. Contact

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