

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 2016/2017

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 DHS Education Specialists 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.

II. HOPE 2016: The NYC Street Survey

The Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) is an annual estimate to assess the number of individuals living in New York City's public spaces. On the night of HOPE, thousands of volunteers are assembled and sent out in teams to survey New York's streets, subways and parks. Conducted by the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS), 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 will take place on January 23, 2017, from 10:00 PM to 4:00 AM.

III. Points of Contact

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