Volunteering benefits people of all ages, but can be especially beneficial to children. Studies have indicated that teenagers who volunteer are less likely to become pregnant or use drugs. In addition, in a review of 60 studies on child engagement, Child Trends found that children who participate in civic engagement programs are likely to be more involved in school, to graduate from high school and to hold more positive civic

attitudes than those who do not get involved in such programs.

Older students might feel compelled to volunteer to improve their post-secondary admissions applications, but parents can take steps to get their younger children excited at the prospect of volunteering.

Set a positive example. Moms and dads who volunteer may find ready and willing partners in their children. Parents can inform their children when they vol-

unteer and why they do so before bringing kids along to join them.

Don't forget fun. Kids might not find it too fun to sit next to their parents while mom and dad balance a soup kitchen's books, but a beach cleanup excursion or a trip to refurbish an inner city park may inspire kids to spend a lifetime giving back to their communities and helping the less fortunate.

: Keep it simple. Kids may not enjoy

volunteering activities that consume too much time or make them feel exhausted. As kids grow older, parents can encourage them to embrace more challenging activities and/or commit more time to volunteering.

Try and try again. It might take some trial and error before finding volunteer opportunities children enjoy. When volunteering with children for the first time, be careful not to commit to more than one day.



Maria Henein, a Grade 10 student at Jean Vanier Secondary School, was nominated last year for the Ontario Junior Citizen Awards for her many volunteer efforts in Milton.



The Oakville and Milton Humiane Society benefitted from PetValu's Halloween event.



Ellie Shim (left) and Rachel Wu, volunteer at the Canadian Federation of University Women Used Book Sale in support of scholarships for young women.





Madeleine Lillie, 11, and Hannah Goodwin, 15, (left) work at the craft table at the Coldest Night of the Year launch.

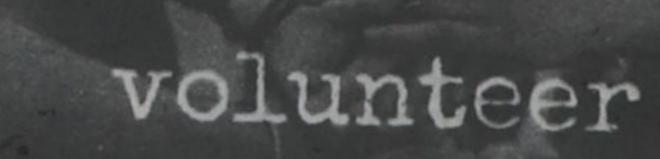
Thank You Halton Women's Place Volunteers!



For your dedication and time in keeping Halton Women's Place a Safe and Happy Place.

From All the Staff at Halton Women's Place

Investing in Keeping Women and Children Safe

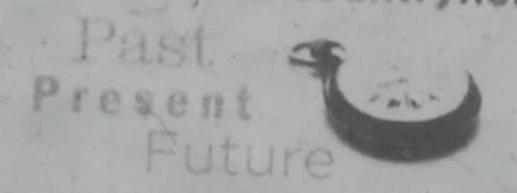


COUNTRY HERITAGE PARK

Volunteers are the lifeblood of organizations like Country Heritage Park. Without them, we are not able to offer our fellow residents an opportunity to experience our innovative food and farming experience spanning more than 150 years – a theme park to yesteryear. At Country Heritage Park, we are thankful for our volunteers – and are always encouraging others to get involved with us since our community is your community too.

Check our website for upcoming events.

WWW.countryheritagepark.com



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