

**Hurlburt Field
Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC)
1 SOFSS/FSH**

Volunteer Coordinator (VC) ~ Steven Rodrigues | Steven.Rodrigues.2@us.af.mil
220 Lukasik Ave., Bldg. 90213
Hurlburt Field, FL 32544 | 884-5441/6580

If you have any questions about the **15 February to 15 March Volunteer Opportunities**, please reach out to me at 850-884-6580 or Steven.Rodrigues.2@us.af.mil.

Suspense Date: 6 March “Call for Nominations” for Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony

Event Date: 19 April Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Event

There are New, Special Events, and Ongoing volunteer opportunities in this issue. Connect with the opportunity that resonates with you while keeping safety and health on the forefront of volunteerism ...Any Time, Any Place.

Volunteer Resource Program (VRP) Protocol:

- ❖ Identify volunteer opportunity(ies) you find appealing and contact Steven Rodrigues, Volunteer Coordinator (VC), to receive a Volunteer Registration Form for official program enrollment. Upon completion and return of the form your email address will be added to the VRP distribution list for you to begin receiving the volunteer newsletter directly.
- ❖ To stop receiving the newsletter, call or email the VC to unsubscribe.
- ❖ Two ways to use the VRP:
 - (1) Choose opportunity(ies) from the newsletter and contact the agency POC directly for details to volunteer.
 - (2) Be placed with an agency by the VC; call or email for assistance.
- ❖ To participate in featured volunteer opportunities, contact the agency/event POC beforehand to be included in the headcount and to ensure you receive accurate, up-to-date details.
- ❖ IF YOU REPRESENT OR ARE AWARE OF AN AGENCY IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS AND INTERESTED IN PARTNERING WITH OUR TEAM FOR SUPPORT, provide the VC’s contact information to the agency POC.

Thank you Community Commando Volunteers! Your support is essential to the success of Hurlburt Field’s VRP. The sharing of your time, talents and other resources are beneficial to the organizations/ individuals you assist, yourselves, and our community.

Additions / Updates / Removals: Please contact the VC with any questions/concerns you may have.

Volunteer Job Descriptions: A detailed volunteer job description of all ongoing events are outlined below!

NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

21st Musical Echoes Native American Flute and Art Festival

What	Security or trash collection
When	20 April through 23 April
Where	FWB Landing Park, 139 Brooks St. SE, FWB 32547
How	Vendors setup on Thurs. Festival hours are Fri & Sat from 10am until 9pm and Sun 10a – 5p. We have about 35 vendors selling Native American Flutes & Art. We have food vendors and musical from the stage the entire time.
Good to Know	Our mission is to educate people about the history of the Native Americans from our area, introduce them to the music and art. Teach them some of the traditions commonly practiced among Native Americans.
Why	We are a non-profit organization working very hard to produce this event once a year. Everyone involved is volunteering. We are stretched pretty thin and truly could use help in terms of security and trash removal.
Number of Volunteers	2 or more
Phone/Email/ Website	Tisha Maraj 850-685-4428 tmaraj@gmail.com or tmaraj@theislandfl.com www.musicalechoes.org

Hurlburt Field Youth Programs - Youth Sports

What	Head Coach or Assistant Coach
When	3 April through 20 May
Where	Youth Sports Fields behind lil' comando park, CDC Main, and CDC West
How	Youth Programs-Youth Sports provides sports and fitness programs to youth ages 3-12. Youth Sports and Fitness offer opportunities for sports, fitness, health and nutrition, outdoor recreation and motor skill development. Emphasis is placed on skill development, enjoyment and maximum participation. Sport is recreational in nature with emphasis on skill development and fun.
Good to Know	Coaches will have to get fingerprints and a background check completed at NAF HRO regardless of active-duty status or previously completed background check through the military. Coaches will be required to receive initial training and annual training according to Child and Youth Programs AFI requirements.
Why	Youth Sports is operational upon volunteers as coaches. Coaches do not need to be experts in the sport, but serve as a role-model and introduce youth to the fundamentals of sports.
Number of Volunteers	10-18 Volunteers
Phone/Email/ Website	Britt Carver 850-884-6355 britteny.carver.1@us.af.mil https://myhurlburt.com/pages/youthsports.html

36th Annual Sandestin Gumbo Festival

What	Event staffing, scanning, checking ID, serving, set up and clean up
When	25 February
Where	Village of Baytowne Wharf, 9300 Baytowne Blvd, Miramar Beach, FL
How	Event staffing, scanning, checking ID, serving, set up and clean up
Good to Know	Events like these, hosted by Community organizers provide donations to our Fisher House to care for our military families.
Why	We provide no cost temporary lodging to military and their families during a medical event through our comfort home on Eglin AFB. 91 Fisher Houses exist across the United States and Europe. Our home was 48, opened in October of 2010 and serves approximately 1,000 guests each year.
Number of Volunteers	Individuals or Groups, 25 People
Phone/Email/ Website	Mia Hughes 850-259-4956 director@fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org www.fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org CLICK VOLUNTEER

Pensacola Pensacon 2023

What	Celebrity Handler / Celebrity Line Handler
When	24-26 February
Where	Pensacola Bay Center
Good to Know	Military and civilian volunteers are welcomed! Military volunteers will receive a letter with credit hours on it from Pensacon Admins. This can be used toward EPRs.
Why	Pensacon strives to inspire a love of learning, increase literacy, promote diversity, and build community through the tools of popular culture and the power of self-expression. Pensacon is the premiere comic book and pop culture convention serving Pensacola and the Gulf Coast.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/ Website	Shannon Conyers volunteers@pensacon.com https://fb.jotform.com/220427376225150 https://pensacon.com/

Air Force Enlisted Village – Hawthorn House (HH)

Event	Date	Registration (Click Link for Event Details)
Hawthorn House Shopping Outing <u>Event Description</u> Assist residents with shopping & check-out	Tuesday, February 28, 2023	https://afev.volunteerhub.com/vv2/
Hawthorn Bingo Caller (Azalea) <u>Event Description</u> Assist with calling Bingo numbers, handing out cards, etc.	Thursday, February 23, 2023	https://afev.volunteerhub.com/vv2/
	Thursday, March 2, 2023	
	Monday, March 6, 2023	
	Thursday, March 9, 2023	
	Monday, March 13, 2023	
	Thursday, March 16, 2023	

Air Force Enlisted Village - Bob Hope Village (BHV)

Event	Date	Registration (Click Link for Event Details)
Special Events		
Food Truck Festival <u>Event Description</u> Volunteers will help set-up for food trucks.	Thursday, February 23, 2023	https://afev.volunteerhub.com/vv2/

ON-GOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Niceville Eagles Lacrosse Club

What	Volunteer Coaches - Boys & Girls Teams (K-8th Grade)
When	Spring Season - 17 January to 4 May
Where	Twin Oaks Athletic Complex in Niceville
How	Volunteer coaches need to register with US Lacrosse and complete Level 1 coaches training and a background check. NELC reimburses all volunteer coaches for these costs. The NELC has opportunities for coaching boys and girls from K-2, 3rd-4th, 5th-6th & 7th-8th grade.
Good to Know	Looking for those who have played lacrosse before, have experience coaching youth or those who have a love for the game and want to learn more.
Why	Lacrosse is a quickly growing sport, but there is a very limited number of people with prior lacrosse experience in the local area.
Number of Volunteers	Unlimited
Phone/Email/Website	Beth Marks 850-582-0878 bethmarks@ymail.com/ elizabeth.marks.ctr@us.af.mil https://www.nicevillelax.com

United Way Emerald Coast

What	ReadingPals
When	Monday through Friday 9am - 4pm
Where	Youth Village (644 Anchors St FWB) SouthSide Primary (650 S Pearl St Crestview) Edwins Elementary (7 Wright Pkwy SW FWB) Childrens Network (412 Government Ave ValP)
How	Volunteers will go into their assigned classroom and read to their assigned students once a week for 30 minutes.
Good to Know	We provide easy online training materials and pay for the required level 2 background screening
Why	43 % of Florida's students are not reading at their reading benchmark. This is a staggering statistic. By placing our ReadingPals mentors in the schools these students are able to get that extra direct attention they may not receive anywhere else. This program not only helps improve reading but also improves these students social and emotional intelligence.
Number of Volunteers	As Many As Possible
Phone/Email/Website	850-812-3387 briley@united-way.org https://www.united-way.org/

Habitat for Humanity - Habitat Restore

What	Process donations, Load/Unload items, etc.
When	Tuesday - Saturday, 9am-5pm
Where	- TWO LOCATIONS - - FWB ReStore, 39 SE Eglin Parkway Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 - Crestview ReStore, 595 N. Ferdon Blvd., Crestview, FL (next to KFC)
How	Duties consist of processing donations, displaying items for sale, assisting customers with purchases, loading and unloading items from the truck.
Good to Know	Proceeds from Okaloosa County ReStores support the work of Habitat for Humanity in Okaloosa County.
Why	Habitat envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live; we give a hand-up not a hand-out, to end poverty housing in Okaloosa County through affordable homeownership.
Number of Volunteers	Open
Phone/Email/Website	Jennifer Nelson PH: 850-685-0686 ext. 1 (FWB) Email: volunteer@habitatfwb.org Website: www.habitatfwb.org/volunteer

Habitat for Humanity - Okaloosa County

What	Home Construction
When	Monday - Thursday 8am – 12pm or 8am – 3pm, and Saturday 8am – 3pm
Where	Habitat Build Site locations in Okaloosa County (currently in Crestview); **exact location will be provided upon sign-up**
How	FOR INDIVIDUALS GO TO: www.habitatfwb.org/volunteer and sign up online FOR GROUPS (with 10+ members): email volunteer@habitatfwb.org or contact the admin office at 850-
Good to Know	Volunteers assist with general construction such as framing, painting, and insulating; no experience necessary. Volunteers are asked to wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get messy.
Why	Habitat for Humanity Okaloosa County is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions
Number of Volunteers	Up to 30 per day
Phone/Email/Website	Susan Coxwell PH: 850-315-0025 ext 3 Email: volunteer@habitatfwb.org Website: www.habitatfwb.org/volunteer

Fisher House of the Emerald Coast, Inc.

What	Fisher House meals for Families
When	Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
Where	Eglin Fisher House, 350 Boatner Road, Eglin Air Base, FL 32542
How	Post vaccination volunteers may cook onsite in the kitchen (great teambuilding with your Squadron).
Good to Know	For our military Squadrons/partners, we are happy to reimburse you (with receipts) or provide gift cards for the purchase of ingredients to cook. You supply the labor, the love, the secret family recipe, and the blessing for our families.
Why	Bring comfort through a yummy meal helping others feel good. Commit to challenge other Squadrons to match yours!
Number of Volunteers	Open
Phone/Email/Website	Mia Hughes PH: 850-259-4956 Email: director@fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org Website: www.fisherhouseemeraldcoast.org

Waterfront Thrift Store, Gulf Breeze

What	Store Volunteers
When	Monday – Saturday, 1:00pm – 6:00pm (2 hours minimum requested)
Where	4376 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561
How	Volunteers needed for intake donations, stocking, register sales, and donation processing.
Good to Know	Our store has been very short-handed since the COVID-19 pandemic began. We are in desperate need of help.
Why	The Waterfront Thrift Store provides shelter and meals for the homeless in Pensacola and AL, Waterfront also has a FREE 8-month program for those addressing the challenges of life-dominating issues. Healing and restoration are the goals of this Christ centered model that promotes self-sufficient, productive members of the community.
Number of Volunteers	1 – 6 daily
Phone/Email/Website	Cindy Persichini 850-932-7113 mcpersichini@waterfrontmission.org

S4P Synergy, Inc.

What	Pantry Assistants
When	Tuesdays, 10am –3 pm (grocery bag building) Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1pm – 4pm (food distribution; open to the public) 3rd Saturday of every month (USDA Food giveaway), 10am – 12pm
Where	24 Bass Avenue SW, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
How	S4P Synergy is recruiting to help with food S4P Synergy, Inc., food give-away
Good to Know	Masks are required; gloves will be provided.
Number of Volunteers	2 – 4; more if available.
Phone/Email/ Website	Marcus King PH: 850-362-6977 Email: s4psynergy@strivinghome.org www.strivinghome.org/s4p-synergy

Hospice for Heroes Volunteers

What	Regency Hospice Volunteer Program – Visits, Phone Calls, Errands, etc. with “Hospice for Heroes”
When	Whenever volunteers are available
Where	Regency Hospice, 11 Racetrack Road, Suite G, Fort Walton Beach, FL
How	Volunteers make phone calls, visit patients, run errands, and help with events. We ask volunteers for a minimum 4-hour monthly commitment.
Good to Know	Volunteers will receive training to be educated on the duties they will fulfill.
Why	The Mission Statement is to honor life and offer compassion to individuals and the families when facing a life-limiting illness
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible. “We can never have too many volunteers”
Phone/Email/ Website	Melody Payne PH: 850-974-9286 Email: mpayne@regencyhospice.com

Emerald Coast Hospice	
What	Patient Companion or Administrative Assistance
When	Ongoing – flexible days/times upon your availability
Where	Destin, Miramar Beach, FWB, Shalimar, Mary Esther, portions of Navarre (some in-home patients and some nursing facility patients).
How	Volunteers may provide companionship by visiting & sharing stories with patient, provide socialization by reading to, watching TV with, playing games/cards, listening to music, assisting with letter writing or life history, etc. Volunteers may also assist with administrative/clerical duties in office such as filing, answering phones,
Good to Know	Volunteers DO NOT provide “hands-on” care or administer medication to patients. Volunteers will be asked to complete application process & background check. All our volunteers receive training to help them feel comfortable with their assigned tasks. Even the smallest act of compassion can have a large impact
Why	Volunteers help ensure that every moment matters in the lives of the patients.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/Website	Shanda Wooten PH: 850-862-1069 Email: shanda.wooten@gentiva.com
VITAS Health Care	
What	Helpers needed to visit Residents & to create Memory Bears
When	Immediately!
Where	Escambia & Santa Rosa Counties
How	Volunteers needed to FaceTime and call residents for visits. Seamstresses are also needed to create memory bears for immediate delivery to local hospitals.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/Website	Marla Hecht PH: 850-777-5049 Email: marla.hecht@vitas.com Website: www.VITAS.com

Kindred Spirits Therapy Minis

What	Maintenance, Bookkeeping, Marketing, Crafts, etc.
When	Each 2nd Saturday Monthly (Weekday evening opportunities also available)
Where	Kindred Spirits Therapy Minis 5411 Hilton road N, Baker, FL 32531
How	Volunteers needed to add a pasture for the “boys,” do stall repairs, work, and maintenance to the barn. Evening help is needed to work with the minis and to be more involved in our mission.
Good to Know	The miniature horses and handler are Nationally Registered with Pet Partners. The handler is also globally certified with EAGALA.
Why	Our program provides a gentle distraction for people in hospice care, PTSD and TBI events, and displaced from natural disasters. We educate local students at Pensacola and Northwest Florida State colleges on the benefits of animal assisted activities and therapies.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible on weekends 2 to 3 daily during the week
Phone/Email/ Website	Nancy Lambert PH: 850-830-4199 Email: kindredspiritstherapyminis@gmail.com Website: www.kindredspiritstherapyminis.com

Healing Paws for Warriors

What	Provide rescue, shelter, and training to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) service dogs for veterans facing Post Traumatic Stress (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and/or Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
When	POC will provide specific times based on volunteer service area/section
Where	Varies based on event
Good to Know	Please bring own masks to training/events, if desired.
Number of Volunteers	Varies based on event
Phone/Email/ Website	Mike Arena PH: 850-716-8198 Email: info@healingpawsforwarriors.org Website: www.healingpawsforwarriors.org/volunteer

Air Force Enlisted Village

What	Computer Technician/ Geek Squad
When	Each Saturday – 9:00-12:00pm (Weekday opportunities also available)
Where	AF Enlisted Village, 30 Holly Avenue, Shalimar, FL 32579
How	Use Skills in computer maintenance/geek skills for fixing AF enlisted Village resident's computers on Saturdays. Tasks may include: fixing computers, software and hardware for AF Enlisted Village residents
Good to Know	This group deals with the same type of issues one might see in their home/work environment
Why	The iFalcon computer support team is an all-volunteer group of IT folks with a common goal, to provide FREE IT support to the residents of the Air Force Enlisted Village. iFalcon is continually seeking experienced and dedicated professionals with a range of IT skills.
Number of Volunteers	As coordinated by iFalcon Team Leaders.
Phone/Email/ Website	Mr. James Hawks PH: 850-884-5051 Email: james.hawks.4@us.af.mil Mr. Michael Burke PH: 850-882-7381 Email: michael.burke.3@us.af.mil

Hurlburt Field Natural Resources

What	Nature Trail Caretaker
When	Through the month of November Flexible hours per volunteer schedule
Where	Hurlburt Field/Grace Brown Nature Trail Hurlburt Field Soundside Club South lawn of the Soundside Club
How	Perform routine landscaping maintenance to 1.5 mile long Nature Trail such as weed-eating, pruning, sweeping or blowing off decks/boardwalks; identify and report damage needing repair
Good to Know	24–48 hours advanced notice is required in order for 1 SOCES/CEIE to request equipment (weed-eaters, pruners, etc) from Heavy Equipment shop. Volunteers will need to pick up equipment at Bldg. 90053 and receive additional instructions for work
Why	This regular event will maintain a safe, beautiful and inviting recreational and educational venue supporting retired and active duty military personnel and families
Number of Volunteers	2-8 Volunteers
Phone/Email/ Website	Lorraine Ketzler PH: 850-884-7916 Email: lorraine.ketzler@us.af.mil Address: 415 Independence Road, Bldg. 90053

Seacrest Wolf Preserve

What	Various Projects (Helpers for Rebuilding Habitat Fencing, Storm Clean-Up, Covering Ground Fencing, Assisting with Saturday Wolf Encounter Tour, and Feed up of Wolves and Small Wild Species)
When	Everyday but Sunday, beginning at 9am
Where	Seacrest Wolf Preserve, 3449 Bonnett Pond Road, Chipley, FL
How	Assist with large Saturday group tours and daily projects to provide a safe, humane habitat for the wolves, while protecting the visitors on tours.
Good to Know	When work projects are completed, military volunteers are always provided with an inspiring hands-on opportunity with our wonderful Wolf Ambassadors. During this opportunity, military volunteers are able to take photos of themselves with the wolves.
Why	Seacrest Wolf Preserve is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preservation through education. Seacrest is the largest wolf preserve in the lower 48 states and is largely run by volunteer effort.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible -- Individuals or Groups
Phone/Email/ Website	Cynthia Watkins PH: 850-773-2897 Email: seacrestwolfpack@yahoo.com Website: www.seacrestwolfpreserve.org

Okaloosa Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Program

What	Male Veteran Mentors Needed!
When	As needed per court hearings
Where	Fort Walton Beach Court House
How	The mentor acts as a supportive role model for the veteran participants as they progress through the court process; mentors NEVER take on the role of counselors
Good to Know	The vision of the Mentor Program is to "Leave No Veteran Behind." Need to commit to the program for a minimum of 12 months. Volunteers must be a US Military Veteran. An application must be completed
Why	The mission of this program is to ensure that every Veteran receives the assistance and services needed, including being able to adequately navigate the court system, Veteran Affairs system and other community systems.
Number of Volunteers	Open
Phone/Email/ Website	Dan Friedsberg PH: 850-244-1040 Email: dan@mhaow.org

Pet Welfare Animal Shelter (Eglin AFB)

What	Administrative and Animal support
When	Office: Mon-Sat, 9am-1pm; Cat/Dog: Mon-Sat, 7:30am-9:30am; Cat/Dog: Mon-Sat, 4:30pm-6:30pm
Where	683 Range Road, Eglin AFB, FL 32542
How	Volunteers answer phones, take messages, feed animals, administer meds, walk dogs, clean, and love pets.
Good to Know	A 501(c)(3) non-Profit, no-kill, all volunteer animal shelter
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/ Website	Mary Fimiani PH: 850-376-7254 Email: mrsjimfim@aol.com

Panhandle Animal Welfare Society (PAWS)

What	Animal Shelter that provides pet adoption, animal control, and veterinary services
When	Varies
Where	752 Lovejoy Road, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
Why	Various volunteer positions: Volunteers are needed to exercise dogs, bathe puppies and kittens, groom the animals, collect towels & blankets for animals, cut & sew blankets, volunteer at the shelter, work on the website, help with fundraising and special events, serve on a committee, or work the thrift shop
Good to Know	Must complete an application and attend a Volunteer Orientation https://app.betterimpact.com/Application?OrganizationGuid=3e21a0bb-7796-42e9-b937-be05ddce3404&ApplicationFormNumber=1
Number of Volunteers	Open
Phone/Email/ Website	Volunteer Coordinator PH: 850-243-1525

Covenant Care

What	Multiple Ongoing Volunteer Events Available
When	Ongoing
Where	5041 North 12th Avenue, Pensacola, FL. 32504
Good to Know	Healthcare organization: Home Health, Hospice, Palliative, Memory Care, Bereavement, Children Bereavement, Veteran Programs.
Number of Volunteers	As Many As Possible
Phone/Email/ Website	Lina Berry 850-433-2155 lina.berry@choosecovenant.org www.choosecovenant.org

Air Force Armament Museum	
What	Restoration, Archival, Tour Guide, or Front Desk Greeter
When	Ongoing
Where	100 Museum Drive, Eglin AFB 32542
Good to Know	The Air Force Armament Museum is the only museum in the world dedicated to the collection, preservation and exhibition of artifacts and memorabilia associated with Air Force Armament and its platforms of delivery.
Number of Volunteers	As Many As Possible
Phone/Email/Website	TSgt Bridgetta Prince / Mr. Jonathan Holmes 850-882-4152 / 850-882-4152 bridgetta.prince@us.af.mil / jonathan.holmes.9@us.af.mil www.choosecovenant.org

Air Force Armament Museum	
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When	Ongoing
Where	100 Museum Drive, Eglin AFB 32542
Good to Know	The Air Force Armament Museum is the only museum in the world dedicated to the collection, preservation and exhibition of artifacts and memorabilia associated with Air Force Armament and its platforms of delivery.
Number of Volunteers	As Many As Possible
Phone/Email/Website	TSgt Bridgetta Prince / Mr. Jonathan Holmes 850-882-4152 / 850-882-4152 bridgetta.prince@us.af.mil / jonathan.holmes.9@us.af.mil www.choosecovenant.org