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Next Steps: Your Social Work Volunteering Checklist

This checklist provides a step-by-step guide to help you take actionable steps toward a rewarding experience in social work volunteering. Use this checklist to stay organized and ensure you make the most of your volunteering journey.

To Complete	Done?
Step 1: Define Your Volunteering Goals	
Identify the social issues or populations you're most passionate about.	
Decide whether you want to volunteer locally, globally, or online.	
Determine the time commitment you can realistically manage.	
Step 2: Research Volunteer Opportunities	
Look for social work volunteer opportunities near you or online.	
• Explore nonprofit organizations, community centers, and online platforms for suitable roles.	
• Consider specialized opportunities, such as shadowing programs or volunteer social work assistant positions.	
Step 3: Evaluate Programs and Organizations	
Check the credibility and mission of the organizations offering opportunities.	
Read reviews or testimonials from previous volunteers.	
• Compare programs based on the skills they require, the impact they create, and your personal goals.	1
Step 4: Prepare Your Application	
Update your resume to highlight relevant skills and experiences.	
Write a compelling statement explaining your motivation for volunteering.	
Gather required documents, such as identification or background checks.	

Step 5	5: Reach Out and Apply	
•	Contact organizations directly to learn more about open roles and their expectations.	
•	Submit your application and confirm receipt with the program coordinator.	
•	Follow up if necessary to express your enthusiasm for the role.	
Step 6	6: Get Ready to Volunteer	
•	Attend any required orientations or training sessions.	
•	Familiarize yourself with the organization's policies and mission.	
•	Set clear personal goals for what you hope to achieve through the experience.	
Step 7	7: Reflect and Grow	
•	Regularly evaluate your experience and its impact on your skills and personal development.	
•	Seek feedback from supervisors or team members to improve your contributions.	
•	Stay open to expanding your role or taking on new challenges in the future.	

Pro Tip: Print or save this checklist as a guide to ensure you remain focused and prepared throughout your volunteering journey!

View our website for more helpful guides: <u>https://www.socialworkportal.com/</u>