

Registered Volunteer Application & Process

- General review of volunteer evaluations of service to the facility;
- Training as required by the direct supervisor of the volunteer/program; and,
- Other pertinent information

Failure to attend in-service training shall result in the volunteer being denied access to the facility until the training is completed, dismissal of the volunteer, and/or termination of the volunteer group program.

Application should be sent to the facility at which the volunteer wishes to apply. Prospective volunteers will be interviewed and, as eligible and consistent with the needs of the facility and interest of the volunteer, assigned a position.

Adherence to departmental and facility policies and procedures is required.

Volunteer Training

Volunteers will be required to attend training consistent with their job assignment. This will require from 2 hours for those with minimal participant contact, up to 10 hours for persons who are teaching curriculum, leading small groups or mentoring.

Re-entry Assistance with:

- Housing
- Family Reintegration
- Employment
- Transportation

Suggestions for Donations:

- Religious reference books
- Arts, crafts, materials, and supplies
- 3" three-ring binders
- Used greeting cards
- Games and puzzles

Eligibility Requirements:

The coordinator shall inform all prospective community resource volunteers of the eligibility requirements prior to being approved for service. These requirements shall be reviewed with volunteers as often as deemed necessary.

Criteria for service in a volunteer capacity include:

- At least 18 years of age;
- Not under department supervision or the supervision of any other correctional system or program, or on probation;
- Not a relative of an offender in the same facility where volunteering;
- Provision of references on request;
- Maturity and ability to handle volunteer responsibilities;
- Willingness to accept supervision and direction;
- Willingness to provide an identified and approved service;
- Ability to complement the work of staff;
- Agreement to work without compensation;
- Ability to accept differences in people, namely culture, race, religion and values;
- Willingness to undergo a criminal history check (NCIC) if required by the facility;
- Subject to the approval of the facility head/designee; and,
- Have a recent TB (Tuberculosis) test.

PLUS Participant Volunteer Information

Why Volunteer?

Indiana PLUS



An Indiana Faith and Character Based Re-entry Initiative

Compassion
Generosity
Honor
Justice
Self-control
Tolerance
Truthfulness
Respect
Integrity
Accountability
Responsibility
Golden Rule

Indiana
Purposeful
Living
Units
Serve

Place
Stamp
Here

Indiana Department of Correction
Attn: Director of Religious Services/Community Involvement
Indiana Government Center South - E329
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

The Department of Correction is aggressively seeking new ways to empower offenders with the necessary tools to become more productive members of society upon re-entry. Given this task, I am excited to announce three pilot dormitory openings of the **Indiana Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS)** program. PLUS is a faith and character-based re-entry initiative. These programs will be implemented at Correctional Industrial Facility, Indiana Women's Prison and the Plainfield Juvenile Correctional Facility this summer.

The Importance of Volunteering

The PLUS Program will require a group of volunteers from a variety of faith and denominational backgrounds. The volunteers' role is to provide the PLUS participant a resource where personal growth issues are explored through the concepts of faith and character-based teachings. This source of encouragement and constructive direction is more consistent with the goal of rehabilitation. It allows the PLUS participant to address issues that need attention before the PLUS participant returns to society, and it allows this to happen with a person who has a track record of success in the free society.



J. David Donahue
Commissioner

Goals of the Volunteer Program

If the PLUS participant has a preference of faith, the Department will attempt to match the participant with a volunteer of the same faith. The PLUS volunteer establishes a dialogue with the participant by coming to the facility on a regular basis. The job of the volunteer is to challenge the participant to go beyond surface issues and into the personal issues that demand attention. The only way to do this is for the participant to become vulnerable and accountable to the volunteer. The PLUS volunteer program is effective only when the participant learns to trust the volunteer.

Purposeful Living Units

Purposeful Living Program Units provide an opportunity for offenders to explore and choose alternatives to criminal thinking and behavior through an emphasis on spiritual, moral and character development, life-skills training, and intentional preparation for living as law-abiding citizens who contribute to the well-being of their community.

What do the faith-based activities include?

This component will prepare each participant for the challenges and opportunities for re-entry by tapping into the sacred writings, teachings and values of their own religion in community with others seeking a transformational experience.

What do the character-based activities include?

This component will prepare each participant for the challenges and opportunities for re-entry by learning and integrating the values of honesty, respect, tolerance, responsibility, and compassion in community with others seeking a transformational experience.

Why provide volunteer and community programming?

- 98% of offender's, sentenced to the Department of Correction, will return to their respective communities.
- Volunteer and community resources have an inherent connection to the offender.
- Community involvement sends a message to the offender that the community has a vested interest in their success.

PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) Program Core Curriculum Components

- Developing a Purposeful Life Plan
- Motivation
- Peer Support
- Personal Responsibility
- Employment Skills and Vocations
- Drug Addiction and Alcoholism Treatment
- Responsibility to Right the Wrong (to victims, family, community, self)
- The Role of Spirituality and Faith in Life
- Transformational Thinking
- Healthy Relationships: Family, Marriage, Parenting, Community
- Responsible Citizenship
- Basic Life Skills
- Respecting the Religious Beliefs and Practices of Others
- Developing an Ethical/Moral Code
- Identifying and Contributing to a Healthy Community
- Spiritual, Character Development, and Growth
- Enhanced Substance Abuse Program (spiritual and secular)
- Community Service
- Anger Management

VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM

Church/Organization/Individual Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

County: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Time Preference(s) of Volunteering:

- Morning Evening
 Weekends Weekdays

Facility at which you are willing to volunteer:

- Correctional Industrial Facility
 Indiana Women's Prison
 Plainfield Juvenile Correctional Facility

Please check area(s) of interest:

- PLUS Core Curriculum presentation
 PLUS Small Group Facilitator
 Victim Impact/Education
 Community Service
 Mentor, Individual
 Mentoring Faith Community
 Mentoring Community Organization
 Arts/Cultural Programs
 Seminar Participation
 Spiritual Advisor (visitation)
 Employment Transportation
 Housing Donations
 Other

Please submit or apply on-line.



For more information, check us out at:
www.in.gov/indcorrection/