

Let your  
light  
shine out.

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**VOLUNTEER**



Episcopal  
Community  
Services

## Volunteering is personal. You give more than just your time, and you get plenty back.

The motivation to be generous and do good varies from person to person, but we know one thing for sure: when you devote your time and talents selflessly to something or someone in need, the change that can occur is remarkable.

To give your time is an investment, one that you, too, reap the benefits of. It heightens your sense of purpose and builds a connection—connection to another person, to your community, and to your place in this world.

With one-on-one and group activities, volunteering at Episcopal Community Services is as fulfilling for volunteers as it is valuable to the person or program being helped. Showing up and having your light shine out lets our participants know that they are seen, heard, and cared for.

Through their service, our volunteers help carry out our mission to challenge and reduce intergenerational poverty. For more information and to get involved, visit [ecsphilly.org/volunteer](https://ecsphilly.org/volunteer).

“I am only one, but I am one.  
I cannot do everything, but I can  
do something. And I will not let  
what I cannot do interfere with  
what I can do.”

—Edward Everett Hale

# 3,800

MORE THAN 3,800 HOURS  
GIVEN BY GENEROUS  
VOLUNTEERS EACH YEAR

# 1,000

NEARLY 1,000  
YOUTH SUPPORTED  
THROUGH ONE-  
ON-ONE AND  
GROUP VOLUNTEER  
ACTIVITIES

# 100

NEARLY 100  
MENTOR AND  
COMPANION  
RELATIONSHIPS  
PAIRED AND  
FOSTERED

# 3,000

MORE THAN 3,000 MEALS PREPARED  
AND SERVED BY VOLUNTEERS

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## Where will volunteering take you?

When it comes to volunteering, Brent Doane has a few words of wisdom. “It may lead you to places that you never dreamed—places that are so much better than you had thought.” He and his wife, Deanna, and their sons, Harrison and Charlie, have volunteered with WinterShelter since 2011.

The shelter offers men experiencing homelessness during the winter months a safe place to stay overnight. For the individuals, families, organizations, and various places of worship that sign up to volunteer, the shelter provides invaluable experiences. They prepare and serve dinners nightly, and often stay to enjoy the meals with residents. The warm plates and warmer hearts that fill the facility are what make the space so special.

Brent and his boys first volunteered to fulfill Harrison’s confirmation requirement. After seeing them interact with the shelter guests, Brent thought to himself, “There’s more going on here than public service.

As a parent, it was awesome to see that—[my children] embracing it,” he said.

The Doanes decided to return as a family a few weeks later. “From there, we just got hooked,” he said. They now prepare dinner monthly during shelter operations from November through April. What had started as a few hours of required service has turned into a much-looked-forward-to family affair.

Over time, the Doanes have become favorite dinner hosts—and with good reason. “Anything we put in front of them is something we would want to serve at our own table,” Brent said. Sometimes meatloaf is on the menu, other times chicken sandwiches or a ballpark-themed dinner if baseball season is near. Sports are a common conversation topic, but life experiences are also shared. “They all have dreams, too. They all have hopes,” Brent added.

Before saying their goodbyes, The Family, as they are affectionately nicknamed, asks, “What would you like us to bring next time?”

And during the car ride home, the Doanes reflect. “Inevitably, every conversation is, ‘Aw, man, is this not just your favorite night of the month?’ That’s why we do it,” Brent said. “When these guys gather around and give you hugs and just thank you ... there’s absolutely nothing in the world you can buy that can make you feel that way.”



Out of School  
Time volunteers  
help youth with  
their homework  
and study skills.



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# We believe that every individual has the courage, capacity, and will to define and achieve their measure of success and to help remove barriers for another in need.

*Photo below:* Meals prepared by volunteers offer both sustenance and community.



Be  
generous  
& do good.

