

THE Importance of Caring

JUNE 2024

our journey into volunteering



VolunTEENs pictured above from left: Elizabeth Stoner, Mya Davis, Maverick Rains, Carter Trebac, Stephanie Hawthorne and Alyssa Palma.

Mya Davis, Stephanie Hawthorn, Maverick Rains and Ally Gaver

VOLUNTEENS

MYA DAVIS:

Mya Davis is one of many young students in the community who has joined the VolunTEEN program to get a jumpstart in the health care field.

“I decided to become a VolunTEEN because I am interested in health care, and it is a good way to help the community,” said Davis, who is in the middle of her first year in the program.

Davis’s VolunTEEN assignment is working at the Columbus Fieldhouse. Her typical day includes filling out equipment forms and check-out sheets and putting equipment back where it belongs.

“I have learned all the names of the equipment and how to use them,” she said.

The program has been a great fit for Davis — not only is it beneficial for her career, but it has also been a wonderful way to meet friendly people.

“Everyone is so nice and helpful,” Davis said. **“One piece of advice I would give to teenagers interested in becoming a VolunTEEN is to try it! It is a great experience and I love it.”**

STEPHANIE HAWTHORN:

It can be difficult to decide what you want to do in life, but through the VolunTEEN program at Columbus Community Hospital, teenagers can have an inside look at the health care profession. Stephanie Hawthorn is a volunteer at the Columbus Fieldhouse.

“When I turned the age to become a VolunTEEN, I was so excited,” Hawthorn said. **“I love helping people, so I knew this was going to be a good opportunity for me.”**

Hawthorn started volunteering at the fieldhouse in May 2024.

“Our typical day at the fieldhouse is easy,” she said. **“I interact with visitors, sign in and out materials and make sure all equipment is in the right place.”**

Before becoming a VolunTEEN, Hawthorn was considering volunteering at an animal shelter.

“I am so glad I chose to volunteer at CCH,” she said, **“because everyone is so supportive. They showed me the location of everything in the hospital, YMCA, and fieldhouse.”**

Life has taught Hawthorn a valuable lesson: **“Wherever you go, everything will go in the right direction.”**

“The program was confusing to me at first, but the people around you will help you grow,” she said. **“As you grow, you will go in the right direction.”**

MAVERICK RAINS:

For the past year and a half Maverick Rains has been working at Runza, but on top of working, he is now also a part of the VolunTEEN program.

“Joining the program has helped me grow out of my shell,” he said. **“It has taught me how to communicate better with others.”**

Rains started volunteering at the Columbus Fieldhouse in May 2024.

“Volunteering at the fieldhouse is simple,” he said. **“I check in and out items, take names and put equipment back in its proper place after use.”**

“The VolunTEEN program is a great experience for teenagers who want a job in health care,” he said.

ALLY GAVER:

Ally Gaver will spend summer 2024 volunteering at the Columbus Fieldhouse as a fieldhouse equipment checker.

“The basic duties I have consist of assisting people with checking in and out equipment and ensuring it is working right,” she said. **“A typical day includes assisting people with getting the correct equipment and making sure that it comes back intact and sanitized.”**

Gaver started volunteering at the fieldhouse at the end of the school year.

“I decided to volunteer at CCH because I wanted to help people in many settings, and get a feel for the environment around the hospital,” she said.

When she’s not volunteering at the fieldhouse, Gaver also is an instructor with the Columbus Middle School drumline and a part of the Columbus High School Striv TV streaming team.

“Volunteering at CCH has made me more confident in what I am doing, and helped me what to expect from others,” Gaver said. **“Others should try the VolunTEEN program out, because there might be a spot for you. You might find something you love to do.”**

To learn more about the VolunTEEN program or other volunteer opportunities available at the hospital, visit columbushosp.org.