

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 October to 15 November Volunteer Opportunities**, please reach out to me at 850-884-6580 or Steven.Rodrigues.2@us.af.mil.

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!

Air Force Enlisted Village – Hawthorn House (HH)

Event	Date	Registration (Click Link for Event Details)
Hawthorn Bingo Caller (Azalea) Event Description Assist with calling Bingo numbers, handing out cards, etc.	Monday, October 23, 2023	https://afev.volunteerhub.com/vv2/
	Thursday, October 26, 2023	
	Monday, October 30, 2023	
	Thursday, November 2, 2023	
	Monday, November 6, 2023	
	Thursday, November 9, 2023	
	Monday, November 13, 2023	
	Thursday, November 16, 2023	

Air Force Enlisted Village - Bob Hope Village (BHV)

Event	Date	Registration (Click Link for Event Details)
Special Events		
BHV Fall Festival Event Description Fall celebration for residents with chili cook-off, bake-off, Halloween costumes, games, crafts, etc.	Friday, October 27, 2023	https://afev.volunteerhub.com/vv2/

ON-GOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 850-315-0025
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	General Volunteer, Event Staffing, or Dog Fostering
When	POC will provide specific times based on event
Where	Varies based on event
Good to Know	Healing Paws for Warriors is a local veteran found / veteran led non-profit that provides rescued to trained service dogs to combat veterans faced with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and/or Military Sexual Trauma (MST) at no cost to the veteran with continued support; reducing the statistic of veteran suicide, increasing self and family health and wellness.
Why	We are a volunteer ran organization, bringing awareness to veteran suicide; reducing the numbers one dog at a time.
Number of Volunteers	Varies based on event
Phone/Email/ Website	Samantha Hay PH: 850-716-8198 Email: info@healingpawsforwarriors.org Website: www.healingpawsforwarriors.org

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: 850-686-9093 Email: james.hawks.5.ctr@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. Brian Olmstead 850-882-4152 / 850-882-4152 bridgetta.prince@us.af.mil / brian.olmstead@us.af.mil

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida	
What	Mentor
When	Ongoing
Where	112 Tupelo Ave SE Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
Good to Know	<p>1. Our Community-Based Mentoring program allows you to see your little 2-4 times a month outside of school and in the community. The list of activities you and your Little can engage in are endless as long as they are parent approved, age-appropriate and safe (i.e., beach activities, fishing, hiking, picnics, visiting a museum or the library, dinner, arts/crafts, etc.).</p> <p>2. Our School-Based Mentoring program allows volunteers to meet with a child one hour/week at the child's school. This program requires you to see the child when school is in session, so you only visit the child during the regular school year (summers off).</p>
Number of Volunteers	As Many As Possible
Phone/Email/Website	<p>Katie Thompson 850-664-5437 / 850-565-9584 (Cell) kthompson@bbbsnwfl.org www.Bbbsnwfl.org</p>
Florida One DMAT Inc.	
What	Moving Office Furniture
When	Monday - Thursday 0800-1600
Where	755 Lovejoy Road, Ft. Walton Beach, FL
How	2 Wheel dolly available for moving desks
Good to Know	We are a non profit agency that responds to disasters, offers training for healthcare and emergency response to over 600 agencies in 10 counties
Why	We had office furniture donated – its in the warehouse and needs to come to the office
Number of Volunteers	4 Volunteers
Phone/Email/Website	<p>Ann Hill 850-585-1679 annfl1dmat@gmail.com www.floridaone.net</p>

Pyramid, Inc.	
What	Day Program for Special Needs Adults
When	Monday - Friday 0900-1500
Where	432 Green Acres Rd, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547
Good to Know	Pyramid is a day program for adults with developmental disabilities. We focus on visual and performing arts to help each student reach their individual goals. We strive to discover the talents and interests of each person and to provide the opportunity to pursue their own dreams.
Why	Volunteers will assist staff in helping students reach their individual goals in visual arts, music, and community outings. Volunteers are also welcome to help by reading, socializing, and doing puzzles with the students.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/Website	Carrie Lawrence 850-862-7139 clawrence@pyramidinc.org https://www.pyramidinc.org
Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge	
What	Habitat Maintenance/ Grounds
When	Ongoing
Where	3051 Cloptons Circle Navarre, FL 32566
Why	Rehabilitation of Florida Native Wildlife that are injured, sick or orphaned.
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/Website	Pascal Robin 337-298-2741 director@emeraldcoastwildliferefuge.org https://www.emeraldcoastwildliferefuge.org
Pet Welfare (Eglin AFB)	
What	Volunteers Needed for Cat/Dog Care Shifts and Office Staffing for Local On-Base No-Kill Animal Shelter.
When	Ongoing
Where	683 Range Road, Eglin AFB, FL 32542
Good to Know	Cat/Dog Care: 0700-0900 and 1600-1800 (7 days a week) Office: 0900-1300 (Monday through Saturday) Interested individuals are asked to fill out a volunteer application and bring it by the shelter or email it to us at: https://petwelfare.net/volunteer.html
Why	As an all-volunteer organization we rely on our local (mostly military-affiliated) community for volunteers. PCS, deployments and job duties mean our pool of great people rotate/move away, so we are constantly in need of animal loving volunteers (with base access). We invite Active-Duty personnel, DoD civilians, Contractors, Spouses, Retirees, and Dependents (age 16 or older) to check out our shelter and see if volunteering with Pet Welfare is right for them!
Number of Volunteers	As many as possible
Phone/Email/Website	Valerie Smith / Main Shelter 305-906-0573 / 850-678-5066 valerie.smith.12@us.af.mil / petwelfare@embarqmail.com