How to be a GREAT Volunteer

Volunteering is fun and rewarding, but it's also a little more complicated than just showing up and having a good time. Here's some advice on how to make the most of your volunteer assignment:

Be selfless. Selfless is the opposite of selfish. Don't think about what you can do to help yourself. Think about what you can do to help others.

Be well-trained. Know what you're doing as a volunteer. If you need training or need someone to show you what you're supposed to do, please ask! If you're good at your job, it will be much easier to help others (plus you'll have a lot more fun).

Be dependable. Do what you say you'll do, and do your best. Don't show up late, and always keep your promises. People will be relying on you so you don't want to let them down.

Be enthusiastic. Always have a positive attitude and show others that you're doing this because you WANT to.

Be open-minded. One of the really great things about being a volunteer is the chance to learn and experience new things. Keep your mind open to new possibilities, and you'll probably grow as a person.

Be respectful. Always remember to show respect for other people and other cultures. Keep in mind that your way of thinking or living is not the only way there is.

Be cooperative. Don't try to do everything yourself. If someone asks for help, be willing to lend a hand. If you need some help, ask politely for it.

Be understanding. Try to see things through other people's eyes. Try your best to understand what other people may need.

Be honest. If you don't know the answer to a question, let the attendee know you are uncertain, but will find out for them.