



UNITED WAY
Southington

SOUTHINGTON BUSINESS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

Hands-On Volunteer Opportunities for Your Team
With United Way of Southington

Volunteering with United Way of Southington gives your team a direct way to make a meaningful impact in our local community.

This catalog features ready-to-go, hands-on volunteer projects your employees can complete together—whether at your workplace or another convenient location. Each project is designed to address a specific need in Southington, from supporting students and families to assisting seniors and individuals facing hardship.

Choose the experience that fits your team—we'll handle the rest.

Quick Facts

- Most projects take 60–90 minutes
- Designed for teams of approximately 5–25 employees
- Can be hosted at your workplace or a partner location
- All materials and setup are provided
- We coordinate everything from start to finish



WHY UNITED WAY OF SOUTHTON?

We make it easy for your business to turn employee engagement into real community impact.

We Know Local Needs

We work year-round with Southington nonprofits and service providers to identify where help is needed most—so your team's time makes a real difference.

We Design Meaningful Experiences

Each project is structured to be engaging, efficient, and purposeful—connecting your employees directly to the impact they're making.

We Handle the Details

From planning to materials to coordination, we manage the logistics so your team can focus on the experience.



Why Corporate Engagement Matters

- Today's workforce values purpose as much as productivity. Companies that provide meaningful volunteer opportunities see stronger employee engagement, improved morale, and better retention.
- Corporate volunteerism also strengthens community relationships and demonstrates leadership in the place where employees live and work.
- Through structured opportunities like these, businesses can make a measurable impact while building a stronger team culture.



How it Works

1. Browse the Projects

Review the volunteer opportunities in this catalog.

2. Choose Your Experience

Select the project that aligns with your team size, interests, and schedule.

3. We Coordinate the Details

We'll work with you to plan and deliver a seamless volunteer experience.

4. Your Team Makes an Impact

Complete your project and see the difference you've made in Southington.





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SOUTHINGTON CARES: TEAM VOLUNTEER KITS

In-person volunteer opportunities begin with a presentation led by United Way of Southington with a focus on teambuilding and educating participants. The presentations provide important context on the issue being addressed, share information about the specific beneficiaries, explain the impact that will be made, and provide detailed instructions for the volunteer activity.

In-person opportunities should be chosen based on the amount of space at a given location and the estimated number of employees who want to participate. Plan for delivery time, which could require up to 6 weeks for most projects.

All projects require a volunteering budget. Cost varies depending on materials, number of employees, length of project, and logistics.

Youth Opportunity

BACK TO SCHOOL KIT

Volunteers will assemble back to school kits with various supplies to help equip students with the resources they need to succeed throughout the school year. Kits typically include notebooks, pencils, pencil cases, pens, erasers, rulers, and a note of encouragement. Supplies will be distributed to partner schools and organizations that work with students living in underserved areas. Research shows that new school supplies give students confidence and helps to motivate them.

Price Per Kit: \$63

Number Needed: 45 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center) or ANY Southington Community Services

SNACK PACKS

Volunteers will prepare weekend snack packs for children who receive free breakfast and lunch during the school week, ensuring they have nutritious snacks for the weekend.

These packs typically include fruit, granola bars, crackers, a note of encouragement, and a decorated paper lunch bag.

Price Per Kit: \$12

Number Needed: ANY (Southington Community Services)

LITERACY KIT

Volunteers will unleash their creativity through arts and crafts to design themed props, games, or activities that make reading interactive and enjoyable. These crafts will accompany the book, helping to bring the story to life for the child. Volunteers will also write a note of encouragement to include in each kit.

Price Per Kit: \$54

Number Needed: 45 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING KIT

Volunteers will empower children with the tools they need to understand and manage their emotions, build positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Our Social Emotional Learning Kit is thoughtfully designed for educators, parents, and caregivers to foster emotional intelligence in young learners. Contents typically include sensory items, puzzles, and a note of encouragement.

Price Per Kit: \$48

Number Needed: 45 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center - HIGH NEED) or ANY (Southington Community Services)

TEACHER APPRECIATION KIT

Volunteers will assemble appreciation kits for teachers working in underserved schools. Kits typically include pens, a writing pad, stickers, band-aids, sanitizer, a note of encouragement and more. This project works well right before the new school year to provide support and encouragement to teachers as they begin their year.

Price Per Kit: \$30

Number Needed: 9 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

READING BUDDIES

Volunteers assemble Reading Buddies kits by pairing a small stuffed animal with an age-appropriate book, a reading log, and a bookmark for underserved preschool and elementary-aged children. Each kit also includes a "Read Together" prompt card with

simple questions to support comprehension and caregiver engagement, along with stickers to encourage ongoing reading habits. These kits promote early literacy by helping children build reading skills, routine, and a positive connection to reading through a comforting, interactive companion.

Price Per Kit: \$18

Number Needed: 3 (Margaret Griffin Child Development Center)

STEM KIT

Volunteers will assemble STEM Kits for underserved students to encourage learning at home through activities and experiences. These kits will help parents and kids to see the ways that they already interact with STEM in their day-to-day lives and will include a note of encouragement.

Price Per Kit: \$75

Number Needed: 3 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

Healthy Community

HYGIENE KITS

Volunteers will have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact by assembling Hygiene Kits for individuals experiencing homelessness or facing financial hardship. These kits typically include essentials such as shampoo, soap, a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, a washcloth, and a personal note of encouragement.

Price Per Kit: \$27

Number Needed: ANY (Southington Community Services and Coordinated Access Network)

FEMININE HYGIENE KIT

Volunteers will assemble menstrual hygiene kits to be distributed through agencies that support individuals in need of period products. These kits are designed to provide essential menstrual supplies and ensure that those facing financial or other barriers have access to necessary hygiene products. By creating and sharing these kits, we aim to address a crucial need and support the well-being and dignity of individuals in our community.

Price Per Kit: \$33

Number Needed: 30 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT) or ANY (Southington Community Services)

BASICS FOR BABIES KIT

Volunteers will help provide essential items to families in need for their newborn babies. These kits typically include a washcloth, baby lotion, wipes, a board book, and a note of encouragement for the new mothers.

Price Per Kit: \$36

Number Needed: 10 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT)

SMILE KIT

Volunteers will assemble dental kits for individuals lacking the essential materials to maintain their oral health. Each kit for adults may include a toiletry case containing toothpaste, a toothbrush, a toothbrush holder, floss, and mouthwash, while kits for children may include a stuffed animal and/or book on dental hygiene in place of mouthwash.

Price Per Kit: \$30

Number Needed: ANY (Southington Community Services)

Financial Security

FINANCIAL LITERACY KIT

Volunteers will assemble Financial Literacy Kits designed to help both children and adults learn how to save money. These kits typically include a coin bank, a book about saving, worksheets, and age-appropriate financial literacy activities. For adults, the kits also provide information on 211 services and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.

Price Per Kit: \$105

Number Needed: 10 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT)

WELCOME HOME KIT

Volunteers will prepare transition kits to support families moving into a new home, whether due to a disaster or other circumstances.

These kits will include essential household items, such as cleaning supplies and kitchen basics, as well as personal hygiene products. Each kit will also feature a note of encouragement to provide a warm welcome and a sense of support during this significant transition. By providing these kits, we aim to ease the burden of moving and help families settle into their new homes with greater comfort and reassurance.

Price Per Kit: \$66

Number Needed: 10 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT) or 3 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

COMFORT KIT

Volunteers will create kits for children who are homeless, in foster care, or facing challenges. These kits include comforting items such as warm socks, stress balls, coloring books, colored pencils, and a note of encouragement. Providing access to these kits is crucial for young people experiencing heightened stress, anxiety, or depression.

Price Per Kit: \$33

Number Needed: 3 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

Community Resilience

SUMMER HEAT RELIEF KIT

Volunteers will assemble kits designed for individuals experiencing homelessness during the warmer months. These kits will include essential items such as sunglasses, sunscreen, a water bottle, and other practical supplies to help protect against the heat and sun. By providing these kits, we aim to offer relief and support to those in need, helping them stay safe and comfortable during the hot weather.

Price Per Kit: \$52

Number Needed: 30 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT) or 3 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center)

WINTER CARE KIT

Volunteers will prepare winter care kits to provide essential items for individuals during the colder months. These kits typically include a hat, gloves, scarf, hand warmers, socks, lip balm, and other comforting items. Each kit also contains a note of encouragement to offer a personal touch of warmth and support.

By assembling and distributing these kits, we aim to help individuals stay warm and feel cared for throughout the season.

Price Per Kit: \$54

Number Needed: 10 (Literacy Volunteers of Central CT), 3 (Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center), or ANY (Southington Community Services)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

Volunteers will assemble essential supplies for individuals to use in the event of an emergency or disaster. These kits typically include critical items such as a flashlight with batteries, a radio, and a first aid kit. Additionally, the kits contain educational resources to help everyone better prepare for a disaster.

Price Per Kit: \$72

Number Needed: ANY (Southington Community Services)



GETTING STARTED

Ready to get started? Bring your team together for a hands-on volunteer experience that makes a real difference in Southington. Each project in this catalog is designed for simple participation, meaningful engagement, and direct community impact.

CONTACT US

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ABOUT THIS INITIATIVE

This program is led by United Way of Southington, connecting local businesses with structured, hands-on volunteer opportunities that strengthen our community.

