

*Mayor's Volunteer Corps*

ZINE

*Fall 2022*

# The Mayor's Volunteer Corps Zine

Organized by the Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service, the Mayor's Volunteer Corps (MVC) is a community of volunteers who commit to ongoing, high-impact service in the city of Philadelphia. This zine captures inspiring stories of service from members of the MVC. We hope this encourages you to reflect on the importance of volunteering and begin (or continue) your journey!

## Join the Mayor's Volunteer Corps!

Getting featured in the Mayor's Volunteer Corps Zine is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Join the Mayor's Volunteer Corps. Register an account at the Mayor's Volunteer Corps portal ([serve.volunteermatch.org](https://serve.volunteermatch.org)).
2. Sign up for volunteer opportunities that are listed on the portal.
3. After completing your volunteer service, track your service hours and share your service story!

## How can you get featured?

Share your volunteer service story by emailing [volunteer@phila.gov](mailto:volunteer@phila.gov)



I volunteered with Read by 4th's Reading Promise Week, Philadelphia's family literacy festival.

I sorted boxes of youth books that were later distributed to several schools throughout the city. It's very important work, because I - along with a team of other volunteers - indirectly helped students improve their reading skills.

I am glad I participated.

*Josy Charles*



I prepped books for a literacy event. I appreciated the teamwork that allowed us to work quickly and efficiently

I love volunteering with children and think it's important to uplift them.

Volunteers keep the world turning.

*Chinita Bradshaw*





I have been volunteering with the City of Dreams Coalition (CODC) since 2019 helping to organize, plan, and support our teams before, during, and after community events. I now sit on their board of directors, and I am the secretary, as well.

We clean up parks, host the Stop The Violence Tour every summer, and provide a place for youth to be empowered through our Social Music Movement in partnership with local recording studios, podcasts, and radio stations. We help with expungement, legal matters, homelessness, family matters, hunger, and violence. We seek to empower our community and our people.

My favorite part about volunteering is that I can help other people access the resources that they really need. Opportunity is what sets peoples' lives apart, and I love that the CODC gives opportunities to people that can change their lives.

*Rosa Nice*  
(on the right)



Over the past 11 months, I volunteered with the Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service's Community Resource Corps AmeriCorps Program.

One of my favorite experiences has been with Fairmount Behavioral Hospital where I engaged with community members who seek in-patient drug and alcohol rehabilitation. This topic hits extremely close to home for me. Every moment that went by during my time spent with these amazing individuals, I felt myself growing and learning things about myself as a human being that I will always remember and cherish.

Some days, I sat in groups with 10 - 15 guys who all wanted to improve ourselves and gain the insight, knowledge, and tools necessary to live happy, fulfilled lives without the use of drugs and alcohol.

Other days, I would put on a pair of medical gloves, grab a paper shopping bag, and walk around the entire outdoor area picking up cigarette butts. I enjoyed being able to give back in this way. Sometimes, I would be joined by someone who just saw me cleaning and spontaneously decided to help. This would often lead to very deep yet therapeutic conversations with one another as we crouched around the courtyard and sidewalks and picked through blades of grass searching for every last piece of litter. Sometimes we laughed, sometimes we cried, and sometimes we shared things with each other that we have never spoke of to anyone else.

This was truly a life changing experience which I will always carry with me in my heart and soul.

*Christian Talman*



I volunteered by packing bags with coloring books, crayons, toys, bookmarks, etc. to be passed out at literacy events around the city. I think it's important to remind people that what makes Philadelphia a great city is the people, and we have to support each other in any way we can because that's what Philly people do.

Being a part of this volunteer experience was genuinely fulfilling. The books were so diverse in characters and storylines. We must encourage children to never stop reading, imagining, and believing.

Volunteering just makes you feel good.

*Lauren Casey*

I volunteered for Children's Hospital Of Philadelphia Parkway Run & Walk, a 5K run/2K walk benefiting pediatric cancer research and care.

It was my first time volunteering. I am thankful to have had the opportunity! The event itself was inspiring and heart warming.

I am excited get involved in events like this more in the future .

*Amy Cheung*



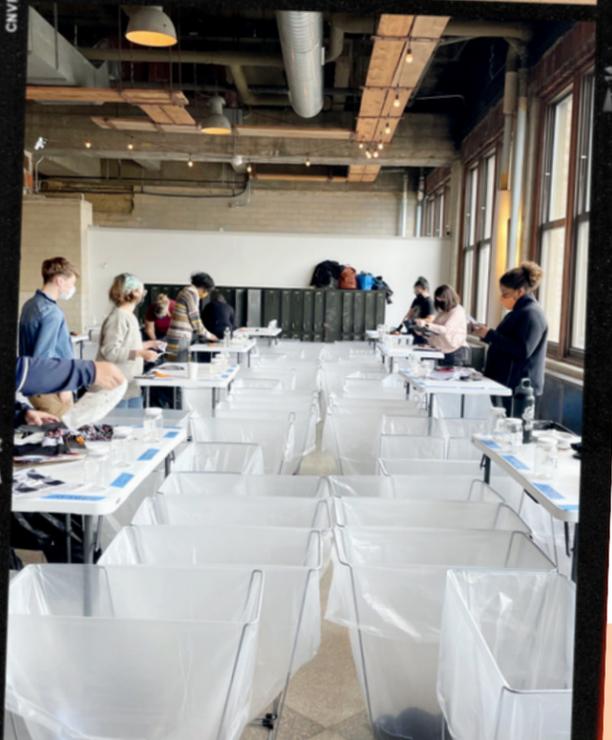
## Let's hear from Local Organizations!

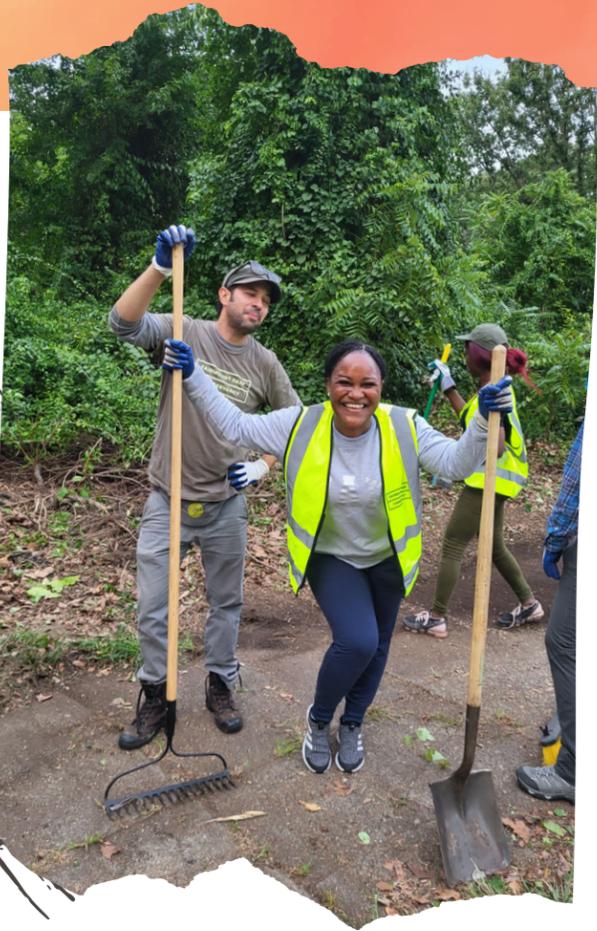
FABSCRAP is a community fueled by community. In our textile sorting volunteer sessions, participants engage in a hands-on service learning experience in which they meet fellow community members passionate about textiles, sustainability, and the health of their local community.

Volunteer sessions provide opportunities for networking and community building while also putting one's hands to use for a great cause!

*Jo Corvus,  
Service Coordinator,  
FABSCRAP*

*Volunteer with FABSCRAP*





Fairmount Park Conservancy invites volunteers for a variety of opportunities that involve cleaning and maintaining our local parks.

Volunteers are the ones who motivate others to do the right things. Local volunteers know their community needs and can get involved to make real changes. Volunteers are important to us because they are the only way that we can accomplish our mission.

Our mission and work have evolved beyond fundraising to position us as a collaborative leader and partner of the park system, focusing more strategically on planning, project management, program development, and community outreach endeavors.

*Eduardo Dueñas, Volunteer Manager,  
Fairmount Park Conservancy  
(on the left)*





Mayor's Office of  
**Civic Engagement and Volunteer Service**  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

