

Greater Cleveland Volunteers

Connecting you with opportunities to serve

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Greater Cleveland Volunteers

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Pickle Pandemonium CLEVELAND PICKLE FEST® PACKS A CRUNCH!

Over 5,000 pickle lovers turned out for the Seventh Annual Cleveland Pickle Fest® on Saturday, September 20. Downtown Cleveland's Mall C was packed with eventgoers, vendors, GCV staff, and 100 volunteers. In addition to the usual crowd favorites like the youth and adult pickle-eating contests, there was a pickle puppy pageant and a 50/50 drawing at the end of the festival.

The pickle beer was flowing, and there was more pickle-flavored lemonade, fried pickles, spicy pickles, garlic pickles, and everything-flavored pickles that you could hope for! Eighty vendors in all were on hand, some from as far away as New Jersey. Festival attendees came from Northeast Ohio and beyond, including Wisconsin.

Cleveland Pickle Fest® is Greater Cleveland Volunteer's biggest fundraiser of the year, and we want to sincerely thank all our sponsors, vendors, donors, attendees, partners, board members, and staff for making this event such a success. See you in 2026!



CHAT PALS



A program of Greater Cleveland Volunteers

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT CHAT PALS, VISIT
www.chatpals.org



Chat Pals is a phone or video-based program designed to provide connection to community, emotional support, companionship, and improved mental and physical well-being. Participants and volunteers are matched based on interests and experienced, so a friendship can be formed.

Greater Cleveland Volunteers is funded in part by AmeriCorps Seniors and the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM CLEVELAND PICKLE FEST®



Billy Likes Soda



Old Skool



Youth Pickle Eating Contest



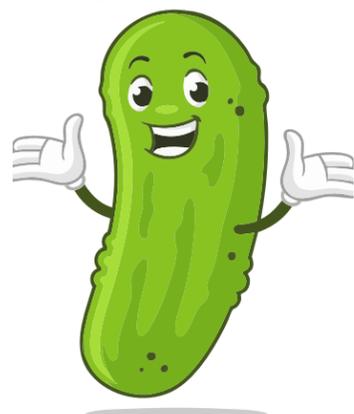
Adult Pickle Eating Contest



Winner of the Pickle Pup Pageant.

Enjoying some pickle-flavored cotton candy.

See you in 2026!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN HEALTHCARE

Volunteers play a vital role in the healthcare field by providing essential support that enhances patient care and the overall efficiency of medical facilities. They offer emotional comfort, companionship, and non-medical assistance to patients, which can significantly improve recovery and well-being.

Volunteers also help reduce the workload of healthcare professionals by assisting with administrative tasks, guiding visitors, and supporting hospital operations. Their presence allows medical staff to focus more on clinical responsibilities.

In community health settings, volunteers are instrumental in outreach, education, and preventive care initiatives, helping to raise awareness and promote healthier lifestyles. They often serve as a bridge between healthcare providers and underserved populations, improving access to care.

Additionally, volunteering fosters a spirit of compassion and community engagement, inspiring future generations to pursue careers in health. Overall, healthcare volunteers are indispensable in creating a more humane, responsive, and efficient healthcare environment.



EXAMPLES OF HEALTHCARE OPPORTUNITIES

- Professional skills: Attorney, board member, presenter
- Medical supplies sorter • Receptionist, ambassador
- Clerical, data entry, benefits screener • Patient escort, activity assistance
- Telephone volunteering: Helpline, wellness center, nutrition mentor, Chat Pal
- Hospital magician • Guardianships
- Drivers: Meals on Wheels, blood transportation

Visit greaterclevols.vsyslive.com for volunteer opportunities, or scan the QR code. Contact Nancy Dzurnak at contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x2123 for more information.

UPCOMING EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

November Community Clean Up: Clean Up the Old Brooklyn Neighborhood on Saturday, November 8th from 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Assist with landscaping beds, weeding, picking up trash and debris.

December Warehouse Sale: Hospice volunteers bring comfort to patients and their loved ones in a variety of ways, including fundraising efforts. Your efforts can contribute to a successful Warehouse Sale in the Collinwood Neighborhood on Saturday, December 6th and Sunday, December 7th. Assistance is needed for three shifts, on Saturday 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. or 11:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and on Sunday 12–3:00 p.m. moving furniture or sales floor help.

Visit tinyurl.com/GCVEventVols to see these and other opportunities to help make our community stronger and more just. Contact Nancy Dzurnak at ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x2123 for more information.