

# Now That You're a Volunteer

Below is a list of things you need to know now that you're a Volunteer at NeighborLink Fort Wayne.

## **100% OF PROJECTS ARE SELECTED BY VOLUNTEERS**

You can choose any project you feel like you can/want to take on. The next step is to log in, view the projects, and contact the recipient directly that you want to serve. You will work with them to decide whether you can help, when to schedule, and how to get the project done. Do anything you need to do to feel comfortable saying yes to helping.

## **NEIGHORLINK IS HERE TO HELP**

We're here to help as much or as little as you need to accomplish your chosen project. Don't hesitate to ask before, during, or after your project is done.

## **CORE PHILOSOPHY - ELIMINATE BARRIERS**

One of our core philosophies is to eliminate the barriers for people to ask for help and for those wanting to help. Those barriers look different for each recipient and for each volunteer. So, if you are bumping into a barrier, don't hesitate to ask for help overcoming it.

## **FUNDING STRATEGY**

We like to look at funding like a triangle and we know that no triangle looks the same. Each project is a little different, but here is a general breakdown of that triangle.

### **RECIPIENT**

A lot of times, recipients have the resources or a portion of the resources to buy the supplies needed to complete the project. We encourage you to ask them and encourage them to participate in the project in this way. It doesn't hurt to ask and we want to maintain the position of "helping" as much as we can. There is no pressure for the recipient to contribute, but we always ask as a way to maintain the dignity of the project.

### **VOLUNTEERS/CHURCH**

We encourage our volunteers and the churches we work with to consider how they can participate financially as well. It's a way for the team to have a deeper sense of ownership to the project and the transformation that comes with the process.

### **NEIGHORLINK**

Due to the generous nature of our supporters and small grants we receive, we can offer money towards the project. We ask that you contact us directly before buying supplies to go over the project and what the needs are. We'll do our best to not let any project not get done because of money.

## **WEBSITE MAINTENANCE EXPECTATIONS**

We ask that you make sure to select the projects you take on by clicking the buttons on the website that let everyone else know the project is selected. We also ask that you mark projects complete once you've finished them so we can maintain a clean, functional site. With over 1,000 projects being posted each year, we want to keep the machine running as smoothly as possible. I know websites can be tough, so if you have questions, don't hesitate to ask for help.

## **RESOURCE PAGE**

You're going to have a learning curve as you engage in NeighborLink's model. This is why we've created a Resource Section within your member dashboard. There are forms, resource guides and other items you'll need as you engage in volunteering with us. Check there and check often.

## **LIABILITY & WAIVER FORM**

We have a Waiver Form that can be accessed once you select as project as a Coach on that project page. We **NEED** you to get this signed by the recipient. This releases them from personal injuries that could take place on their properties and will release you/us from any property damage that could take place due to our work. This is a **VITAL** part of NeighborLink and allows us to do what we do.

## **VOLUNTEER AT YOUR OWN RISK**

We are a "Volunteer At Your Own Risk" organization and do not have insurance to cover volunteer injuries. So, if you and/or your team members do not carry personal insurance, choose your projects wisely. I'd be happy to discuss this further if you have questions or concerns about taking projects.