ICF Partnered Organizations

Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity
Location: 140 Pine Street, Florence, MA 01062
Phone: (413) 586-5430
Website: pvhabitat.org

Mission:
Seeking to put God’s love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Nature of Work:
This organization is one of the most recognizable in the country. There are many opportunities to help with Habitat for Humanity. You may not have been aware that Habitat for Humanity needs more than just construction volunteers. You can take part in the building projects of course, or you can be a non-construction volunteer. Some non-construction roles include a number of things such as Journalism/ writing, Graphic Design, Website Design (especially drupal experts!), Grant research, Regular weekly volunteers to assist with various office tasks, Newsletter folding and mailing, etc. There are also opportunities to be a team builder or get involved with student and youth groups.

American Red Cross
Location: n/a
Dates/times: varies by event (we will notify you)
Website: www.redcross.org

Mission Statement:
The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors. The American Red Cross, through its strong network of volunteers, donors and partners, is always there in times of need. They aspire to turn compassion into action so that all people affected by disaster around the world receive care, shelter, and hope. The organization gets our communities are ready and prepared for disasters, allows everyone in our country has access to safe, lifesaving blood and blood products, as well as all members of our armed services and their families find support and comfort whenever needed. In an emergency, there are always trained individuals nearby, ready to use their Red Cross skills to save lives.
Description of community it assists:
Everyone. There is no discrimination. Red Cross targets its efforts mainly towards disaster relief, support for military families, health and safety training & education, life saving blood, and international services (responding to emergencies, preventing disease, and promoting humanitarian values).

Nature of work:
For ICF candidates, the nature of work for Red Cross truly depends on the event. As stated above, Red Cross engages in a variety of different projects because it is a world leader and has the necessary resources to do so. While there are several different types of opportunities to help, all will be exciting, meaningful, and impactful. This is the type of organization where volunteers can come and go, because there will not be a weekly schedule of needs. ICF will be sure to notify all candidates of upcoming events to keep you in touch with American Red Cross.

Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Program (ICE) Program
Location: UMass campus (most often Whitmore)
Dates/Times: Monday - Friday until 1 PM
Website: www.umass.edu/disability/ICE.html

Mission/Philosophy:
Provide high school students with significant (typically intellectual and/or developmental) disabilities the opportunity to have a college experience alongside their non-disabled peers. ICE students are supported by the ICE program coordinator/advisor, educational coaches, which are provided by the sending school districts, and student mentors. The goal of the ICE Program is to enhance the academic access, career development and social/emotional growth of its participants.

How ICE Helps:
ICE provides a person-centered plan for each participant, equipped with personal, academic, and career goals. ICE offers comprehensive help in the areas of career development and educational development, as the participants receive a coach in both areas. The participants also see a lot of social growth by becoming involved with many groups on campus, such as the UMass marching band, student gaming committee, residential hall activities, as well as myriad informal activities with campus mentors, volunteers, and friends.

Nature of work:
The ICE program is looking for ICF volunteers to socialize with the participants. In accordance to the social development above, ICE is looking for volunteers who are willing to getting to know and simply be a friend to the participants.

**Northeast Rottweiler Rescue**
Location: Amherst
Website: [www.rottrescue.org](http://www.rottrescue.org)
Phone: (413) 253-1300

Mission/Philosophy:
Preserve the Rottweiler breed through education, rescue, placement, and other services, as well as offer consults to people with Rottweiler’s having difficulty finding housing or insurance.

Nature of work:
ICF volunteers at Northeast Rottweiler Rescue will assist with day-to-day operation.

**Jones Library ESL Center**
Location: 43 Amity Street, Amherst, MA
Website: joneslibrary.org
Hours: Saturday/Wednesday/Friday - 9AM-5:30PM
Monday - 1PM-5:30PM
Sunday - 1PM-5:00PM
Tuesday/Thursday - 9AM-9:30PM

Mission/Philosophy:
A public library that continues the tradition of learning and passing of knowledge.

Nature of work:
Jones Library is looking for ICF candidates to attend training sessions as well as teach English to adults who are trying to learn the language.

**Nonotuck Community School**
Location: 221 Riverside Drive, Florence, MA 01062 (technically Northampton)
Phone: (413) 586-5996
Website: nonotuck.org
**Mission/Philosophy:**
Provides high quality preschool education and child care. Nonotuck cares for children 15 months to 5 years in an environment that promotes self-esteem, creative thinking and individuality through a respectful partnership between children, parents and faculty. Unlike some ‘day care’ centers, Nonotuck’s children stay in one classroom for the year, enhancing their early childhood education experience by having close and consistent relationships with their friends and teachers. Nonotuck Community School is a licensed early education and child care center.

**Nature of work:**
Nonotuck is looking for ICF candidates who are willing to play games with the children, ensure their safety, and serve food. An easy job that is sure to be both rewarding and enlightening.

**Amherst Survival Center**
Location: 138 Sunderland Road, North Amherst, MA
Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 11 am to 3 pm
Open Thursdays until 7 pm; Closed Wednesdays
Website: www.amherstsurvival.org

**Mission/Philosophy:**
The Amherst Survival Center is a regional resource providing food, clothing, health care and community to residents of Hampshire and Franklin Counties through primarily volunteer efforts.

**Nature of work:**
Amherst Survival Center is a truly amazing place to give back. Not only does Amherst Survival Center provide food, clothing, and health care for those in need, but it also goes above and beyond by providing activities like exercise classes, movie nights, and dodgeball tournaments. Amherst Survival Center is a great place to start and get involved performing day-to-day operations. Wherever your interests may lie, Amherst Survival Center has an opportunity for you.

**Enlace de Familias**
Location: 299-301 Main Street, Holyoke, MA 01040
Phone: (413) 532-9300
Website: www.enlacedefamilias.org
Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Mission Statement:
To promote a community where all families are given the opportunity to improve their quality of life.

Nature of Work:
Works with residents from the downtown neighborhoods in Holyoke, where there is a prevalence of low-income families (99% of whom receive some kind of charitable assistance. They want to come up with solutions to help these families in any way possible. They offer parenting services, encourage civic leadership, and educate adults on how to better their communities. They are really looking for volunteers that are interested in raising funds for the organization. Specifically, they would like a few volunteers that are willing to be more consistent with their time, rather than just going to an event or two.

Horizons for Homeless Children
Location: 425 Union Street Amherst, MA
Website: www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org
Phone: (413) 532-0467

Mission Statement:
To improve the lives of young homeless children in Massachusetts and help their families succeed by providing high-quality early education, opportunities for play, and comprehensive family support services. To support our mission, we also advocate on behalf of young children, train educators and human service providers, and provide research on the impact of early educations on homeless children.

Nature of Work:
They have a Playspace Program that builds educational spaces in shelters to provide an environment for children to play and learn in. They are looking for volunteers to be PALs (Playspace Activity Leaders), which would give you the opportunity to play educational games with kids and provide them with social structure as well as activities that help them grow. Shifts usually take place Monday through Thursday, day or evening. They are asking for volunteers that can commit 2 hours a week to the same place/same time for 6 months after taking a one-time, 5 hour training program.

Freedom Cafe
Location: 768 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA
Hours: Opens at 9:00AM daily
Mission:
To end human trafficking.

Nature of Work:
They raise money to build vocational centers in India for victims and at risk teens, as well as raise awareness at UMass and in the surrounding area. The Freedom Cafe organization has yet to make clear what the volunteers would be doing. If you are interested in the organization, reach out to them, tell them you are with ICF and ask if they have any projects they currently need assistance with and see if they interest you.

Homework House:
Location: 54 North Summer Street, Holyoke, MA
Phone: (413) 265-1017
Website: http://www.homeworkhouseholyoke.org/

Mission:
To provide services to school-age children and work towards rekindling interest in learning and self-improvement.

Nature of work:
They provide free after-school tutoring and mentoring for Holyoke children who are at risk for academic failure. The goal is to improve literacy skills so the children can become productive members of the community. Volunteers are expected at least once a week consistently for the length of the semester. This is a great opportunity that requires a lot of patience as a lot of the students have learning disabilities.

CHD: Big Brothers Big Sisters
Location: 70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA 01002
Phone: (413) 253-2591
Email: bbbshc@chd.org

Mission:
The Center for Human Development (CHD) provides a broad range of high quality, community-oriented human services dedicated to promoting, enhancing and protecting the dignity and welfare of people in need. Since its founding in 1972, CHD has grown into one of the largest, most comprehensive, charitable nonprofit agencies in New England.
Nature of Work:
Would you like to meet some new people, gain experience and learn new skills, or find fun and fulfillment for a few hours a week? CHD has a number of programs that need your help and would be grateful for your time! If you would like to become a BIG brother or BIG sister this is the place to do it. Or if you are intimidated by that, CHD is always looking for volunteers looking to help plan fundraising events. Both are excellent places to shape your skills and give back to the community.

UMass Permaculture Initiative
Location: UMass
Website: umasspermaculture.com

Mission:
Started in 2010, UMass Permaculture Initiative has brought together students from all academic realms, as well as faculty, staff, and community members to convert underutilized grass lawns on the campus into edible, educational, and biodiverse gardens. The Franklin Permaculture Garden, located on a quarter-acre plot adjacent to Franklin Dining Commons, is one of the first student-led permaculture gardens on a public university campus in the nation that supplies food directly to its campus dining services.

Nature of Work:
UMass Permaculture group began as a student-run initiative and continues to rely on student help. Because UMass Permaculture is very important to the dining halls and maintaining the environmentally friendly reputation that UMass has built, volunteers are necessary. Reach out to them and see what you can do to help if you are interested in great food and sustainability.

Volunteers in Northampton Schools
Website: https://www.facebook.com/VINSVolunteers
https://sites.google.com/site/northamptonvins/

Mission:
“Volunteers in Northampton Schools, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization, founded in 1981, whose mission is to provide volunteers in all of Northampton’s public schools. The purpose of volunteer involvement in the schools is to supplement and enrich the curriculum offerings at the direction of the professional staff. The volunteer participation
of parents and community members is widely recognized to be a significant factor in the quality of education.”

Nature of Work:
If you are interested in getting involved in education, or have any interest in helping others learn, this is a great avenue to take. Their facebook page keeps all of their volunteer opportunities up to date. For example, current volunteer opportunities are: 1-2 volunteers for after-school homework club from 3PM-4:30PM on Monday’s, 4-8 library volunteers (training included), 1-2 positive male role models to help with vocabulary and being a role model to a student, a mentor for a Kindergarten student, 1-5 volunteer translators to help the spanish speaking students, as well as a 1 long term volunteer to help with google website development, software development, and media outreach ideas.

Amherst Senior Center
Location: 70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA 01002
Phone: (413) 259-3060
Website: http://www.amherstma.gov/269/Senior-Center
Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mission Statement:
“Helping seniors help themselves stay healthy.”

Nature of Work:
The Amherst Senior Center is a hub of activity to ensure happy and healthy residents. Volunteers can get involved on a number of different levels. The center has health clinics, fitness classes, adult education classes, support groups, social recreation, and workshops. These varying groups contain a lot of activities and more detailed explanations can be found on their website. Volunteers can help where they fit in best whether it is in a leadership role, supporting role, or supervisonal, the seniors love having them around!

Berkshire Families and Children
Location: Hampshire County
220 Russell Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 343, Hadley, MA 01035
Phone: (413) 584-5690
Website: http://berkshirechildren.org/
Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Mission Statement:
“An enduring commitment to children and families.”

Nature of Work:
BCF has become more than an organization that simply helps individuals, and has become a large presence that has the ability to change entire communities. This is partly due to volunteers who can make an impact on a number of their programs. They help foster children be taken into care by loving families, and volunteers have a big role behind the scenes. There is a lot of office work that volunteers can help with to ensure that everything stays organized. BCF also has a lot of organizations/individuals to stay in touch with so if you have good communication skills, this is the place for you.

One program in Hadley which is “staffed” by volunteers is the Parent Aide Volunteer Effort. We train and supervise community volunteers to work with Hampshire County parents asking for support. We provide an 18 hour training twice a year; we are finishing our fall training next week. Volunteers commit to weekly visits with a family, usually for a full year. We look for mature individuals, who may or may not be parents. Women “match” with women, and men with men. A car is required.

However, if the above sounds intimidating for whatever reason, Berkshire Families and Children is also open to shorter-term volunteer opportunities in the same program. Volunteers would help us with a variety of administrative tasks.

Craig’s Doors
Location: 256 North Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01002-1729
Website: craigsdoors.org

Mission:
On one cold night, at the end of a difficult day, Craig expressed this wish to a staff member:

“Sometimes I just wish I had a door … a door I can close!”

This simple wish inspired us to establish Craig’s Doors.

…Everyone deserves a door of their own.

Nature of Work:
First of all there are three internship opportunities. The Craig’s Doors Internship will teach you all about the non-profit organization and what goes into running one, the Kitchen internship you’ll learn how to run a kitchen program, and in the Shelter internship, you will perform a variety of tasks around running a shelter. There are tons of opportunities to volunteer, all for a great cause. Please visit http://www.craigsdoors.org/volunteer/ to check out the different options. One very interesting opening for us is the opportunity to help people without resumes to build resumes. Due to our skills we’ve learned as business students, we can give back and help others on their own job searches.