

## City Gospel Mission

### Frequently Asked Questions – FAQ's about Volunteering

#### 1. How can I get involved?

The first step is to complete a volunteer application. You can access applications on our website at [www.citygospelmission.org/volunteer](http://www.citygospelmission.org/volunteer). There is an application for the adult programs, and a different application for the youth programs. The applications will guide you in thinking about what you want to do, as well as tell us your availability.

#### 2. What kinds of things do volunteers do?

Our volunteer opportunities vary, depending on your interests, passion, and how much time you are able to give. Tutor an at-risk child after school, teach a class or workshop to men in our shelter, organize a toy drive for the Christmas Store, volunteer at a special event, assist with serving breakfast to our homeless shelter guests, or teach at-risk kids how to ride horses, just to name a few. Take some time to explore the different programs we offer, our volunteer opportunities are updated quarterly.

#### 3. How can I sign up my youth group or other type of group to serve or do a project?

Complete the online **group volunteer application**. Please provide as much information as possible, including number of adult/youth in the group, ages of youth, specific dates, etc. We do receive a lot of requests for group activities, and we will do our best to help place groups in a place where they can help. In general, one-time groups should be at least high-school age, with an adult leader for every 8 youth.

One way groups can really be of help is by holding a “drive” to help raise needed items and awareness for City Gospel Mission (i.e.: canned goods, toiletries, food for the Thanksgiving Exchange, new toys for the Christmas Store).

#### 4. Can I serve a meal?

Individuals or small groups can sign up to help serve breakfast in our men's shelter on weekdays. Our emphasis is really more on developing relationships rather than just serving a meal. We partner with churches and groups who prepare and serve the meal for dinner on a monthly basis, as well as provide fellowship for our guests.

On the first Monday and third Wednesday of the month, interested volunteers can sign up for “Engage”, where they will take a tour, learn about our programs, and sit and eat dinner with our shelter guests.

#### 5. How old do I have to be?

You must be 18 to volunteer by yourself at the Mission, and at least 16 and accompanied by an adult in The Outlet (Saturdays) if you're under 18. The minimum age for tutoring a child through Whiz Kids is 16, and you must be paired with an adult tutor if you are under 18. All mentors (for adults and youth) must be at least 21.

#### 6. How can I volunteer during the holidays?

We get a lot of volunteer requests during the holidays. The opportunities that we have will be posted on our website under the **Special Events and Holidays** volunteer section beginning in October. Sign up in online. One of the most helpful things that you or your group could do is to help the Christmas Store by having a drive for new toys, or the Thanksgiving Exchange by holding a drive for food in early to mid-November (contact us for more details).

For general information about volunteering, contact Robin at 513-345-1025 or [rwagner@citygospelmission.org](mailto:rwagner@citygospelmission.org). For specific information about volunteering at our homeless shelter or serving meals, contact Hannah at 513-345-1071 or [handerson@citygospelmission.org](mailto:handerson@citygospelmission.org).