

10 Hudson Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Tel: 410.349.5056 www.AnnapolisLightHouse.org

FAQS FOR STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

What is Student Volunteer Service? Student Volunteer Service is non-compensated work that is done with the purpose to help and benefit the community or area where the students live. At The Light House, we strive to provide students with volunteer opportunities that are both enriching and educational.

Why is Student Volunteer Service important? Student Volunteer Service is incredibly important to our community! Students have the opportunity to learn about ways they can support the community in which they live. At The Light House, student volunteers help to provide important support and assistance through a variety of off-site opportunities.

How do I become a Student Volunteer? On-site Student Volunteer: The minimum age for student volunteers is 11 and all those under 18, are required to be accompanied by a parent or guardian who has completed the volunteer application process in order to volunteer onsite. The process includes completing a volunteer application, submitting a background check and attending a volunteer orientation (which is held at The Light House) which students are encouraged to attend.

Off-site Student Volunteer opportunities do not require the Volunteer Application Process to be completed by a parent or guardian and there is no minimum age requirement to participate. Parent or guardian permission to participate in off-site opportunities should be obtained and please refer to the website for off-site opportunities that require a sign-up.

How do Student Volunteers assist at The Light House? At this time, all student volunteer opportunities are off site opportunities and include providing UNBagged Lunches, In-Kind donation Drives, various Kits collections, Meal Services, along with a variety of other opportunities. Check out the "10 Ways for Students for students and families to help The Light House" if you are interested in learning more about how many service hours you can earn with these opportunities.

What is the Student Impact Reflection Form? This is a short answer form that we require all student volunteers, both on-site and off-site, to complete in order to receive service hour verification. This provides the student an opportunity to share what they have learned about our Light House community, our programs and how the student's service impacts the community we serve. Students should plan to fill this form out after completion of their service. Visit www.annapolislighthouse.org/SIRF to view or complete the form.

How do I get my Service Hours Verified?

All students requesting service hour verification, need to complete the following steps:

- 1. Connect with the Volunteer Office about how you would like to volunteer.
- 2. Sign-up via the online sign-ups (must be done by a parent or guardian if under 18) or confirm your volunteering with the Volunteer Office.
- 3. Complete your Volunteer Service. *If volunteering as a student group, hours are divided among students.
- 4. Complete the Student Impact Reflection Form and turn in. (www.annapolislighthouse.org/SIRF)
- 5. Request Signature approval from the Volunteer Office or request Service Hour Acknowledgement Letter

Our Volunteer Programs Administrator is Sarah Ryan. Please reach out to the Volunteer Office, volunteers@annapolislighthouse.org with any questions or ideas about volunteering.



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10 Ways for Students and Families to Help The Light House

- Make UNBagged lunches using the <u>criteria on our website</u> and drop them off at The Light House to be distributed to our clients throughout the day. Be sure to <u>sign-up</u> to participate!
 2 Hours for every 25 lunches.
- 2. Organize a non-perishable donation drive in your community and bring the items to The Light House following our donation drop-off guidelines. Connect with our Pantry Coordinator to receive instructions, a flyer and donation drop-off guidelines by contacting pantry@annapolislighthouse.org.

 Must provide detailed outline of work; max 8 hours per drive.
- 3. Organize Summer Wellness kits for The Light House that include travel-sized sunscreen, travel-sized bug spray, chapstick, sting relief stick or wipes, and personal wipes (no water required) all placed in individual ziploc bags for distribution through our Safe Harbour Resource Center.

 2 Hours for every 25 kits.
- 4. Organize Housewarming Kits for those transitioning from out of The Light House. These kits include items for the kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, cleaning supplies and miscellaneous items.

 2 Hours for every category kit, max 8 hours for a Complete Kit (all 5 categories)
- 5. Donate a week's allowance to help The Light House with everyday expenses.
- 6. Raise funds by organizing a peer-to-peer fundraising campaign via www.justgiving.com/campaign/lighthousehope
- 7. Organize a Personal Care Drive for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. Connect with our Volunteer Department to receive instructions and donation drop-off guidelines by contacting volunteers@annapolislighthouse.org. Must provide detailed outline of work; max 8 hours per drive.
- 8. For your next birthday, ask guests to provide a donation to The Light House (non-perishable food items, gift cards, full-sized toiletries, etc.) instead of a gift.
- 9. Paint and create Rocks of Hope and Kindness. These <u>palm</u> sized rocks are painted with bright colors and include inspirational words or messages for our residents and clients to read or to take to carry with them. Please maximum 10 rocks per child or family. **2 Hours per 10 rocks**.
- 10. Spread the word and educate others on how or why you help The Light House and the homeless community. Our website has lots of great information about our programs and how we serve our community!