

# How to find volunteer work online

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IMAGE: MASHABLE COMPOSITE; GETTY CREATIVE

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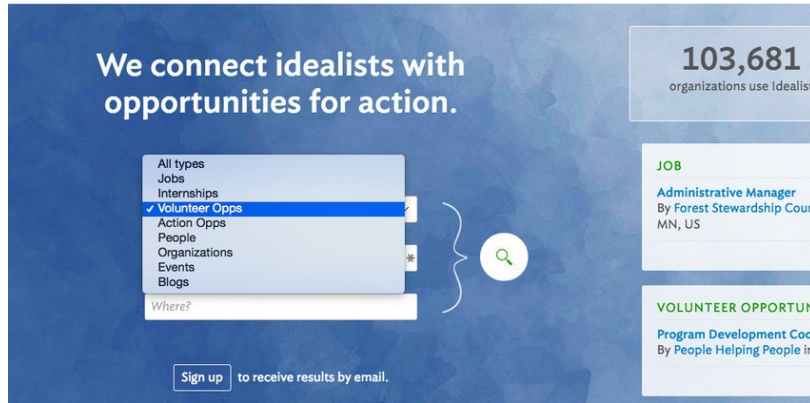
There's an infinite number of worthy causes and organizations eager to have volunteers, but if you're just getting started, it can be difficult — even discouraging — to weed through all the options.

Luckily, many sites and platforms can help you find the best volunteer opportunities that fit your interests and skills. From [Catchafire](#), which helps busy professionals apply their skills to volunteer work, to [DoSomething](#), which helps young people take meaningful action based on their passions and time preferences, you're bound to find volunteer work among the eight resources we've rounded up below.

**SEE ALSO:** [5 Chrome extensions that make charity effortless](#)

This list isn't exhaustive, and doesn't include extended, government-sponsored volunteer opportunities such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps. But these resources will help you get started volunteering, and find local, convenient opportunities near you.

## 1. Idealist



Idealist's mission is to "close the gap between intention and action." It's a trusted source of volunteer opportunities around the world, which you can narrow down by time commitment, area of focus (youth, health, animals, etc.) and language.

IMAGE: IDEALIST

## 2. GozAround

GozAround markets itself as a social network dedicated to making the world a better place. Individuals and organizations can search for and post volunteer requests in specific categories, allowing you to connect easily when something piques your interest, matches your abilities and fits your schedule. The site also gamifies your experience – you earn GozAround Points, which increase your ranking within the site and earn you rewards.

VIDEO: YOUTUBE: GOZAROUND

## 3. VolunteerMatch.org



Search for both local and virtual volunteer work at VolunteerMatch.org. The platform's nearly 30 categories include LGBT, People With Disabilities, Race & Ethnicity, and Arts & Culture.

You can also search by organization, and read other [volunteers' stories](#).

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<p><a href="#">Int'l Volunteer Vacations</a></p> <p>globeaware.org</p> <p>1 Wk Tax-Deductible Vacations Help communities &amp; the environment</p>	<p><a href="#">Great User Experience</a></p> <p>mindtouch.com/U.</p> <p>Deliver Awesome Contextual Product Help, Authoring &amp; Analytics!</p>	<p><a href="#">Volunteer Abroad</a></p> <p>goeco.org</p> <p>Volunteer 1 to 12 weeks, worldwide. Year-round. Make a real difference!</p>	<p><a href="#">Study in Thailand in Dec</a></p> <p>continuingstudi...</p> <p>Learn from Int'l Development Work on Site in Thailand w/ UBC Prof.</p>
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## 4. Catchafire

Catchafire knows you might be a busy, working professional. If you're looking to use the same skills you've acquired on the job to help good causes, this site lets you do just that, asking what you're interested in and what you're good at. Search open projects, apply and interview in a way that's convenient for you. As a plus, many of the projects are remote, catering to the idea that working stiff's can still lend a helping hand.

IMAGE: CATCHAFIRE

## 5. Network for Good



Network for Good lets you search volunteer opportunities by keyword, specific charity names and area of interest. You can also check off special needs or requirements, such as if you're a teen or senior, or you'd like to volunteer in a large group.

Network for Good also has a [dedicated page](#) for people who want to help with disaster and crisis relief.

IMAGE: NETWORK FOR GOOD

## 6. Global Volunteer Network



Want to work long-term with a community in need in a country other than your own? Search through the Global Volunteer Network, which boasts a five-minute, no-obligation form to help you find an opportunity right for you. There are currently 19 projects in 93 countries, and more than 16,000 volunteers have been deployed around the country. Popular projects include teaching English in Costa Rica, mentoring children in Rwanda and caring for orphans in Uganda. This isn't [voluntourism](#), though – you'll be working toward long-term impact in a developing country, and you'll need to cover the costs yourself.

IMAGE: GLOBAL VOLUNTEER NETWORK

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## 7. DoSomething

[DO SOMETHING](#)
Explore Campaigns  
Any cause, anytime, anywhere.
What is DoSomething.org?  
Young people + Social change
🔍

## Join 3,207,358 members.

**▼ Cause**  
What are you passionate about?

- Animals
- Bullying + Violence
- Disasters
- Discrimination
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Homelessness + Poverty
- Sex + Relationships

**▼ Time**  
How long do you have?

- 1 hour or less
- 2-5 hours
- 5+ hours

**▼ Type**  
What would you like to do?

- Donate Something
- Face to Face
- Host an Event
- Improve a Space
- Make Something
- Share Something
- Start Something
- Take a Stand

**STAFF PICK**

**STAFF PICK**

DoSomething is one of the leading organizations for youth and social change. With more than 3.2 members, DoSomething helps young people, well, *do something*. Choose a cause, a time commitment and the type of work you'd like to do, whether it's face-to-face, hosting an event or taking a stand. DoSomething is also unique in that it offers opportunities for causes such as bullying, discrimination, and sex and relationships.

IMAGE: [DOSOMETHING](#)

## 8. HandsOn Network

[Points of Light](#) | [HandsOn Network](#) | [generationOn](#) | [Corporate Institute](#) | [AmeriCorpe Alums](#)

Shop HandsOn Network

**Find Volunteer Opportunities**

Keyword(s)  SEARCH

ZIP Code  SEARCH

OR FIND A LOCAL HANDSON ACTION CENTER

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Join us as we inspire, equip and mobilize volunteers to take action that changes the world.

We put **people** at the center of change. Last year, our Volunteer Action Centers led:

**2.6 MILLION**  
volunteers

**579 MILLION**  
dollars of service

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