



Celebrate National Volunteer Week April 18-24, 2010

Can't afford to Volunteer? Maybe you can't afford not to, here's why...

- ◆ Is it really who you know? You bet and by volunteering you can get to know the people who may have or know someone who has a job opening for you one day. Still undecided? Read Meghan's story about how the contacts she made while volunteering paid off for her!
- ◆ Students or new graduates in particular can squash employer concerns about not having enough work experience by volunteering to get those sought after skills. Bonus points is getting a great reference as well.
- ◆ Considering a career change? Volunteering is a great way to gain the hands on experience that employers are going to be looking for. Don't forget, the grass may or may not be greener on the other side - by volunteering you can decide if the new career is something you truly want to pursue!



"I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that.
Then I realized I was somebody."
Lily Tomlin (Well known Actress & Comedian)

Volunteer Experience Results in Many Career Benefits (Submitted by: Meghan)

Although volunteer experience does not provide you with a pay cheque, it provides you with skills, experience and connections that can make it easier for you to find paid employment in the future.

Importantly, it can also be a rewarding experience that facilitates personal growth and self-awareness.

If you have an area of interest career-wise, try volunteering in the field first in order to see if it's an area to dedicate your work life. You'll be amazed at how positive an experience it can be to be surrounded by like-minded people who are willing to share their wisdom and knowledge.



Are You Up for the Challenge?...

The 2010 Change The World Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge is a way for Ontario teens to make a difference in their lives and communities through volunteering.

Their goal? To have 10,000 Ontario youth for three hours for a province-wide total of 30,000 volunteer hours.

The Challenge will take place during a three-week period commencing on the first day of National Volunteer Week, April 18 and finishing on May 9,

Did you know? ...

Meghan volunteered with 2nd Chance while completing her school placement and is now working in the Guelph Resource Centre. Volunteering may not pay but it sure "paid" off for Meghan!

Find out more by visiting www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/changetheworld/ or www.volunteer.ca