

## YouthSERVE Volunteer Summer Guide 2019

Check out this list of youth-friendly volunteer opportunities! Build your resume, gain valuable skills, meet people, and have fun!

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY p 1 – 3

SANTA CRUZ p 3 – 7

CAPITOLA p 7 - 8

WATSONVILLE & SALINAS p 8 – 11

BONNY DOON p 11

FELTON p 12

### THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY

#### **Santa Cruz Public Libraries**

Interested in helping out your local library? The Santa Cruz Public Libraries have a wide range of opportunities, including literacy programs, working with children, library support positions, special events, and special projects. Visit the website to access the online volunteer application and to learn about current volunteer opportunities.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** The Santa Cruz Public Library system has 10 branches and a [Bookmobile](#).

**Contact:** 831-427-7700 x7615, [volunteer@santacruzpl.org](mailto:volunteer@santacruzpl.org)

**Website:** <http://www.santacruzpl.org/volunteer/>

#### **California Native Plant Society – Santa Cruz Chapter**

We are a volunteer group working to restore native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County. Our program provides an opportunity for people to learn about the natural systems that surround them while helping to restore special and wild places. No prior work experience is necessary, just show up at the park. We welcome individual volunteers from 8 to 80 years, as well as special group projects. Wear comfortable layered clothing, bring something to drink, and lots of enthusiasm! We work rain or shine, but if things get particularly unpleasant, we call it a day. Tools provided; bring gloves.

**Minimum Age:** 8

**Locations:** State and County Parks. Call, email or check website for dates & locations

**Contact:** Program Leader, Linda Brodman, 831-462-4041, [redwdrn@pacbell.net](mailto:redwdrn@pacbell.net)

**Chapter Website:** <http://www.cruzcnps.org>

### **Neighborhood Pride Project**

Assists in removing and abating graffiti vandalism in unincorporated Santa Cruz County. We work with individuals and groups to abate graffiti in our community by conducting paint-outs, murals, plantings and lighting.

**Minimum Age:** 14 | **Minimum Age with Adult:** 5

**Location:** 1740 17th Ave., Santa Cruz, CA, 95062 with projects throughout the county.

**Contact:** Donna Patters, [graffiti@scvolunteercenter.org](mailto:graffiti@scvolunteercenter.org), 831-427-0462

**Website:** [scvolunteercenter.org/programs/graffiti-removal-project/](http://scvolunteercenter.org/programs/graffiti-removal-project/)

### **Save Our Shores**

For more than 30 years, Save Our Shores has been leading efforts to protect and preserve the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. It takes a big, caring community to protect our blue backyard, and that's where you come in! Join Save Our Shores at our dockwalker and cleanup events in Santa Cruz and Monterey County!

**Minimum Age:** 14 | **Minimum Age with an Adult:** 5; volunteers <18 must bring waiver

**Location:** Beaches throughout Santa Cruz County

**Contact:** Matt, [cleanup@saveourshores.org](mailto:cleanup@saveourshores.org)

**Website:** <http://www.saveourshores.org/volunteer>

### **Sea Otter Savvy**

The Sea Otter Savvy program strives to foster responsible behavior by users of the marine environment while they are viewing and recreating near sea otters. We are looking for passionate volunteers for two positions: outreach team members and citizen scientists. Trainings occur in Moss Landing.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age w/ Adult:** 12

**Location:** Various locations.

**Contact:** Gena Bentall, [gena@seaottersavvy.org](mailto:gena@seaottersavvy.org), 805-459-9444

**Website:** [www.seaottersavvy.org/volunteer](http://www.seaottersavvy.org/volunteer)

### **Teen Kitchen Project**

Teen Kitchen Project invites young people into the kitchen to learn to cook delicious and nutritious food. The meals we prepare are delivered free of charge to families in crisis due to illness in Santa Cruz County. Volunteers are asked to go on Teen Kitchen's website to register and their Food Handlers Card before volunteering.

**Minimum age:** 13

**Location:** Santa Cruz and downtown Watsonville

**Contact:** Angela Farley, 831-316-4540 x707, [Angela@TeenKitchenProject.org](mailto:Angela@TeenKitchenProject.org)

**Website:** [www.teenkitchenproject.org/join-our-team/become-a-teen-volunteer/](http://www.teenkitchenproject.org/join-our-team/become-a-teen-volunteer/)

### **American Red Cross**

Seeking Donor Ambassadors and Disaster Preparedness volunteers. Donor Ambassadors provide great customer service at community blood drives. Greet and register donors, staff the canteen area, and make donors feel appreciated. Required time commitment is a 4 hours per month and training is provided. Disaster Preparedness volunteers work with communities to increase readiness and assist in times of disaster. You can reduce fire-related deaths in our community by installing smoke alarms and educating families about fire safety. Flexible shift scheduling.

**Minimum age:** 16

**Contact:** Romina Cervantes, (831) 600-4900, [romina.cervantes@redcross.org](mailto:romina.cervantes@redcross.org)

### **SANTA CRUZ**

#### **Elderday**

Our main goal is to help seniors stay independent in their own home and to have fun doing it. Join our program for health care management, and daily activities like music performances, art, woodworking, dance, yoga and more.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age with Adult:** 10

**Location:** 100 Pioneer St. Suite C Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** Liliana Rensi 831-458-3481, [lilianar@cbridges.org](mailto:lilianar@cbridges.org)

**Website:** <http://communitybridges.org/elderday/>

#### **Evergreen Cemetery Work Party**

Join us at Evergreen cemetery for a few hours of work maintaining and restoring this historical site. We meet every Friday from 9:30 to 12:30. Join the effort to imagine Evergreen Cemetery as an inspiring site for learning local history. Help maintain the final resting place of all the 1800's gold prospectors, artists, Chinese immigrants, mountain men, and forgotten pioneers buried in Evergreen Cemetery. As one of the MAH's offsite locations the cemetery is maintained primarily by volunteer led efforts.

**Minimum Age:** 18 | **Minimum Age with Adult:** 8

**Location:** Evergreen Cemetery, Santa Cruz. On Coral St next to Harvey West Park

**Contact:** Gary Neier, [gary\\_neier@yahoo.com](mailto:gary_neier@yahoo.com), 831.471.0402

#### **Volunteer at the MAH**

Help visitors with hands-on art projects! Lead family-friendly activities that get folks moving and inspire creativity. Think fort building, bubble making, dance parties, and more! Training will be provided at the event. You can sign up for a specific shift -- and learn more about all the upcoming events at the Eventbrite page.

**Contact:** Victoria Lee [victoria@santacruzmah.org](mailto:victoria@santacruzmah.org)

**Website:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/volunteers-at-the-santa-cruz-museum-of-art-amp-history-14444764478>

### **Grey Bears**

Grey Bears improves the health and wellbeing of seniors through food distribution, volunteerism and community participation. You can volunteer at the thrift store, assist with e-waste recycling program, complete data entry for book sales, pack bags of produce for seniors. Volunteers must attend an orientation before they begin volunteering. These occur every Thursday 1 – 2 pm and by appointment.

**Minimum Age:** 13 | **Minimum Age with an Adult:** 10

**Location:** 2710 Chanticleer Ave, Santa Cruz

**Contact:** Michelle Ballou, [michelle@greybears.org](mailto:michelle@greybears.org), (831) 479-1055 x226

**Website:** <http://www.greybears.org/>

### **Habitat for Humanity Monterey Bay - ReStore**

Seeking dedicated and energetic individuals to help out in their retail store at 719 Swift St., Santa Cruz. Habitat for Humanity Santa Cruz builds homes for low-income families in Santa Cruz County. All ReStore proceeds go to building more homes in the community. ReStore volunteers are responsible for helping customers, receiving donations, cleaning up and maintenance, and other such duties.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** 1007 Cedar St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** [volunteer@habitatmontereybay.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatmontereybay.org)

**Website:** <https://www.habitatmontereybay.com/volunteer>

### **Coastal Watershed Council**

At the Coastal Watershed Council, our goal is to find the best, most fulfilling volunteer opportunity for you. Fill out the form our website and let us know what motivates you to volunteer. Volunteer opportunities include monitoring water quality, planting native species, removing non-native species, and engaging our community.

**Location:** San Lorenzo River

**Contact:** [info@coastal-watershed.org](mailto:info@coastal-watershed.org), (831) 464-9200

**Website:** <https://coastal-watershed.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

### **Shared Adventures**

Founded on the belief that recreation, fun, challenge and access to the outdoors are an essential part of a healthy and fulfilling life, Shared Adventures is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of people living with disabilities. Join Shared Adventures this summer for fun and rewarding volunteer opportunities.

Visit <http://www.sharedadventures.org> for more information.

**Location:** 90 Grandview St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** 831-459-7210, [info@sharedadventures.org](mailto:info@sharedadventures.org)

**Website:** <http://www.sharedadventures.org>

### **St. Francis Soup Kitchen**

The Kitchen has been serving meals to the hungry in Santa Cruz for over 25 years. Each day a hearty meal of soup, salad, bread, coffee and milk are served to over 180 people at noon. There are an estimated 400 people who sleep outside in Santa Cruz and it's difficult for one agency to handle all their needs. The Kitchen is one place where those in need will find a kind welcome, food and an opportunity to rest in safety.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age with Adult:** 12

**Location:** 205 Mora Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** Richard Crowe, 831-459-6712

**Website:** <http://www.stfrancissoupkitchen.org/howtohelp.php>

### **Volunteer Center Receptionist**

The Volunteer Center is seeking friendly, personable and organized volunteers to assist the office manager with the following duties: answering calls, greeting and directing Volunteer Center visitors, assisting with mail and other administrative tasks.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** 1740 17th Ave Santa Cruz, CA 95062

**Contact:** Jan Brady, (831)427-5070, [jan@scvolunteercenter.org](mailto:jan@scvolunteercenter.org)

**Website:** <https://scvolunteercenter.org/>

### **Homeless Garden Project**

Homeless Garden Project is looking for interested and energetic volunteers to help at their Farm near Natural Bridges State Beach! Starting in March, scheduled volunteer activities occur every Thursday & Friday from 10am to 2pm, and Saturday & Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Visit, meet the crew, learn more about the farm, and join in that day's activities. Activities include: simple weeding; harvesting strawberries, CSA crops, lavender and other flowers for drying; clearing out beds for new crops; and helping out in our farm kitchen.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age with an Adult:** 5

**Location:** Natural Bridges Farm - Shaffer Road & Delaware Avenue

**Contact:** Justin Wright, [justinw@homelessgardenproject.org](mailto:justinw@homelessgardenproject.org), (831) 426-3609 x10

**Website:** <http://www.homelessgardenproject.org/>

### **Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History**

Help out at our Nature Explorers summer camp! Camp will be Monday through Friday, from July 8 to August 2. Each week we'll have a different group of campers, from grades K-5 (camps are grouped by grade). We spend our days mostly outside: exploring nature, playing games, getting creative, and always learning! Volunteers will support camp instructors with general supervision and assisting campers with activities. Volunteer shifts are 8:45-12:00 and 11:30-2:45 each day; we ask that volunteers work at least three shifts throughout camp.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** 1305 East Cliff Dr., Santa Cruz, CA 95062

**Contact:** Maura Connolly [volunteer@santacruzmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@santacruzmuseum.org)

**Website:** <http://santacruzmuseum.org/>

**Apply online:** <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?ap=845420109>

### **Supporting Health with Organic Produce (SHOP)**

This program that collects donations of organic produce from local farmers' markets and distributes them to people living with autoimmune diseases and cancer. Our big need for volunteers is on Saturdays afternoons, at the three farmers' markets where we pick up produce, and on Friday nights to pick up produce at the UCSC Farm. We need people who can commit to a regular Saturday shift at least once a month. On Saturdays, we need drivers and people to help move the boxes of produce. We also need people who want to help write grants, who can do liaison work with new growers, and more. Our volunteers go through a brief training.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age with an Adult:** 8

**Location:** Santa Cruz

**Contact:** Melinda White, [produceforhealth@gmail.com](mailto:produceforhealth@gmail.com), (831) 475-3327

### **Nueva Vista Community Resources**

This resource center offers two sessions of an innovative 3 week summer program where youth are actively participating, working together and creating healthy new experiences in a safe environment with their community. Enjoy a summer filled with daily field trips that include activities such as swimming, biking, hiking and much more. Participate by being a positive role model for the youth in the program. Volunteer opportunities: Monday through Friday June 10th through July 26th 10 am - 5:30 pm, commitment of at least one day per week for 3-4 hours.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** 711 E Cliff Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** Lidia Montesino, [lidiam@cbridges.org](mailto:lidiam@cbridges.org), (831) 426-2322

### **Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center Early Childhood Education Center**

This family center is dedicated to addressing barriers to families thriving in Santa Cruz County. Our mission is to provide support and services so women, children and families have the opportunity and skills to thrive. ECE volunteers provide strength-based, child-centered support to children ages 0 to 5 years and their families. Your role includes interacting with children on-on-one and in groups, supporting teachers by facilitating activities, conflict resolution and problem solving with children, helping with snack, lunch preparation and clean up.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** 303 Walnut Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** Genevieve at (831) 426-3062, ext 215, [gortilla@wafwc.org](mailto:gortilla@wafwc.org)

**Website:** [www.wafwc.org](http://www.wafwc.org)

### **Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries Book Store**

We are looking for weekend hosts at our Friends Downtown Santa Cruz Library bookstore. If you would like to host you will learn to use a square system to receive payments as well as manage a small bookstore while you are here.

Shifts available: Saturdays 10am to 1pm, Saturdays 1pm to 4pm, Sundays 1pm to 4pm.

**Minimum Age:** 15

**Location:** 711 E Cliff Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Contact:** Mary [mary@fscpl.org](mailto:mary@fscpl.org)

**Website:** <http://fscpl.org/>

## **CAPTITOLA**

### **Children's Museum of Discovery**

We are a local non-profit organization geared toward the advancement of children 0-12 years old. We offer themed exhibits and classes to teach children about STEM, agriculture, marine environments, and more! We are flexible and willing to work around your schedule. Come spend some time with us today gain valuable employment-like experience and gain new skills to put on your resume.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** Capitola Mall

**Contact:** (888) 424-8035, [www.sccmod.org/contact-us/](http://www.sccmod.org/contact-us/)

**Website:** <http://www.sccmod.org/>

### **College of Botanical Healing Arts**

This nonprofit is an educational institution providing training that focuses on the power of healing through the use of plant energy of herbs, essential oils, and nutrition. Our goal is to qualify students as professional Essential Oil Therapists and educators to assume responsibilities in the healthcare field, working with other health practitioners within the community. They are looking for an intern to help with fundraising, writing grants and help with outreach. This position will help you gain professional skills, meet like-minded people, and support your local community!

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** 4170 Gross Rd Ext. Suite 5, Capitola, CA 95010

**Contact:** [cobhasantacruz@cobha.org](mailto:cobhasantacruz@cobha.org), 831-462-1807

**Website:** <http://www.cobha.org/>

### **Santa Cruz SPCA**

Giving your time and energy to animals through the Santa Cruz SPCA can be an exceptionally satisfying activity. Just ask any volunteer who's walked an exuberant shelter dog, coaxed a new shelter cat out of her shell, or watched a family connect with and adopt a shelter pet. Volunteer opportunities exist for volunteers 7 and up, although, they have session fees associated with them.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** 1855 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite G9

**Contact:** 831-465-5000, [education@spcasc.org](mailto:education@spcasc.org)

**Website:** <http://spcasc.org/>

## **WATSONVILLE & SALINAS**

### **Digital Nest**

Digital NEST provides youth and young adults, ages 12-24, with free access to computers, software, WiFi, and a full range of state of the art digital tools, and classes. Through training, collaboration, and professional mentorship, young people master the technological skills they need to pursue higher education, launch careers, and join businesses in our community. Volunteer with their Tech Squad, Connect Crew, as a Social Networker, or Community Curator!

**Minimum Age:** 12 (depending on the position)

**Location:** 318 Union Street, Watsonville

**Contact:** Ximena Ireta-Lopez 831-722-6378

**Website:** <http://digitalnest.org/>



### **Environmental Science Workshop**

Volunteer at the Science Workshop where you will help kids construct the science and art projects of their dreams. The Science Workshop believes that science is best learned through first-hand experience and encourages kids to approach science by pursuing their curiosity and having fun. The Science Workshop is full of creativity, imagination and wonder. Volunteers will help kids build science projects, keep the workshop organized and build new experimental exhibits. Come tinker, build and explore with us!

**Minimum Age:** 12

**Location:** 120 Second Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** Darren Gertler 831-768-3256 [darren.gertler@cityofwatsonville.org](mailto:darren.gertler@cityofwatsonville.org)

**Website:** <https://www.cityofwatsonville.org/706/Environmental-Science-Workshop>

### **Jacob's Heart Children's Cancer Support Services**

Build your resume and office skills while being part of an amazing cause that spreads support, hope and possibility for kids with cancer and their families. Jacob's Heart was founded to improve the quality of life for children with cancer and support their families in the challenges they face. Office volunteers will help with answering phones, organizing office and art supplies & mailings. Volunteer as a Card Designer and use your artistic talents to provide support, hope and possibility for kids with cancer and their families. One of the ways Jacob's Heart provides support is by sending handmade greeting cards of encouragement and hope to those touched by cancer.

**Minimum Age:** 12

**Location:** 680 West Beach Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** Kym, [kymberly@jacobsheart.org](mailto:kymberly@jacobsheart.org), 831.724.9100

**Website:** <http://jacobsheart.org/>

### **Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes**

Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes has been feeding the hungry in Watsonville since 1989 and they need your help preparing meals and sorting food and clothing. The sense of community is strong and the staff is always welcoming. They are always in need of food prep and service help. Join them for a great time serving our neighbors in need!

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** 150 Second St, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** [volunteer@pvloavesandfishes.org](mailto:volunteer@pvloavesandfishes.org), 831-319-4571

**Website:** <http://www.pvloavesandfishes.org/>

### **Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County**

Get experience working in food prep, helping our community and building your college or work resume! Second Harvest works to end hunger and malnutrition by educating and involving the community in Watsonville. Help pack produce bags and more and become part of the larger movement that distributes over 8.3 million pounds of food annually to working poor families, children, and seniors.

**Minimum Age:** 14

**Location:** 800 Ohlone Parkway, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** Bly Morales, 831-498-4115, [bly@thefoodbank.org](mailto:bly@thefoodbank.org)

**Website:** <http://www.thefoodbank.org/>

### **Watsonville Bike Shack**

Join the bike mechanic volunteer team at the Bike Shack! The Bike Shack is a non-profit organization that promotes healthy living and bike riding to people of all ages. They train volunteers to help repair and build bikes, as well teaching people how to fix their bike each Friday at the Farmer's Market. Volunteers must be interested in fixing bikes or mechanically inclined, and other fun community events.

**Minimum Age:** 12

**Location:** 555 Main Street, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** Lorenzo Holguin 831-296-0326, [elbikeshack@gmail.com](mailto:elbikeshack@gmail.com)

### **Watsonville Wetlands Watch**

Seeking volunteers for Saturday Restoration Days. Watsonville Wetlands Watch is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and appreciation of the wetlands of the Pajaro Valley. The work includes planting native plants, removing exotic invasive plants, and helping in the native plant greenhouse.

**Minimum Age:** 12 | **Minimum Age w/ Adult:** 5

**Location:** 500 Harkins Slough Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** Yesenia, 831-566-4938, [yesenia@watsonvillewetlandswatch.org](mailto:yesenia@watsonvillewetlandswatch.org)

**Website:** <http://www.watsonvillewetlandswatch.org/>

### **Farm Discovery**

Help our young non-profit report our successes and seek needed funding by entering contact and demographic information of the people we are serving. As a volunteer, you will enter data from hardcopy to excel spreadsheets and to a new database. We are documenting the great work we do teaching local kids and families about organic farming and nutrition. We hope this will tell an excellent story allowing us to seek much needed grant funding.

**Minimum Age:** 16 | **Minimum Age w/ Adult:** 14

**Location:** 172 Litchfield Lane, Watsonville

**Contact:** Jessica, [leftpdirector@gmail.com](mailto:leftpdirector@gmail.com)

**Website:** [liveearthfarm.net](http://liveearthfarm.net)

### **HopeTHRIFT**

The generosity of Hope Services' volunteers make it possible for people with developmental disabilities to be valued and participating members of their communities. At Hope Services, we believe that the world is a better place when people with disabilities are fully integrated and accepted in all aspects of our culture. Volunteer activities include stocking the store and sorting donations.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** 172 Litchfield Lane, Watsonville

**Contact:** Lori 831-216-5585

**Website:** [www.hopeservices.org/](http://www.hopeservices.org/)

### **Youth N.O.W.**

Youth N.O.W. is a no-cost, safe space after-school program that provides social and academic enrichment programs for Watsonville Middle School and High School youth. Youth NOW provides a variety of services, including weekly one-on-one tutoring, drop in tutoring, computer labs, recreational activities, a coffeehouse space and much more. Tutors are mentors to Youth NOW students, not only helping to develop academic skills, but also social skills, such as self-esteem and successful study habits. Our programs encourage self-efficacy as a means to enable students to be the catalyst for their own personal success.

**Minimum Age:** 15

**Location:** Middle School Tutoring Site - 500 Harkins Slough Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076

**Contact:** [volunteer@youthnowcenter.com](mailto:volunteer@youthnowcenter.com)

**Website:** <http://youthnowcenter.org/volunteers/>

## **BONNY DOON**

### **Higher Grounds Coffee Shop**

Higher Grounds recently celebrated 5 years of being a fully volunteer operated coffee house and is looking to add a few baristas to it's volunteer team. We offer Espresso drinks and a continental breakfast, free Wifi and conversation to all community members every Thursday from 8am to 12pm at the Kirk house next to Bonny Doon Church. There is no charge for people to come and enjoy the company of their neighbors. Please volunteer to support this project!

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** Kirk House, 7065 Bonny Doon Rd, Bonny Doon, CA 95060

**Contact:** Susan Cannon, (831) 426-6858, [cannon@technologyloft.com](mailto:cannon@technologyloft.com)

## FELTON

### **Licehn Oaks Adaptive Riding Center**

Volunteering with LOARC is a great way to help individuals reach their goal of riding a horse! You also can get some fresh air, exercise, and play with our horses. Horses provide a unique opportunity for those who may be struggling physically, mentally, or emotionally. Our volunteers will assist in providing a safe and enjoyable experience for our riders. Volunteer duties include preparing the horse for a lesson and leading the horse during the lesson. LOARC would appreciate a minimum commitment of one hour a week for 8 weeks.

**Minimum Age:** 16

**Location:** Felton

**Contact:** Caroline [caroline@loarc.net](mailto:caroline@loarc.net), 831-335-2347

**Website:** [lichenoaksarc.org](http://lichenoaksarc.org)