Making Time Count

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH
320 FIRST STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20534

Volunteerism Is Everybody's Business

VOLUNTEER AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS

CATMC2000

Volunteer and Citizen Participation Programs

MAKING TIME COUNT

MISSION STATEMENT

To create and develop volunteerism through partnerships with community groups, public service organizations, and other agencies in order to enhance public awareness, foster community relationships, and prepare inmates for successful reintegration into the community and family units.

Volunteer and Citizen Participation Programs in the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) foster opportunities for the general public, staff and inmates to give of their time and energies for worthy projects and causes.

There are three distinct volunteer programs in the BOP:

- Citizen participation
- Inmate volunteerism
- Staff volunteerism

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

More than 35,000 volunteers provide services to assist offenders in BOP institutions. By modeling community values, volunteers have the opportunity to impact the lives of offenders, staff and other volunteers. The BOP utilizes volunteers in many disciplines. Partnerships with local organizations link BOP facilities with the communities where they are located.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS

Here are just a few sample programs provided by citizen volunteers in BOP facilities:

- Victim impact panels
- Life and parenting skills programs
- College and university students provide services in order to gain specialized experience for academic credit
- Religious services
- Administrative support

INMATE VOLUNTEERISM

While confined in BOP facilities, many inmates choose to participate in volunteer programs. Volunteerism reduces idleness and allows inmates to demonstrate their willingness to make meaningful contributions to the community. For example:

- Speaking with high school students about the effect of crime on their lives
- Making crocheted items for babies in neonatal care
- Constructing toys from unusable woods
- Training guide dogs for the blind
- Providing services for youth, the socially disadvantaged, and other citizens who experience societal or physical challenges

STAFF VOLUNTEERISM

BOP staff are actively engaged in volunteerism in their communities. Staff contribute time and services to vital causes in faith-based, educational, public safety, environmental, or other areas.

There is no way to accurately assess the number of hours and the value of the time contributed by staff. However, many staff members have been recognized for their contributions by the United States Attorney General, the Points of Light Foundation, and many other local honors.

BOP ON THE WEB

Visit the website of the BOP to identify institutions or community correction sites in your community where you might volunteer.

www.bop.gov

Click the LINKS button, then click the VOLUNTEER WORK link.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH

For more information, contact us by:

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