El Valor Volunteer Opportunities 2026

Mission: El Valor is a nonprofit organization that serves more than 4,000 children, adults with disabilities, and their families each year. Our mission is to support our community to strive for excellence and engage fully in life. Through our programs, we create opportunities to build community, fostering self-advocacy and a deep sense of belonging within a supportive learning environment.

How You Can Help: We invite groups to volunteer their time and efforts to help us make a difference in our community. El Valor has four Children and Family Centers, a Developmental Training Center, and six residential homes for adults with disabilities. Below is a list of volunteer opportunities across our programs. Many opportunities also involve preparation leading up to the event day, and we're happy to organize a volunteer day in advance. For more information or to express your interest, please contact Emma at emma.debiasio@elvalor.net or (312) 492-5936.

Date	Program/Event	Description
February 13 10am-1pm	Adult Program – Valentines Day Party	Support with set up/take down. Help decorate, lead crafts and activities, serve lunch and snacks.
February 24 & 25 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Auto Show	Help us decorate, prepare children for the parade, build cars out of recycled materials.
March 17-20 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Baby Shower	Host donation drives for diapers, clothing, etc. Help with activities, set up, and cleanup.
March 23-27 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Spring Cleaning	While our children are home for Spring Break, help us clean and sanitize our facilities.
March through April	Adult Program – Spring Cleaning	Visit one of our residential homes to help with deep cleaning the house and garage.
April through May	Adult Program – Garden Preparation	Prepare one of El Valor's many gardens located at our six residential homes and Main Office.
April 10 9am-12pm	Adult Program – Prom	Support with set up/take down. Help with decoration, serve dinner, and overall assistance with adult participants.
April 27-30 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Día Del Niño Parade	Help the children's program prepare for the parade of pollinators as they march around the neighborhood.
May 11-15 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Mother's Day	Host workshop, assist with various events & opportunities we provide to our moms throughout the week.
June 15-18 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Father's Day	Host workshop, assist with various events & opportunities we provide to our moms throughout the week.
Week of March 17 & Week of July 21 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Baby Shower	Host donation drives for diapers, clothing, etc. Help with activities, set up, and cleanup.
Various Dates in August	Children's Program – Back to School Fairs	Organize supplies, support with set up & take down, give away backpacks, host donation drive.
August 14	Adult Program –	Help staff during a day of outdoor fun – grilling, games,

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10am-1pm	Participant Picnic	music, art, and more.
Various Dates in September 9am-12pm	Both Programs – Butterfly Release	Help staff prepare for our Annual Monarch Butterfly Release. Assistance will be needed leading up to event.
October 16 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Pumpkin Patch	Support with set up/take down, run various pumpkin patch activities, etc.
October 30 10am-1pm	Adult Program – Halloween Party	Support with set up/take down. Help decorate, lead crafts and activities, serve lunch and snacks.
November 6 9am12pm	Children's Program – Resource Fair	Support with set up/take down, host a resource table
November 19 & 20 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Classroom Family Time	Parents and caregivers will join their child for a meal. Support with classroom mealtimes and activities.
November 20 10am-1pm	Adult Program – Thanksgiving Party	Support with set up/take down. Help decorate, lead crafts and activities, serve lunch and snacks.
Various Dates in November 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Holiday Food Distribution	Organize and distribute holiday hams to all families during end of day pick up.
December 17 1pm-4pm	Adult Program – Holiday Decorations	Support with setting up and decorating Christmas trees and additional holiday décor.
December 18 9am-1pm	Adult Program – Holiday Celebration	Support with set up/take down. Help decorate, lead crafts and activities, serve lunch and snacks.
Various Dates in December 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Dress and Santa	We invite Santa and his elves to El Valor to visit with our children and take photos.
Various Dates in December 9am-12pm	Both Programs – Gift Wrapping	Help us wrap gifts for our children and adult participants during the month of December
Various Dates in December 9am-12pm	Children's Program – Winter Cleaning	While our children are home for Winter Break, help us clean and sanitize our facilities.
Ongoing	Both Programs – General Upkeep/Cleaning	Assist with gardening, painting, cleaning & sanitizing, etc.
Ongoing	Children's Program – Classroom Activity	Read to a classroom and lead an activity.
Ongoing	Children's Program – Help a Teacher	Prepare materials for lessons, clean and sanitize toys and surfaces, decorate bulletin board/doors
Ongoing	Both Programs – Host a Workshop	Host a workshop for staff, families, or the community (finance, support groups, etc.)
Ongoing	Both Programs – Host a Donation Drive	Host a donation drive for winter clothing, diapers & formula, school supplies, etc.
Ongoing	Both Programs – Host a Fundraiser	Host a fundraiser to help support El Valor's community of over 4,000 children, adults with disabilities, and families

El Valor Volunteer Locations

Guadalupe A. Reyes Children & Family Center
1951 W. 19th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Carlos H. Cantu Children & Family Center
2434 S. Kildare Avenue
Chicago, IL 60623

Rey B. Gonzalez Children & Family Center
3050 E. 92nd Street
Chicago, IL 60617

El Valor Cicero Children & Family Center
5310 W. 24th Place
Cicero, Illinois 60804

El Valor Life Skills Center
1850 W. 21st Street
Chicago, IL 60608

ComEd Administration Building
1924 W. 21st Street
Chicago, IL 60608

El Valor's six Residential Homes are located in Pilsen, Little Village, Cicero, and Berwyn. Addresses will be provided when coordinating volunteer opportunities.