

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We change our community by changing lives.



**Thank you
for your interest in
becoming a MIFA
Faithful Supporter.**



These programs are designed to be a rewarding experience for our clients, volunteers and staff. The main requirements for volunteer service are a positive attitude and a genuine concern for our community.

Some positions entail specific qualifications and might require screening. Upon approval of applications, some volunteers must complete orientation or training sessions before beginning work.



COMMUNITY

- **Stock the MIFA Thrift Shop** with clothing and household items—all at bargain prices. Call Toni McDivitt at (901) 529-4564.
- Assist in a variety of community needs such as mentoring troubled youths, tutoring in schools or working in museums, hospitals, nature centers or government agencies with **The Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)**. Call Mark Gage at (901) 529-4477.
- Help MIFA programs with a variety of **general office activities** including filing, preparing mailings and more. Times flexible. Contact Charlie Nelson at (901) 529-4514 or cnelson@mifa.org.
- Get involved in this year's **Coin Caper**. This campaign with area schools helps raise money and awareness for MIFA programs. Call Latoria Parker at (901) 529-4528.

SENIORS

- **Advocate for the rights of the elderly** and other people who live in care home facilities through **MIFA's Ombudsman** program. A 15-hour certification program and continuing training equip volunteers to represent the interests of these elders. New Ombudsman volunteers will undergo three, three-and-a-half-hour training sessions toward certification and will take an exam to become Volunteer Ombudsman Representatives.

• VOR Training Dates: May 15, 22, and 29, July 10, 17, and 24, Sept. 18th, 25, and Oct. 2, Nov. 6, 13, and 20. Call Carlos Martin at (901) 527-0208 ext. 230 to find out more.

➤ MIFA MEALS

Brighten the day of a homebound senior citizen by delivering hot meals Monday through Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Volunteers must have their own vehicles and proof of insurance. Regular drivers and substitutes are needed. Contact Helen Brame at (901) 529-4513 or hbrame@mifa.org.

➤ Special Saturday MIFA Meals Delivery

Volunteer for a special MIFA Meals run May 22 and June 26. To volunteer for MIFA Saturday Meals, please contact Charlie Nelson at cnelson@mifa.org or (901) 529-4514.

- Put smiles on the faces of the elderly by **building ramps and cleaning yards and homes**. Skilled volunteers who can assist with plumbing and carpentry projects are especially needed, but not required to work in the Handyman Program. Call Mary Wilder at (901) 527-0208 ext. 425.

- Become a **Senior Companion**. Call Mark Gage at (901) 529-4477.

➤ June 4, Empty Plates

With the help of volunteers, the MIFA Meals program distributes 3,100 meals a day to seniors who are unable to manage simple meal preparation.

We need your help. You can help with the MIFA-Blockbuster Empty Plates Radiothon, which raises awareness and funds for MIFA Meals. Volunteers are needed to assist with mailing, Meals deliveries, answering phones, and setup and take-down and helping with children's activities. Call Charlie Nelson at (901) 529-4514 to get involved.

KIDS & FAMILIES

- Volunteers are needed to provide **care for children of Estival Communities** Saturday, May 15, and June 19 while their parents attend life skills classes between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Les Passees Center for Children and Families, 715 St. Paul Ave. Contact Sherry Taylor at (901) 529-4508 or staylor@mifa.org.

- **Estival** also needs volunteers to provide **child care** on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. while parents attend groups for domestic violence. Approximately six volunteers are needed each week. Contact Sherry Taylor, (901) 529-4508.

- **Les Passees** needs volunteers to assist with motivating students, help with pre-school children, assist with homework, or teach music lessons, basic computer skills and arts and crafts, Monday-Friday, between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Contact Debra Hatley, dhatley@mifa.org or (901) 525-7766.

- **Families First** helps welfare-dependent families achieve a self-sufficient lifestyle. You can help a person achieve this goal by participating in a one-on-one relationship with a Families First participant that is focused on long-term objectives (employment, housing, debt reduction). Mentors must complete a three-hour training program.

- **Opportunity Banc** provides training for people with low- to moderate incomes who want to start their own businesses. Become a mentor to help an Opportunity Banc participant establish and implement a business plan, develop and use personal assets and envision and work toward self-sufficiency. Mentors must complete a one-hour training session. Contact Carmen Mills at (901) 529-4524.

➤ Teen Job Services

Help a teen reach educational and occupational goals by becoming a mentor. The focus is to help a teen stay in school and maintain employment through Teen Job Services. Mentors must pass a drug screening and background check. Mentors must also complete a two-hour training program. Contact Laura Terry at (901) 529-4509 or lterry@mifa.org.

- **MIFA Heroes**, a volunteer group of children ages 8 to 12, will visit a nursing home and brighten the lives of residents with entertainment, games and refreshments. Contact Charlie Nelson at (901) 529-4514 or cnelson@mifa.org.

- **MIFA Helping Hands**, a volunteer group of teens 13 to 16 years old, will meet on May 22 from 10 a.m. to noon to explore ways to get involved in the community and set their calendar for 2004. Contact Charlie Nelson at cnelson@mifa.org or (901) 529-4514.

Does your civic group, fraternity/sorority, book club, sports team or other group want to get involved with MIFA?

We can visit your group to present an overview of MIFA, our programs and volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer orientation and training sessions are held the first Tuesday of every month

from 11 a.m. to noon or 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at MIFA, 910 Vance Ave.

Contact Charlie Nelson at (901) 529-4514 or cnelson@mifa.org

or check out our "get involved" link at www.mifa.org.