

WCI-Non-Profit Projects-Volunteer Opportunities

Coachella Valley History Museum:

Volunteer Contact: Donna Rose 760-342-5878 roseriverdr@aol.com
and/or Janice Woodside - 760-342-6651 janice@cvhm.org

82-616 Miles Avenue Indio, CA 92201

www.cvhm.org

WCI has supported the CV History Museum for many years with money and volunteers. Several WCI members are on the museum's board of directors. WCI members are called upon to be docents, work in the archives, and to help with celebrations and fundraisers open to the public.

Immediate Need: Volunteers to help staff the CV History Museum Store Monday, Thursday & Friday, Saturday 10:00am-1:00pm or 1:00pm-4:00pm or Sunday's 1pm - 4pm and possibly a few other days. Also...looking for Docents (Please see Docent Manual.) If you love history, you will love being a docent!

The Ophelia Project: WCI Contact: Susan Francis 760-413-6437
susanfrancis@jfkfoundation.org

Volunteer Contact: Peggy Mengel 760-776-1600
pmengel@jfkfoundation.org <https://www.jfkfoundation.org>

John F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation
and
Ophelia Project National Headquarters

Address: 73555 San Geronio Way
Palm Desert, CA 92260
Phone: (760) 776-1600
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F

The Ophelia Project, associated with the JFK Memorial Foundation, is a very successful five-year program for 8th through 12th grade girls who are at risk. Twice a month on school campuses during school hours, students meet with mentors and guest speakers to learn a variety of life skills. The Project's goals are to increase GPA's, reduce drop-out rates, absenteeism, increase graduation rates and goal setting. In Conjunction with College of the Desert, Ophelia Project offers full-ride, two-year scholarships for Junior College. WCI is one of the Project's major financial supporters.

Ophelia Volunteer Opportunities:

- Ophelia Mentor - Orientation is held on the 3rd Friday of every month at 9:30am at our office in Palm Desert but must rsvp in advance

Committees to serve on:

- Annual Ophelia Luncheon Committee
- Social Media /Technology Committee
- Art Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Fundraising/Development Committee
- Media and Public Relations Committee
- Events - there are several events each year and we always need 'extra pairs of hands' helping with the events
- Office Volunteers

Galilee Center: WCI Contact: Susan Everett 760-565-7762

susanLeverett56@gmail.com

Jnsueve@gmail.com

Volunteer Contact:

Lupe Torres

ltorres@galileecenter.org

(760) 396-9100

info@galileecenter.org

*****To arrange pickup of usable goods, please call the office at (760) 396-9100. You can also drop off usable goods at their office locations, 66101 Hammond Rd, Mecca. CA. 92254 and at 1030 6th Street, Unit #5, Coachella, CA. 92236.**

Volunteers are the backbone of the Galilee Center! Please help make a difference in the lives of low income families in the Eastern Coachella Valley by helping families become self-sufficient. We do this by transforming their lives with dignity and compassion.

Volunteer Opportunities Include:

- * Assemble food baskets for low income families in the community.
- * Maintain and organize the food pantry, provide basic services coordination and referrals.
- * Help organize or host special events such as food drives or toy/clothing drives.
- * Help organize fundraising events.
- * Perform reception and clerical tasks such as answering phones, greet and assist clients, and help with bulk mailing and data entry.
- * Help with special annual events such as:
- * **Back to School Backpack Drive**
- * **Thanksgiving Food Baskets**

- * Christmas Food Baskets
- * Help Assemble Bikes-3 Weeks Prior to Christmas
- * Christmas Toy Giveaways
- * WCI Easter Basket Distribution
- * Weekly Food Distributions

*During the months of September & October, food distribution takes place every Thursday beginning at 4:00 pm. Arrive by 3:30 pm to help setup.

***Please note that you must call or email the Galilee Center if you would like to volunteer for special events. Thank you for your service!

In November, the farmworkers shelter will be reopening. The center is in need of the following items:

- * Toothbrushes
- * Toothpaste
- * Shampoo
- * Conditioner
- * Bar Soap
- * Body Wash
- * Razors
- * Deodorant
- * Feminine Hygiene Products

Other ways to help...

- * Make a Cash/Check Donation
- * Make an Online Donation
- * Donate gently used clothing and household items which include furniture, shoes and kitchen items.

* Donate Non-Perishable Food: canned vegetables, canned fruit, pastas, canned meats, tuna, mac & cheese, rice, beans, tomato sauce, cereal, powdered milk, peanut butter, cooking oil, crackers and soups.

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission:

WCI Contact: Marcia Daniels 818-235-7625, mldaniels1@att.net

47-470 Van Buren St.

Indio, CA 92201

760-347-3512

<https://www.cvrn.org>

Volunteer Contact: Shannon Curtis 760-347-3512 x246

Cell # 760-625-5761 scurtis@cvrm.org

Since 1971, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission has been an oasis, a place of refuge for the homeless and needy in our valley. CVRM is a safe haven, a place of rest for the weary and a place where daily physical and spiritual needs may be met. Over the years the mission has continued to meet the ever-growing needs of individuals, who for a variety of reasons, have found themselves without the basic necessities of life. A dedicated staff and volunteers serve more than 340,000 meals annually and provide shelter to thousands of men and women with children. Food, clothing and showers are also provided for those who choose not to shelter with CVRM.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Helping in the kitchen prepping and serving Monday-Friday 10:30am-12 Noon, Thursdays are light days.

*****Annual-Special Events*****

- *Easter Food/Easter Basket Drive
- *4th of July Food Drive
- *Backpack/School Supplies Drive
- *Thanksgiving Food Drive-Turkeys and Trimmings
- *Christmas Toy Drive/Adopt a Child or Family for Christmas
- *Christmas Food Drive
- *Hygiene (Toiletries) /Undergarment Drive (Sock)
- *Sock Drive

Indio Senior Center:

WCI Contact: Margaret Nieto 760-799-2391 margaretnieto@aol.com

45-700 Aladdin Street, Indio, CA 92201

760- 391-4170

Volunteer Contact:

Community Program Administrator-Angelia Jimenez

ajimenez@indio.org

seniorcenter@indio.org

Website:

<https://www.indio.org>

Provides a place where people, 50 years plus, can leisurely socialize, make new friends, share their skills and ideas. It is dedicated to enhancing and dignify the quality of the lives of our culturally diverse aging population.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- *Help at ISC organize games, events and other duties as needed.
- *Donate Valentine's Day-Toiletries Gift Bag.

*Donate March/April Spring- Toiletries Gift Bag.

*Draw names from ISC Christmas Giving Tree (Name Tags will be ready on December 1st every year) for Homebound Seniors.

*Donate throw blankets at Christmastime for Mizell Senior Center- Meals on Wheels Homebound Seniors.

FIND Food Bank:

WCI Contact: Margaret Nieto 760-799-2391 margaretnieto@aol.com

83-775 Citrus Ave.

Indio, CA 92201

760-775-3663

findfoodbank.org

Volunteer Contact:

Debbe Hulsey-Special Assistant to Debbie Espinoza, President & CEO

760-775-3663 x103

dhulsey@findfoodbank.org

Food In Need of Distribution, Inc. (FIND Food Bank) mission is dedicated to relieving hunger, the causes of hunger, and the problems associated with hunger through awareness, education, and mobilization of resources and community involvement. Their vision is to create a community that is free of hunger and food insecurity. In doing so, achieving and upholding values like: *Respect * Diversity and Integrity * Collaboration * Service* Accountability.

All FIND Food Banks volunteer opportunities/needs are posted on their volunteer website. www.FindFoodBank.VolunteerHub.com

You can go on to the website and look at the distributions that are happening throughout the valley during the weekday evenings and

Saturday mornings. This is where FIND Food Bank can use the most help.

Every April FIND Food Bank hosts a Telethon, sponsored by News Channel 3, besides the fact that it is in April and on a Friday, date and time will be announced later.

Indio Rotary Club's Math Field Day:

WCI donates \$500.00 each year to help defray the costs of the annual math competition.

*Possible volunteer opportunities will keep you updated as information becomes available.

Loma Linda University Children's Health:

WCI Contact: Karen Hudis 323-842-0969 karenhudis@gmail.com

Offers general pediatric services and specialized pediatric care, in an outpatient setting, for conditions prevalent in the Coachella Valley.

*Possible volunteer opportunities will keep you updated as information becomes available.

Desert Best Friend's Closet:

74040 Highway 111 Ste F

Palm Desert, California

www.bfcloset.org

760-776-9975

CONNIE GOLDS, Executive Director and Co-Founder

Desert Best Friend's Closet (DBFC) is a local nonprofit that has been providing interview attire to low-income Coachella Valley residents since 2010.

WCI has supported this organization for a few years and WCI members support DBFC with their donations of professional interview clothing and formal attire. As well as writing resumes for clients and assisting with the Prom Dress Give-away.

Our mission:

To educate and empower our clients for success in employment and life, and for all Coachella Valley residents to be economically self-sufficient through employment.

Immediate Need:

If you would like to support our organization and have an eye for fashion and can provide world class customer service, we would love to talk to you. We have volunteer opportunities in the following areas:

- Boutique Sales Associates
- Image Consultants
- Donation Sorters and Stockroom Associates

- **Programs:**

- Interview Attire Program

Desert Best Friend's Closet partners and collaborates with other agencies in the Coachella Valley to provide interview-appropriate attire at no cost to individuals seeking employment who do not have the means to buy such attire themselves.

- Bridge to Employment

This program provides focused, personalized coaching on resume and interview skills in a small group setting of no more than five individuals. Our interview workshops include role-playing, mock interviews and personalized videotaped feedback by experienced job coaches who give job seekers candid and expert feedback on their interviews. This program helps our clients gain confidence and reduce their anxiety about the job search.

- Warriors to Work

The "Warriors to Work" initiative provides interview attire to any United States Veteran* seeking employment and residing in Riverside County. Interested Veterans may call 760-776-9975 to schedule a wardrobe appointment. Veterans may also participate in our [Bridge to Employment program](#) if they need help with their resumes, interview skills or job search techniques.

- Youth Attire Program

With help from the [Anderson Children's Foundation](#), Desert Best Friend's Closet (DBFC) is now able to provide professional attire to Coachella Valley high school students.

- Military Ball Gown Program

This year, Desert Best Friend's Closet is proud to partner with ASYMCA and hold our Ball Gown Giveaway on the base at 29 Palms on Saturday, September 29/

To register for this event, contact the ASYMCA on the base.

- Prom Dress Program
- Bras-for-a Cause

Desert Best Friend's Closet discovered that many of our female clients have a significant need for well-made women's undergarments, particularly bras. Well-made bras are expensive, yet necessary for a woman to look her best

Items to donate:

- Men's and women's suits and professional clothing
- Women's plus-size clothing (high level of need)
- Business casual separates (slacks, blouses, dress shirts, blazers, etc.)
- Shoes, handbags and briefcases
- Gently used bras, camisoles, slips and "shape wear"
- Accessories for men and women (belts, ties, scarves, jewelry and cufflinks)

For our Military Ball Gown and Prom Dress Programs we need:

- Contemporary prom dresses, ball gowns and bridesmaid dresses
- Accessories (shoes, evening bags, wraps and "bling" jewelry) No wedding gowns, please.

Read With Me Volunteers:

WCI Contact: Peggy Mathieson 408-802-5858 peggymath@aol.com

Read With Me Volunteer Program:

PO Box 1016

Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

www.readwithmevolunteers.com

In 2004, Read With Me Volunteers (RWMV) was established in Southern California. Its mission is to help children from a low income, limited English speaking environment develop to their fullest potential by learning to read, comprehend, and speak English while understanding that people care about them as individuals. The program was awarded the Golden Bell Award for Language Acquisition by the California School Board Association for its contribution to the improvement in students' reading scores in the Coachella Valley.

Volunteer Qualifications

- Enjoys reading
- Is fluent in English
- Likes children and is willing to follow the teacher's directions
- Is willing to commit 1 to 4 hours a week during the school year.

While the minimum time commitment is only one day a week for at least 8 weeks during the period October through May, many volunteers are at their schools for the entire 8 months.

Before volunteering, a volunteer must complete the school district's volunteer application and a 40 minute online course on identifying child abuse and neglect. Volunteers decide what grade level they would like to work with and what day(s) of the week they are available. Volunteers are matched with teachers who need help at a specific time that is mutually agreeable. Teachers direct which materials are used, match

volunteers with children, and then monitor their progress. There are many materials that are provided, including, for example, flashcards, word sheets, alphabet building blocks, books, and whiteboards. The child reads to the volunteer who helps with pronunciation and with comprehension by asking questions.

If you have been a teacher and/or helped to teach your own children or grandchildren how to read, you can dive right into working with the children. For those who would like more preparation, a group orientation is provided in November and again in January at each school. In addition, training videos are available.

Of the 16 elementary schools that the program serves in the Coachella Valley, four are in Indio - Jackson, Mountain Vista, Oliphant, and Van Buren.

Jackson Elementary School

Alena Callimanis, readwithmealena@gmail.com

Mountain Vista Elementary School

Alena Callimanis, readwithmealena@gmail.com

Richard Oliphant Elementary School

Alena Callimanis, readwithmealena@gmail.com

Van Buren Elementary School

Carol Morton, carol.morton@pacificsir.com

Scholarships

WCI gives a \$1,500 (depending on fundraiser profits) scholarship to one or more students at each of the three Indio High Schools and give a \$1,000 Empowering Women Scholarship

to a woman who delayed going to college or is returning to college.

Penny Pines (Ellen Cafferata - ecaffer@earthlink.net)

At each General Meeting, money is collected in the green cans at the center of each table, which is given to the USDA Forest Service for planting trees in burned or insect damaged acreage in our local mountains.

Soda Can Tabs (Bernadette Subia- Martinez - inspirehope94@gmail.com)

WCI members donate soda can tabs to the Ronald McDonald House, a charity that provides housing near hospitals in 63 countries for families with hospitalized children and gives grants to non-profit organizations.

Indio's Arbor Day

\$500 is donated each year to the city for planting trees in city parks.

Indio K-9 Unit

Proceeds from the K-9 Bingo game and the 50-50 raffles are combined with a donation from the WCI, averaging \$1,200 per year.

SOS (Soldier Organized Services)

WCI donates \$500 per year to this program that provides free transportation for the military service personnel and their families to and from the marine base and airport.

USO at Palm Springs Airport

WCI donates \$500 per year to support the non-government funded USO which provides a place for the travelling military.

New Project - Yard of the Month -



We brought an old project from the past back. We honor 1-2 homeowners in Indio for having fabulous front yards that enhance their neighborhoods and our community. We place our sign in their yard and hope that not only will it inspire homeowner improvements, but get our name out there as well.
(Bernadette Subia- Martinez – inspirehope94@gmail.com)

New Project - Coachella Valley Foster Kids -

This organization provides a suitcase with personal items for foster children, who are often removed from their home with absolutely nothing. We need donations of new or gently used suitcases, travel bags, and backpacks. For more information on how you can help call Rosalind Miller at 760.333.2374 or rosalindginamiller@gmail.com



New Project - Alzheimer's Association -



There are many ways to get involved. Walk to End Alzheimer's, participate in The Longest Day, be a community educator or representative. Contact Sylvia Baran at 760.641.1313, syllieme@aol.com to volunteer.

New Project - Indio Nursing and Rehabilitation Center-

We were approached and asked to begin a pilot program for the adoption of a skilled nursing facility. One in our city that has critical need for support, for both staff and residents is the Indio Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. We need members to write letters and cards, make phone calls, provide cookies and treats, donate items. Call Marcia Daniels at 818.235.7625 or mldaniels1@att.net.



New Project - Girls Love Mail -



Girls Love Mail is an organization that provides uplifting support to people with breast cancer. We will be sending compassionate, hand-written letters to breast cancer survivors. Bonnie Tucker at brtucker429@yahoo.com or 312-371-0723