

YOUTH VOLUNTEER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

ANKARA REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP: several programs would benefit from your assistance. This is a great way to help meet the needs of a very vulnerable population.

MEAL PROGRAM

Contact: Margarethe Eksi at margherita_38@yahoo.com

ARSG serves up to 50 people a day at the UNHCR registration center. Volunteers normally prepare meals in the morning before the service, but donations of pre-prepared goods are welcome. Possible donations include: baked goods, cookies and "towers." "Towers" are plastic bags of dried nuts, dried fruit, candies and olives. These are provided to refugees as part of the meal. It takes about 1.5 hours to make 50 towers. Students could work together in groups to prepare these before our food distribution, at a time that is convenient for them.

THRIFT SHOP

Contact: Kyoko Wilken-Curtis at ckmobile05@yahoo.com

Growing interest in refugee support and community service has facilitated the growth of part of Meryem Ana's Distribution Program – the SECOND CHANCE Thrift Shop. All proceeds from Second Chance support the refugees and asylum seekers in our Ankara community. Asylum seekers and refugees do not pay when they shop. Volunteers are needed to sort through the donations, hang clothes, restock shelves, and test toys and electronics, particularly on Distribution Sunday (see below).

DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Contact: Kim DeBlauw at deblauwkj@state.gov

On the second Sunday of each month, used clothing and food vouchers are distributed to participants in the Meryem Ana Refugee Distribution program. Volunteers help refugees select clothing or receive special items like blankets or children's shoes and diapers.

ANKARA YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUE

Contact: Pete Catalano at catalanopr@state.gov

The next soccer season begins on September 26, Saturday mornings at Balgat. Coaches and referees are needed for teams of 5-11 year-old children. A great way to get some exercise, work with kids and show your support for the community!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Contact: Allison Catalano or Claire Halphen at CLOAnkara@state.gov or 457-7308). The CLO relies heavily on volunteer support for a number of community activities. Following are some upcoming events:

Halloween Haunt (Oct 27): Help scare the dickens out of the kids! Volunteers needed to decorate, lead groups around the embassy, participate in craft activities and clean up.

Breakfast with Santa (Dec): Help Santa visit with the children, run craft projects and enjoy a hearty breakfast!

Spring Fling (April): Hide eggs, help with crafts and enjoy a good time at the annual Spring Fling!

Cappadocia Tree-Planting (May): Join in the 4th annual mission community service trip to Cappadocia to plant trees and help this precious region stay green!

Independence Day Community Celebration (July): THE event of the season for the entire community! Help support it by helping with kids crafts, set-up, etc.

PTSO EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Contact: Cathy Silliman (dougcathsilliman@yahoo.com).

The Parent Teacher Student Organization of the Ankara Elementary/High School welcomes student volunteers to help support various PTSO activities as they are planned and advertised in the Marshall Memo throughout the school year. Students are welcome to assist parents and teachers involved in PTSO activities that promote school community, facilitate communications, and raise funds for the benefit of the school and its students.

STAGE ON THE RUN

Contact: Clay Bridges stageontherun@live.com

Stage on the Run is Ankara's Community Theatre based at the Turkish American Association. Help is needed during productions in areas such as set design, costuming, make up, lighting assistance, ushering, and stagehand work.

LOSEV (Leukemia Foundation)

Contact: Allison Catalano (petealicat1@hotmail.com), or Fulya Yavuz, Head of International Relations for Losev (international@losev.org.tr)
Losev serves children with leukemia in Turkey by operating a specialized hospital with free service and providing support for families who travel to Ankara, including vocational training and education services for sick children. Volunteers are sought throughout the year for various projects, including: weekly sorting of donated items, periodic assistance with preparations for fund-raisers and short-term projects, or annual help with the International Week for Children with Leukemia program.

TAIWCCS BOOKMOBILE SUPPORT:

Contact: Sirma Yildiz at sirmaservin@yahoo.com ; Tel:0532 622 68 23.
The Bookmobile will be visiting four new schools this year and two of the schools are in desperate need of painting (paint to be provided). One of the schools is in Incek and is currently having the roof fixed. The other school, Sakalar, is in Altindag. Volunteers are needed for general cleanup of the schools and help with painting.

TAIWCCS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

Contact: Anna Stenstrom at anna.h.stenstrom@hotmail.com
Volunteers are sought to work with teenage girls on English language skills, including conversation practice on the first Saturday of each month (between 10:00-14:00). School support could also be used for clothing drives to benefit the program participants.

AMERICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN TURKEY (ARIT)

Contact: Elif Denel, ARIT Director, at elifdenel@gmail.com
ARIT is a non-profit educational institution dedicated to promoting American and Turkish research and exchange in the humanities and social sciences, including archeology. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Elif about work in the ARIT library or on projects of particular interest for volunteers.

100 YIL BARINAGI ANIMAL SHELTER

Contact : Selin Cankat at CankatS@state.gov or 496-3772)
Collect donated dog food and supplies and deliver to shelter.