



BE GENEROUS AND DO GOOD.

SPRING 2019
VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

- A message from Julya Loder, our new manager of volunteer programs
- A sweet gesture from a generous Girl Scout
- History teacher Carlos Aponte and his students promote volunteerism (and ECS)!
- Upcoming events and more!



Episcopal
Community
Services

National Volunteer Week

Sunday, April 7 –
Saturday, April 13

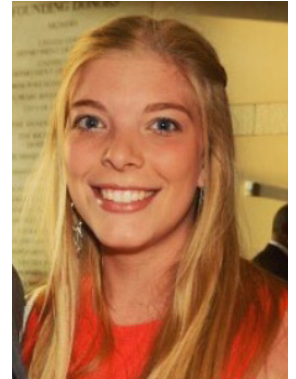


Visit ecsphilly.org/volunteerweek
for more information.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE

I am thrilled to be a part of such a wonderful community of people.

I have recently joined ECS as the new manager of volunteer programs. Within my short time at ECS, I have witnessed so much passion, energy, and dedication that each one of our volunteers bring to our participants and our programs. I look forward to connecting with all of you in some capacity, whether it is through email, phone call, or at one of our many volunteer events!



In this issue of our *Be Generous and Do Good*, we are excited to share the variety of events and activities we have planned for National Volunteer Week! While it is nice to have a dedicated week to celebrate our outstanding volunteers, we want all of you to know how thankful we are every single day for the positive impact you help us make in the community.

You are leaders in our work to be generous and do good, and we are so grateful that you have chosen to share your time and talents with our participants and programs. We hope you will join us in celebrating your service during this action-packed week!

Continue reading to learn more about how a local student brought smiles to many through a simple act of kindness and how the We Love Philly Project illustrated volunteerism with ECS.

Thank you for making a difference. If you have any ideas for future editions of our newsletter, feel free to send me a note at julyal@ecsphilly.org.

Julya Loder
Manager of Volunteer Programs

IN THE NEWS

In his most recent Op-ed in the *Philadelphia Business Journal*, David Griffith, executive director, writes about how poverty in America is not unlike a thunderstorm. MindSet and our coaching model are our responses to the storm. To read his piece, visit ecsphilly.org/press.

PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS JOURNAL

GUEST COMMENT

The storm of indigence in America

Editor's note: The Philadelphia Business Journal is taking an in-depth look this year at poverty in our region and how the business community can help provide solutions.

BY DAVID GRIFFITH

Poverty in America is not unlike lightning that comes in the middle of a summer night. You lie in bed with the windows open. It is dark but you wake to the rumble of what could be distant fireworks, but it is not July. If the shades are open, you might catch a flash of light over the horizon followed again by that rumble.

ONGOING SERIES **POVERTY** FINDING SOLUTIONS IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

The cost of maintaining the poverty level over generations is unsustainable. Do you hear the rumble yet?

MindSet is a program based on the most current brain science available that provides coaching and financial assistance to help individuals navigate the system and access opportunity that many of us take for granted.

MindSet is based on programs that have been running for 10 plus years and have shown significant results. It is a three to five-year program that has the objective for the individuals when they are done of having the

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES PUT SMILES ON MANY FACES

The Dolphin Companion program has created a sweet partnership with students from St. Peter's school.

Affectionately referred to as the Pen Pal Project, students from St. Peter's School are paired with a senior living in a nursing home and benefitting from the Dolphin Companions program.

Each student writes a letter and draws a picture, which is sent to the resident and volunteer companions for a back-and-forth friendship. Emily is one such student, who also happens to be a Girl Scout.

While in the process of selling cookies, Emily asked her out-of-town uncle if he would purchase any cookies this year. He decided to send Emily money for the cookies, but asked her to donate those cookies to someone else rather than mailing them to him. She decided she wanted to give the cookies to her pen pal, Jim.

Emily was able to bring 12 boxes of cookies to Episcopal Community Services for Marilyn Knox, Dolphin Companions coordinator, to pass on to Jim and the other residents in his building.

Jim was thrilled to receive a few boxes, and he kept the act of kindness going by giving a box to his roommate. The rest were given to Deborah, the activity director in Jim's building.

She passed the cookies out on National Girl Scout Day, March 12, which commemorates the anniversary of the very first Girl Scout meeting.

Making a difference comes in all shapes, sizes, and ages, and we may not always know how our actions have impacted another.

In this story, however, we got to follow the course of actions made by a generous uncle, a thoughtful student, a giving resident, and dedicated activity director—all of whom brought smiles to many through a few boxes of delicious Girl Scout cookies.





LOTS OF LOVE FROM THE WE LOVE PHILLY PROJECT

A teacher and his students
take interest in promoting
volunteerism (and ECS)!

Carlos Aponte, a local history teacher at One Bright Ray Community High School, Elmwood Campus, and his students have created The We Love Philly project, where they explore volunteerism throughout the city.

After Carlos and his students engage in a volunteer activity, they promote the organization by posting photos and videos of the service through their various social media platforms. Furthermore, they conduct interviews that air on their We Love Philly Podcast that highlight the organization's work and opportunities to get involved.

On Sunday, March 17, Carlos and his students attended our monthly Cook-Off event at St. Barnabas Mission where we assembled 200+ dinners to be distributed to seniors in the City of Philadelphia.

On this particular Sunday, all of our volunteers were brand new to ECS, but you would have never known given how well they worked as a team. Their efficiency was demonstrated by how they completed an hour's worth of work in just 45 minutes!

We want to say thank you to Carlos and his students for the work they are doing, and we are honored that you chose to spotlight ECS. Keep up the good work!

Keep an ear out for the We Love Philly Podcast episode where they interview Arley Styer, MSS, MLSP, chief of programs, about her work, Episcopal Community Services and St. Barnabas Mission, and the numerous ways to volunteer with us.

**Check Out We Love Philly
on Social Media**

Podcast: The We Love Philly Podcast
Facebook: [welove.philadelphia](https://www.facebook.com/welovephiladelphia)
Instagram: [@welovephilly](https://www.instagram.com/welovephilly)

VOLUNTEER RECAP: COOK-OFF

All of our Cook-Off events are special.

March's Cook-Off was particularly special because we had a group of volunteers who were all completely new to ECS! After a short introduction, our volunteers jumped right into their tasks without hesitation.

A few volunteers even brought their young children, each of whom brought such enthusiasm from start to finish and ended up being the stars of the day! Despite not knowing one another, this group of volunteers truly embodied a sense of teamwork.

Furthermore, since we had so many interested volunteers for our March Cook-Off, a few of our volunteers from the Young Friends Circle offered to help clean and organize the food pantry at St. Barnabas, instead of participating in Cook-Off. Thank you to our volunteers for a fun-filled productive day!

2,400

Approximately 2,400 meals are prepared for frail seniors every year with your help at Cook-Off.



SAVE THE DATE

The Forum on Justice & Opportunity

Saturday, October 19, 2019
WHYY, Inc.

Keynote Address
Beth Babcock, PhD
President and CEO, EMPATH

Visit ecsphilly.org/forum for more information.

INTRODUCING REV. DAVID ANDERSON, CHAPLAIN

Rev. Anderson will work with the staffs of Episcopal Community Services and the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania and with volunteers across the region.



Episcopal Community Services and the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania announced the appointment of The Rev. David R. Anderson as Chaplain earlier this year.

Anderson is an Episcopal minister living in Springtown, Pennsylvania. After completing graduate studies in English literature at the University of Chicago, he taught English

literature and writing workshops at Columbia College (Chicago) and Northern Illinois University. Sensing a vocation to ministry, he attended Yale Divinity School, graduated magna cum laude and was ordained in the Episcopal Church. He has served parishes in Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

To learn more about David Anderson, listen to his recent interviews with radio stations WCHE 1520 AM and WNPV, 98.5 FM-1440 AM by visiting ecsphilly.org/press. Welcome, David!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BE GENEROUS AND DO GOOD

Community Cook-Off

Cook-Off volunteers gather every month to assemble 200+ dinners to be distributed to frail aging adults in the City of Philadelphia. No cooking is involved, so your time commitment is limited and easy to fit into a busy schedule.

Location: *St. Barnabas Mission*

Date & Time: *Third Sunday of every month*

Be a Companion

Our companionship programs for the elderly carefully match volunteers to an isolated aging adult either living independently in Philadelphia or in a nursing home or assisted living facility in the Philadelphia suburbs.

Location: *Matched for your convenience*

Date & Time: *Based on your schedule*

Afterschool Tutor

Assist the elementary and middle school students in our Out of School Time program with reading, writing, math, homework, and study skills.

Location: *Various*

Date & Time: *Weekdays 3:00-6:00pm*

Children's Party/Activity Host

Host a children's party at St. Barnabas Mission! Get creative with your theme and plan a party for the moms and their children. Hosts bring snacks, crafts, and/or games for a fun filled afternoon with our families!

Location: *St. Barnabas Mission*

Date & Time: *Sunday afternoons, select dates*

Speed Networking Panelist

Share your career story with the young men and women in our workforce development program, The RISE Initiative. Volunteers speak to the young adults about their occupation and the steps they took to get there.

Location: *Main Office*

Date & Time: *Various: [See back page for upcoming opportunities!](#)*

Lead a Goods Drive

Help ECS provide necessities to our participants by organizing a donation drive at your place of worship, workplace, or in your community! Some of our most needed items include: non-perishables, canned goods, condiments, baby food, books, and diapers.

Location: *Various*

Date & Time: *Based on your schedule*

Community Food Cupboard

Volunteers (individuals or groups up to three people) are needed to help organize the food pantry and assist with food distribution.

Location: *St. Barnabas Mission*

Date & Time: *Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-11:45am*



Episcopal
Community
Services

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit ecsphilly.org/volunteer or email us at volunteer@ecsphilly.org with your area of interest.

UPCOMING EVENTS: SAVE THE DATES

RISE Initiative Mock Interviews

Location: ECS Main Office (225 S. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

Date & Time: Various. Monday, April 15, 2019 through Thursday, April 18, 2019

RISE Initiative Graduation

Location: ECS Main Office (225 S. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

Date & Time: Thursday, April 25, 2019; Noon-2:00pm

Economic Independence Day

Location: ECS Main Office (225 S. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

Date & Time: May 16, 2019; 5:00pm-7:00pm

Cook-Off

Location: ECS Main Office (6006 W. Girard Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151)

Date & Time: Sunday, May 19, 2019 and Sunday, June 16, 2019; 1:00pm-2:00pm

Forum on Justice and Opportunity

Location: WHYI, Inc. (150 N. Sixth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106)

Save the Date: Saturday, October 19, 2019

If you are interested in learning more or attending any of these opportunities, please email Julia Loder at julyal@ecsphilly.org.

Stay connected. Learn about our latest news, events, program updates, and successes. [@ecsphilly](https://twitter.com/ecsphilly)



“[Volunteering] has enhanced my life greatly, and I’m a better person because of it.”

- AMY COBURN
DOLPHIN COMPANIONS VOLUNTEER



Episcopal
Community
Services

215.351.1400
ecsphilly.org