

# TEN REASONS YOU SHOULD VOLUNTEER



**1. DEVELOP TRANSFERABLE SKILLS** Employers are looking for skills that are easily transferred to different areas, like teamwork, interpersonal communication, public speaking, time management, leadership, organisation, analysis, computer skills, problem solving and creative thinking. Plus, learning to be dependable and responsible will prepare you to be a good employee.

**2. BUILD YOUR CV** If you've never had a job, then volunteering is a perfect way to add work-related experience to your CV. Even if you have had multiple jobs, volunteering can benefit you because it shows the employer you are serious about getting involved and improving your skills.

**3. NETWORKING** Having contacts in the business world may lead to jobs. Interacting with different people in a volunteer setting could open doors for you as an applicant.

**4. LEARN THINGS YOU CAN'T LEARN IN THE CLASSROOM** Be exposed to different parts of the community, different cultures, beliefs and values. Learning about new things can shape a path. Plus, you will be able to see how things you are learning in the classroom apply to the real world.

**5. MAKE NEW FRIENDS** Who wouldn't want another opportunity to make more friends? You may see the same people every day at school, university or college, but volunteering will expose you to a different crowd, most likely with similar interests.

**6. GET A REFERENCE** Getting that first job can be difficult, especially without work experience. Employers always check references and having someone else who can speak about your work ethic and abilities can be valuable. Make sure you treat any volunteer opportunity like a job by being on time, asking for time off and providing ample notice when you decide to leave.

**7. EXPLORE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES** It's hard to know what you want to do with your life by reading a job profile. There are many assessments and tools to help in this process but volunteering can be just as effective. You will see first-hand what professionals in various fields do. You may have an eye-opening experience that gives your life a different direction.

**8. DO SOME GOOD** Volunteering allows you to get involved with a worthy cause and potentially change lives and make a difference. You will learn to have empathy and to see the world from a different perspective.

**9. VOLUNTEERING ISN'T A FULL-TIME COMMITMENT** Volunteer hours can be minimal. Part-time on weekends or during the week will still help you accomplish your volunteer goals. Most volunteer commitments allow you time to still be heavily involved at school, university or college or to work part-time.

**10. YOU WILL ENJOY IT!** It feels good to help other people and know you are making a difference in the fight against cancer. Volunteering can be a fun way to get involved in great programmes that help your fellow community members.