



Strong Families, Safe Kids

# Volunteer Orientation



## Our Mission

Olive Crest is dedicated to **Preventing** child abuse, to **Treating** and **Educating** at-risk children and to **Preserving** the family... “One Life at a Time.”®

# Importance of Volunteering

Children come into this world seeking love, protection, and care. Unfortunately, for many children, that search will be fruitless. Since the establishment of its first residential group home in 1973, Olive Crest, a non-profit organization, has been committed to healing young lives affected by abuse, neglect, and abandonment. Olive Crest helps children and youth find the only family that some of them will ever know. By giving victims of abuse the love and support generated by a stable family setting, Olive Crest can break the cycle of abuse and provide opportunities for brighter, healthier futures. Olive Crest offers hope, safety, and a place to heal and grow. And volunteers are absolutely necessary for this healing process to occur.



# Your Opportunity to Make a Difference



For individuals who have ever felt the call to help children and youth, volunteering for Olive Crest is an opportunity to make a difference. Volunteers offer their time, talents, and treasure to help further the mission of the organization. They work in partnership with staff members and other volunteers in all areas. In return for their efforts, volunteers experience the joy of making a difference in the life of a child, youth or at risk family.

We look forward to your help in bringing us one step closer to realizing our goal of “preventing child abuse, treating and educating at risk children, and preserving the family...One Life at a Time.”®

# How much time do I commit?

Whether you have just a few minutes, an hour, day, a month, or a year, there are plenty of ways to put your valuable time to good use for the children, youth and families of Olive Crest. Time requirements vary by volunteer opportunity.

## Direct Services

### High Commitment

Volunteers are in direct contact with children and families throughout the year. These volunteers should be willing to invest a large amount of time in the youth and families of Olive Crest.

### Low Commitment

Volunteers are in direct contact with the children and families for short periods of time. These volunteers assist for a few hours once or twice a month.



## Support Services

### High Commitment

Volunteers are involved with plenty of “behind-the-scenes” work for Olive Crest. These volunteers are involved in projects like event planning or office support for our organization.

### Low Commitment

Volunteers can be extra support during our events, or they can raise community awareness to help meet the needs of our youth and families.

# Direct Services Volunteer Opportunities

Direct service offers unique opportunities for individuals and groups to serve directly with children, youth and families in our care. There are a variety of opportunities throughout the year, both short and long term, to connect and make a significant difference. Many of our direct service positions require a full background clearance.

Mentor	Child Care
Make a life-changing impact in the life of an at-risk youth by becoming a mentor. A successful mentor relationship improves a youth's self-esteem, provides valuable experiences for youth to build lasting relationships, and affirms that there are people who genuinely care, and want to see all children and youth succeed.	Be a positive influence in the lives of at risk children by volunteering at monthly support groups to help provide a fun, learning experience. Create activities, bring snacks, and read and play with at-risk children.



# Direct Services Volunteer Opportunities



## Internships

Olive Crest has several internship opportunities available throughout the year in our Foster, Adoption, Counseling, Residential, and Family Support programs, as well as Human Resources, Fund Development, and Marketing positions. Learn valuable skills and gain specialist experience working in the non-profit environment.

## Chaplaincy

Work alongside our Chaplain and help provide for the spiritual needs of our youth and families through encouragement, prayer, friendship, and sharing the grace found in God's word. Consider leading Bible studies or spiritual discussions in a teen group home, being a prayer partner/counselor for parents, attending youth camps and special events, and taking foster youth to church.

# Support Services Volunteer Opportunities

Support services provide opportunities for volunteers who enjoy being “behind-the-scenes” by assisting in the day-to-day tasks that keep Olive Crest running smoothly.

<b>Office and Event Support</b>	<b>Corporate Volunteer Involvement</b>
You can help support our corporate team by providing services as needed. This could include various tasks, from data entry to organizing inventory to helping set up an event. Find a place that suits you!	Help support the needs of at-risk youth and families at Olive Crest with your own colleagues, friends and family. Host an event for our families or youth, or engage in a work service project at an Olive Crest site.



# Support Services Volunteer Opportunities



## Donations of Goods and Services

Olive Crest accepts a variety of in-kind donations throughout the year to help support our children and families. Donate your professional services to help Olive Crest build a better life for the at-risk population that we support. For a complete list of current needs, visit our website.

## Olive Crest Advocate

Be a business or community partner that regularly supports Olive Crest by raising community awareness. Invite us to speak at your event, engage in fundraisers or just share the good news about what we do! Build a team of volunteers that regularly supports the children, youth and families of Olive Crest.

# Next Steps to Becoming an Olive Crest Volunteer

Once you have decided which volunteer opportunity you are interested in, please fill out a volunteer application for the region in which you wish to volunteer at <https://www.olivecrest.org/volunteer/>

If you have any questions, get in touch with your region's Community Involvement Department or email us at [info@olivecrest.org](mailto:info@olivecrest.org).

Remember, there are volunteer opportunities available for all ages. **Everyone is welcome – we will find a place for you!**

Stay up to date with our latest projects and events by checking out our calendar at [www.olivecrest.org/events/](http://www.olivecrest.org/events/).

# OLIVE CREST®

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# Thanks for Your Support!

We look forward to partnering with you toward the goal of “preventing child abuse, treating and educating at risk children, and preserving the family...One Life at a Time.”®

