



## Questions You May Have

### About programs you saw

**Q: How does Volunteers of America serve veterans?**

**A:** Volunteers of America provides temporary housing, as well as job placement services for formerly homeless Veterans. It also supports Veterans and their families who are on the verge of homelessness by getting them into new homes or helping them stay where they are.

**Q: How does Volunteers of America serve seniors?**

**A:**

- Volunteers of America has three apartment buildings in the local area, one in Mid City (The Terraces), one on the Jefferson/Orleans parish line (Wisdom Manor), and one in Houma (Academy Place), that provide housing for over 300 seniors on a limited fixed income.
- The Retired Senior Volunteers Programs of St. Tammany (RSVP of St. Tammany) offers volunteer opportunities to people 55 and older that live in St. Tammany. The volunteers work at various nonprofit locations like hospitals, food banks, schools, etc. to provide help as needed. This is funded by an AmeriCorps Seniors grant.
- The Repairs on Wheels is a program that helps build ramps and make homes handicap assessable for seniors living in Jefferson, St. Tammany and St. Charles parishes that are on low fixed incomes.

**Q: How does Volunteers of America serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities?**

**A:** Volunteers of America helps individuals with disabilities live independently in a group home setting or in their own homes. Last year it provided support for 151 people.

**Q: How does Volunteers of America help people with addictions?**

**A:** Volunteers of America provides housing and case management services for people who have gone through treatment and are on the road to recovery. Last year it provided support for 220 people. In addition, Volunteers of America in partnership with Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, seeks out and helps people in the throes of opioid addictions find the recovery services they need. Lastly, the Journey program helps people who are at higher risk of contracting HIV and have a substance abuse disorder.

**Q: What are you doing to combat the opioid crisis?**

**A:** Volunteers of America in partnership with Florida Parishes Human Services Authority, seeks out and helps people in the throes of opioid addictions find the recovery services they need. This work is done in St. Tammany, Washington, Tangipahoa, Livingston, and St. Helena Parishes.

**Q: What schools does the Fresh Food Factor serve?**

**A:** Fresh Food Factor serves charter schools (primary and secondary) in both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. Total enrollment at these schools is 8,000 students.

**Q: What did Volunteers of America do for people during the pandemic?**

**A:** Volunteers of America continued to serve the people in need but utilizing telehealth when available, phone calls, and other check-in means. Additionally, Volunteers of America provided COVID resource coordination across the state as part of the Louisiana Department of Health's contract tracing services.



Reach For The Stars

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### About making a gift to Volunteers of America

**Q: What if I want to give by check?**

**A:** You can give by check. Please mail your check to  
Reach for the Stars  
Volunteers of America  
4152 Canal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70119  
In the memo, please write “Reach for the Stars”

**Q: What if I want to give stock?**

**A:** If you would like to give stock, you can contact our Vice President of Resource Development & Marketing, John Sillars at 504-482-2130

**Q: Does the money stay in our community?**

**A:** Volunteers of America Southeast Louisiana is an independent affiliate with its own president & CEO and board of directors. Any support raised at this event stays in our community.

**Q: How much of the money goes to programming?**

**A:** 85.5% of all revenue goes to programming, with 14.5% going to administrative support – human resources, accounting, IT, marketing and fundraising.

**Q: Why do you need my money?**

**A:** Every year Volunteers of America has a funding gap, which is the difference between the true cost of providing the support to the people we serve and what we receive from various government agencies. We look to the community – individuals, corporations, and foundations - every year to help cover that gap.

### About volunteer opportunities

**Q: Where can I find out about volunteer opportunities**

- A:**
- For adults, older people – Volunteers of America currently has a Retired Senior Volunteer Program in St Tammany Parish AKA RSVP of St. Tammany. This program connects volunteers with opportunities they will find fulfilling. On the South shore, our Volunteer opportunities are currently suspended because of COVID restrictions.
  - For kids – We cannot offer volunteer opportunities for individuals under 18.



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### Other questions about Volunteers of America

**Q: Do you still have an adoption program?**

**A:** Volunteers of America has been a licensed adoption agency since the 1940's. It helps birthmothers with unplanned pregnancies and couples unable to have children on their own. We also offer maternity services to mothers who do not have the means to acquire these services.

**Q: What other services does Volunteers of America provide?**

**A:** Volunteers of America has over 20 programs to help vulnerable populations – at-risk youth, homeless veterans, people with disabilities, seniors. You can look on their website [voasela.org](http://voasela.org) to find out more.

**Q: What type of housing does volunteers of America provide?**

**A:** Volunteers of America provides housing for a number of groups

- Transitional housing for homeless veterans
- 7 group homes for people with disabilities
- We have three senior housing developments
- We have four workforce housing developments and three more currently under construction.

**Q: Does Volunteers of America build housing?**

**A:** Since 2006 Volunteers of America has built 7 housing developments in our community – 3 housing developments for seniors, and 4 for working families.

**Q: How many employees do you have?**

**A:** Volunteers of America has 509 employees – 268 full time employees, and 241 part time employees.

**Q: What parishes do you serve?**

**A:** Volunteers of America serves 16 parishes throughout Southeast Louisiana – Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington.

**Other questions? Please contact John Sillars at 504-486-8664 or [jsillars@voasela.org](mailto:jsillars@voasela.org)**