



## **Volunteer wisely: what do you want to do?**

When you start to look for volunteer opportunities, think about what **you** want. You know a lot about yourself. Use this information to help you make a wise decision.

*Take the first step in volunteering wisely. Learn more about what you want, think about each question.*

### **Question 1: What is important to you in a volunteer activity?**

- What issues do you feel strongly about?
- Are there problems you see that you want to work on solving?
- Do you want to feed the hungry or clean the environment?

### **Question 2: What do you have to offer in a volunteer activity?**

- What skills and abilities do you have?
- Do you have a knack for teaching?
- Are you good at dealing with people?
- Are you familiar with using certain equipment such as computers?
- Do you have athletic abilities?
- Can you work alone and stay on task?
- Do you have a hobby that you enjoy?

### **Question 3: Would you like to learn something new from the volunteer activity?**

- Do you want to learn a new skill?
- Do you want to learn more about a place of work such as a hospital?
- Do you want to try physically active work?
- Do you want to work outdoors or try working in an office?

### **Question 4: What time do you have in your busy schedule to do volunteer work?**

- When will the volunteer hours fit into your schedule?
- Do you still have time for your school work, activities, family, and friends?
- Do you want a long-term assignment or something that is a one-time event?
- Can you commit time each week such as listening to second-graders read?
- Or would you prefer to work several hours on one day.

### **Question 5: Do you want to volunteer alone or with a group?**

- Is it okay to work with people you do not know?
- Can you arrange with family members to volunteer together?
- Do you prefer to do an activity with friends or classmates?
- Are you comfortable working alone on an activity?