

BE THE CHANGE

VOLUNTEER &
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



Volunteering is an
important aspect of society

and encompasses many different acts to better the lives of not only ourselves but for others as well. To begin let's go over a few different forms of volunteering and how it looks in our day to day lives. Some people I know have volunteered at **Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity** in which they helped build structures for others to live in. Other people I have known had volunteered their time at a homeless shelter. Volunteering in essence is the act of helping others and or your community.

As a young boy, volunteering was very important to my family. We worked with a foundation whose mission was to clean the beaches of California. That group was known as the **Surfrider Foundation**. Some of my fondest memories are of the days my mother and I would spend picking up the plastic that littered the beach. I got to see firsthand how dangerous the plastic and other trash were. Animals would wash up onto the beach dead because of plastic intake. I always felt sorry for them, they were killed because of human indifference. I learned a lot from my time volunteering. From volunteering, you can gain a feeling of comfort knowing that your actions, be they large or small was helping someone else. Your act of kindness would make a difference and cause those that were helped a sense of joy.

Do you know that old saying about a man planting a tree? If not let me enlighten you. "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they will never sit." While I do not know who originated it, this proverb tells us about how the world works. The world is made of kind acts. Those that try to improve the world don't expect to see it till

the end. They intend to do kind acts to improve the lives of others. Whether that other is their grandchild, or a starving person pulling the fruit from the trees. It matters not. What matters is that old men or women have created a legacy based on the concept that they have helped one person or another.

Personally, I believe that the concept of volunteering doesn't necessarily have to be with a specific company but must be with oneself. Even if someone isn't willing to volunteer for a large corporation they can put said practices into life. It is as simple as if someone needs help, help them. Be kind to those that are around you, for you never know when everything will crash and burn. Be a good person because you want to help others. Be a volunteer if you want to help a community. Either way, the world is made from good intentions. The last few words I shall leave you with is "Help others, Help yourself, Help the world." I hope my points were made clear and I hope you consider what I've said.