

101 WAYS TO GIVE
RECOGNITION
TO VOLUNTEERS

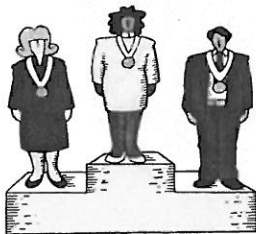
Continuously, but always inconclusively, the subject of recognition is discussed by directors and coordinators of volunteer programs. There is great agreement as to its importance but great diversity in its implementation. Listed below are 101 possibilities gathered from hither and yon. The duplication at 1 and 101 is for emphasis. The blank at 102 is for the beginning of your own list. I think it is important to remember that recognition is not so much something you do as it is something you are. It is a sensitivity to others as persons, not a strategy for discharging obligations.

1. Smile
2. Put up a volunteer suggestion box
3. Treat to a soda
4. Reimburse assignment-related expenses
5. Ask for a report
6. Send a birthday card
7. Arrange for discounts



8. Give service stripes
9. Maintain a coffee bar
10. Plan annual ceremonial occasions
11. Invite to a staff meeting

12. Recognize personal needs and problems
13. Accommodate personal needs and problems
14. Be pleasant
15. Use in an emergency situations
16. Provide a babysitter
17. Post Honor Roll in reception area
18. Respect their wishes
19. Give informal teas
20. Keep challenging them
21. Send a Thanksgiving Day card to the volunteer's family
22. Provide a nursery



23. Say "Good Morning"
24. Greet by name
25. Provide good pre-service training
26. Help develop self-confidence
27. Award plaques to sponsoring group
28. Take time to explain
29. Be verbal

30. Motivate agency VIP's to converse with them
31. Hold rap sessions

32. Give additional responsibility
33. Afford participation in team planning
34. Respect sensitivities
35. Enable to grow on of the job
36. Enable to grow out of the job
37. Send newsworthy information to the media
38. Have wine and cheese tasting parties
39. Ask clients-patient to evaluate their work-service
40. Say "Good Afternoon"
41. Honor their preferences
42. Create pleasant surroundings
43. Welcome to staff coffee breaks
44. Enlist to train other volunteers
45. Have a public reception
46. Take time to talk
47. Defend against hostile or
48. Make good plans
49. Commend to supervisory staff
50. Send a valentine
51. Make thorough prearrangements



52. Persuade "personnel" to equate volunteer experience with work experience
53. Admit to partnership with paid staff
54. Recommend to prospective employer
55. Provide scholarships to volunteer conferences or workshops
56. Offer advocacy roles
57. Utilize as consultants
58. Write them thank you notes
59. Invite participation in policy formulation
60. Surprise with coffee and cake
61. Celebrate outstanding projects and achievements
62. Nominate for volunteer awards
63. Have a "Presidents Day" for new presidents of sponsoring groups
64. Carefully match volunteer with job
62. Praise them to their friends
63. Provide substantive in-service training
64. Provide useful tools in good working conditions
68. Say "Good night"
69. Plan staff and volunteer social events
70. Be a real person
71. Rent billboard space for public laudation
72. Accept their individuality

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73. Provide opportunities for conferences and evaluations
74. Identify age groups
75. Maintain meaningful file
76. Send impromptu fun cards
77. Plan occasional extravaganzas
78. Instigate client planned surprises
79. Utilize purchased newspaper space
80. Promote a "Volunteer-of-the-Month program"
81. Send letter of appreciation to employer
82. Plan a "Recognition Edition" of the agency newsletter
83. Color code name tags to indicate particular achievements (hours, years, unit, etc.)
84. Send commendatory letters to prominent public figures
85. Say "we missed you"
86. Praise the sponsoring group or club
87. Promote staff smiles
88. Facilitate personal maturation



89. Distinguish between groups and individuals in the group
90. Maintain safe working conditions
91. Adequately orientate
92. Award special citations for extraordinary achievements
93. Fully indoctrinate regarding the agency
94. Send Christmas cards
95. Be familiar with the details of agency
96. Conduct community-wide, cooperative, interagency recognition events
97. Plan a theater party
98. Attend a sports event
99. Have a picnic
100. Say "Thank You"
101. Smile
- 102.

