

# VOLUNTEER SERVICES IMPACT REPORT 2017



**2,300+ VOLUNTEERS MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY.**



## **VOLUNTEERISM IS THRIVING IN PLYMOUTH.**

The volunteer program harnesses the energy, talent and passion of people of all ages and backgrounds. Scouts, teens, young adults, parents and retirees volunteer - and they volunteer for many reasons. New arrivals to Plymouth see volunteering as an entry point to the community while long-time residents see it as a way to give back. Retirees frequently use volunteering as an avenue to keep their skill set fresh and build social connections. Together volunteers keep our community strong.



**[WWW.PLYMOUTHMN.GOV/VOLUNTEER](http://WWW.PLYMOUTHMN.GOV/VOLUNTEER)**

# VOLUNTEER SERVICES IMPACT REPORT 2017

<b>Another Big Year!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27,232 hours</li> <li>• 2,309 volunteers. Many volunteers participated in more than one program.</li> </ul>
<b>Value to the City</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteer hours are valued at \$657,387 of contribution in kind.</li> <li>• The number of hours contributed is equivalent to 13.1 FTE.</li> </ul>
<b>By the Numbers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 449 individuals made initial contact with the Volunteer Services office.</li> <li>• 74 applications were received.</li> <li>• 44 potential candidates were interviewed for regular or short-term positions.</li> <li>• 92 requests for volunteers beyond major special events were received.</li> </ul>
<b>New Volunteer Tasks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepped 40 donated stuff toys which Public Safety officers will give to children in crisis.</li> <li>• Scanned over 1,000 park inspection documents across 23 years and 150 Bassett Creek Watershed files dating from the 1970s to create digital records.</li> <li>• Sewed replacement costumes for Olav and Minion characters.</li> <li>• Took on Garden Captain role for three large group planting projects.</li> <li>• Acted in a video about crime prevention in banks.</li> <li>• Coordinated a Fire department data collection project.</li> <li>• Revitalized Gilfillan Cabin garden and Elmhurst neighborhood garden.</li> <li>• Assisted disabled athletes competing in the National Sled Hockey Tournament.</li> <li>• Portrayed residents requiring emergency shelter for a Public Safety role playing event.</li> <li>• Provided point of contact support for the women's open hockey program.</li> </ul>
<b>Special Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 89 volunteer-supported city events, providing front line customer service.</li> <li>• 1,034 event shifts with 61,739 participants impacted by volunteer interactions.</li> <li>• 27 volunteers assisted with Wayzata Police Officer Matthew's funeral in which more than 2,000 officers attended and hundreds of caring public members lined the streets.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental and Outdoor Maintenance Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 449 volunteers assisted with plantings and outdoor maintenance projects.</li> <li>• 85 volunteers removed buckthorn from 5 city parks, trails and green space.</li> <li>• 1,806 shoreline restoration plants installed at East Medicine Lake.</li> <li>• 1,200 native trees planted along the Northwest Greenway.</li> <li>• 500 native plants installed for endangered butterfly habitat at Aspen Ridge Park.</li> <li>• 900 labyrinth stones were individually cut from encroaching turf at the Millennium Garden.</li> <li>• 128 volunteers marked 554 storm drains to prevent water pollution.</li> </ul>
<b>Who are our Volunteers?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 88% are Plymouth residents.</li> <li>• Volunteers reside in 27 different cities.</li> <li>• 26% teens, 58% adults and 16% seniors</li> <li>• An equal percentage of women (50%) and men (50%) volunteered.</li> <li>• 85 community and family groups participated.</li> </ul>
<b>They Make a Difference!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 552 residents adopted fire hydrants.</li> <li>• 4 Eagle Scouts coordinated projects to mark storm drains and landscape at parks.</li> <li>• 164 neighborhoods coordinated Night to Unite events.</li> <li>• 219 coaches and ski chaperones – 2,112 youth served.</li> <li>• 12 open pickleball/open soccer volunteers – 327 participants served.</li> <li>• 26 Park &amp; Recreation Summer Teen volunteers – 3,033 youth served.</li> <li>• 38 parks, 18.5 miles of trails and 16 miles streets adopted.</li> <li>• 6 Chaplain Corps members responded to residents in crisis.</li> <li>• 19.77 miles of hearts painted every 1/10 mile on trails, totaling 68.01 miles to date.</li> <li>• 6,000 annual flowers planted in a morning.</li> <li>• 24 volunteers sorted and loaded 1,520 trees and shrubs for 252 tree sale customers.</li> <li>• 41 Millennium Garden wedding parties received assistance during their rehearsal.</li> <li>• 84,000 Dog Poop Bags dispensed in 25 designated park locations.</li> <li>• 128 volunteers marked 554 storm drains to prevent storm water pollution.</li> <li>• 59 volunteers assisted with 17 assembly projects.</li> <li>• 575 Halloween treat bags and 600 s'mores packets were assembled for events.</li> <li>• 9 volunteers assisted 8,754 Farmer's Market attendees.</li> </ul>
<b>What Staff say:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The volunteers are a huge help with beginner skaters—especially the ones who are timid or afraid at first (and sometimes crying). They are able to work with these kids one-on-one to get them comfortable enough to participate in class.</li> <li>• How fortunate we are to have these individuals assisting with events!</li> </ul>
<b>What Volunteers Say:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You don't have to volunteer, but you should. (Teen volunteer)</li> <li>• Thank you for allowing me to volunteer at Officer Mathews' funeral. I felt so proud to be a Plymouth volunteer.</li> <li>• As a new resident, I feel so much more at home here because I volunteer, and I am more aware of the truly fantastic community opportunities available in the city.</li> </ul>