



CONNECTIONS VOLUNTEER CENTER

2024-2025
SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

ABOUT CONNECTIONS



Connections Volunteer Center, a program of HelpLine, bridges the gap between passionate volunteers and community needs. Connections recruits, refers and matches volunteers to nonprofits and assists older adults ages 55+ to lead healthy, supported lives.

Volunteering offers several mental and physical health benefits, especially for older adults ages 55+. By spending time in service to others, volunteers gain a sense of purpose and experience lower rates of depression, isolation and loneliness which has a stress-reducing effect.

Connections' core services are funded by SourcePoint and Delaware-Morrow Mental Health & Recovery Services Board.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

- Recruit, refer and match volunteers to meet community needs, with an emphasis on those age 55+ using Get Connected.
- Coordinate county-wide annual day of service.
- Provide volunteer projects to local 55+ living communities.
- Design and deliver intergenerational programming.
- Provide opportunities for personal and professional growth and development.

MILESTONES

- Partnered with 60+ nonprofits throughout Delaware County to host results-driven service and special event support.
- Matched 20,000 volunteers to meaningful service opportunities and causes since 1996.
- Earned national awards in 2015 and 2018 for Make A Difference Delaware County (formerly Make A Difference Day) by then sponsors USA Today and Tegna.
- Trained an average of 250 social workers, clinicians, counselors, and community members each year.
- Invested \$8 million into the Delaware County community.

CONNECTIONS IS COMMUNITY



MAKE A DIFFERENCE DELAWARE COUNTY

Make A Difference Delaware County (MDDC) is the single largest day of volunteering in Delaware County. Since 2007, hundreds of volunteers of all ages come together each fall to do good. Volunteers help with outdoor chores at the homes of older adults and assist nonprofit organizations with a variety of tasks including raking leaves, cleaning and more.

This event received national awards in 2015 and 2018, recognizing our excellence in volunteerism, and is typically held on the second Saturday in November. Sponsorships help with the volunteer lunch, t-shirts and provide supplies needed to complete projects.

499

VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED

\$35,655

**VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS
TO DELAWARE COUNTY**

94

**HOMES OF OLDER ADULTS THAT
RECEIVED VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

CONNECTIONS IS INTERGENERATIONAL



SAGES & SEEKERS

Sages & Seekers is an eight-week intergenerational program that strives to develop empathy and diminish ageism through in-person conversations. Sages, older adult volunteers, are matched one-on-one with Seekers, high school students. Older adults serve as mentors and benefit from this relationship by sharing their wisdom, memories and a non-biased listening ear while increasing their connection to the community.

Other benefits include reduced feelings of loneliness and reduced isolation. Youth learn valuable life skills including empathy, interviewing, listening, writing, and public speaking. At the end of the program, the Sage is presented with a tribute written by their Seeker. Sponsorships will pay for staff time, supplies and other program-related expenses.

1

PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT

43

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING OLDER ADULTS 55+ (SAGES)

49

NUMBER OF HIGH STUDENTS SERVED (SEEKERS)

CONNECTIONS IS FELLOWSHIP



VOLUNTEER HAPPY HOURS

Volunteer Happy Hours are hosted at 55+ living communities as a way to introduce and encourage volunteerism and connect those who may have physical or transportation barriers. Volunteer Happy Hours aim to increase physical activity as well as reduce feelings of loneliness, sadness, and/or isolation along with giving participants a sense of purpose.

Connections provide a volunteer project, refreshments, and door prizes for the residents. Sponsorships will help with supplies for volunteer projects and food for participants to bring value and fun to a resident's day.

6

NUMBER OF LOW-INCOME 55+ APARTMENT COMMUNITIES SERVED

14

NUMBER OF HAPPY HOURS OFFERED WITH PROJECTS BENEFITING EIGHT NONPROFITS

CONNECTIONS IS
FRIENDSHIP



SENIOR COMPANIONS

The Senior Companion Program links older adults living independently, many of whom are lonely and/or isolated, with a companion who provides friendship, social engagement and help with errands. Socialization helps combat loneliness and boosts mental health by improving cognitive skills and overall well-being.

Senior Companion volunteers provide weekly visits to their peers to spend time helping and restoring hope. This program is managed in partnership with Catholic Social Services. Sponsorships will help with mileage reimbursement, volunteer meetings and recognition

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**NUMBER OF SENIOR
COMPANIONS**

32

**NUMBER OF LOCAL OLDER
ADULTS WHO BENEFIT FROM
SERVICES**

705

**TOTAL NUMBER OF HOME
VISITS**

CONNECTIONS IS GIVING BACK



GET CONNECTED

Launched in June 2021, Get Connected is a community-wide volunteer platform making it easy for volunteers to connect with local needs. Studies show that connecting to your community gives volunteers a sense of purpose along with reducing anxiety and depression. The platform is free to nonprofits. Nonprofits post local needs and track hours for their agency.

Community members can create an account and track hours, receive notifications of new volunteer opportunities and view their volunteer profile showing the impact they have made through giving back. Sponsorships help fund the cost of the platform and staff time to maintain it.

51

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES USING
THE PLATFORM**

1,996

**NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER
RESPONSES TO POSTED NEEDS**

10,423

**TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS
RECORDED SINCE JUNE 2023**

CONNECTIONS IS
LIFELONG LEARNING



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

Connections coordinates professional development and in-person training that keeps knowledge and skills current as technology, policies and laws evolve. Courses provide insight into developing trends with expert trainers who will position you for career growth and success. All training offers continuing education units (CEUs) for counselors and social workers, approved through the Counselor, Social Worker and Marriage and Family Therapist Board (CSWMFT).

Sponsorships will help with securing high-caliber training facilitators, training materials and supplies, marketing and facilities costs.

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**AVERAGE NUMBER OF
TRAINING COURSES
HELD ANNUALLY**

197

**NUMBER OF COUNSELORS,
SOCIAL WORKERS &
PROFESSIONALS WHO
ARE TRAINED**

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



Sponsorship Level

	FRIEND	DIFFERENCE MAKER	HERO	STAR	CHAMPION
	\$250	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$5,000
Logo on table tents (MDDC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on Connections/MDDC annual t-shirt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Press release mention		✓	✓	✓	✓
Marketing materials at events		✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on event and program flyers		✓	✓	✓	✓
E-newsletter mention		✓	✓	✓	✓
Speaking opportunity at MDDC luncheon			✓	✓	✓
Connections mention in annual report				✓	✓
Media mention (radio/tv)					✓
Connections home page slider				1	2
Social media mention		1	3	6	12

CONTACT US

Thank you for previewing the benefits of sponsorship with Connections Volunteer Center, a program of HelpLine. Please note that 100% of your sponsorship will directly benefit those we serve.

Funding the currency of kindness, means you build on 25 years of progress in mobilizing volunteers from all walks of life and connecting them to caring for older adults, causes that support our most vulnerable community members and county-wide crisis situations where empathy and support are in high demand. When you invest in us, you commit to empowering lives.

Sponsor Connections by visiting, ConnectionsVolunteerCenter.org/donate or mail a check to Connections Volunteer Center.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR & SENIOR COMPANION SITE MANAGER

39 W. Winter Street
Delaware, OH 43015

740.363.5000, ext. 301
spingry@helplinedelmor.org