



We're excited to have you volunteer with Uplift! Before you go out on the truck, please review the following guidelines to help you navigate through your first night volunteering.

AGE REQUIREMENT

Minimum age for outreach is 8th grade. A parent must accompany young adults until he/she has a driver's license.

ARRIVAL

Please be prompt in your arrival at the building. Being on time allows us to provide you with an onsite orientation from the Shift Supervisor as well as for the important task of preparing the trucks for the outreach activities. We ask that you arrive at 1516 Prospect a minimum of 1 hour and 15 minutes before our trucks leave the building. On Monday and Wednesday night we ask that you be there at 4:45pm and on Saturday we ask that you arrive at 3:45pm.

Please check in with the Shift Supervisor and sign the volunteer log book. This helps us document who participated in the night's outreach.

There is a parking lot down the alley at the rear (west) of the building. We lock the gate during outreach activities to help secure your vehicle.

Please limit bringing purses, backpacks, and other personal items with you on the truck. You may leave these items in the Uplift office or in the trunk of your vehicle.

DRESS

Please dress appropriately. Due to the varied weather conditions please come prepared. We strongly recommend that you wear closed toed shoes as some of the locations we go are rocky, muddy and many of the items on the truck are heavy. During the Fall and Winter months we recommend dressing in layers. The weather conditions can change significantly over the course of our outreach time. Please bring a warm coat as you will be in and out of the trucks frequently.

Please do not wear clothing that does not properly cover your body. (small tank tops, short shorts, spaghetti straps, etc...)

Due to the variety of tasks that we ask our volunteers to perform the potential for your clothing to become dirty is very likely. If you are coming from a work setting you may

want to bring a change of clothing. We have restrooms on site that you may use to change.

We serve the homeless rain, snow or shine so being prepared is vital to your comfort and safety.

CELL PHONE USE

Please limit your cell phone use and texting while you are at Uplift and during outreach operations. To maintain safety we require volunteers to be aware of their environment. Many, if not all of our stops will be new environments to you. Limiting cell phone use and texting allows us to be proactive to our environment rather than reactive in the event of an emergency. In the event that you need to step away to make or accept a call please notify the driver of your truck.

OUTREACH ACTIVITY

We encourage you to ask questions during your time with us. Do not hesitate to ask about the routes, outreach locations, material requests from the homeless, etc...

We work hard to keep our routine from night to night consistent. Doing so requires us to have consistent and accurate information being disseminated to the homeless each night.

Please do not provide money or other tangible items (cigarettes, bus fare) to the individuals you meet. This gesture creates false expectation that future nights will also provide these items or that this is a service that Uplift provides.

Upon your return to the building after the route is completed there is additional work to be done to prepare for the next night's outreach. This time is spent restocking the goods that were distributed, filling clothing orders, cleaning the trucks and warehouse as well as numerous miscellaneous jobs.

SERVICE HOUR DOCUMENTATION

If you need documentation of your service we can provide you with a form indicating the number of hours you served. Please see the Shift Supervisor for this form.