

How to Apply

In order to formally apply to the Junior Volunteer Program an individual must complete all of the following:

- A formal written application
- A visit to the Fidos center
- An interview with the Junior Volunteer Coordinator or the Assistant Junior Volunteer Coordinator.

Applications for the next school year are accepted between January and May. The decisions on next year's junior participants will be made after the application deadline ends. Interested parties are encouraged to complete the application process as quickly as possible since the Junior Volunteer Program is very popular and fills up quickly. For a more timely response, it is preferable your request is submitted via our web site: www.fidosforfreedom.org. If you do not have web access, you may phone us at (410) 880-4178.

For more information on the Junior Volunteer Program or any other program at Fidos, please visit our web site at:

www.fidosforfreedom.org

Fidos For Freedom, Inc.
Junior Volunteer Program
P.O. Box 5508
Laurel, MD 20726

Junior Volunteer Program Information

A special program for young people who would like to perform voluntary community service

Fidos For Freedom, Inc.



P.O. Box 5508
Laurel, Maryland 20726
(301) 490-4005 (office)
(410) 880-4178 (V)
(301) 570-7570 (TTY)

Fax: (301) 490-9061

E-mail: office@fidosforfreedom.org
www.fidosforfreedom.org

Fidos For Freedom, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is a voting member of Assistance Dogs International (ADI). All donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible.



Combined Federal Campaign:

CFC # 41908

Maryland Charity Campaign:

MCC # 2605

United Way - Write-in: "Fidos For Freedom, Inc."

Fidos For Freedom, Inc. volunteers strive to increase the independence, self-esteem and confidence of people with hearing and mobility impairments and provide unconditional love to residents in health care facilities through the use of specially trained:

Hearing Dogs

Service Dogs

Therapy Dogs

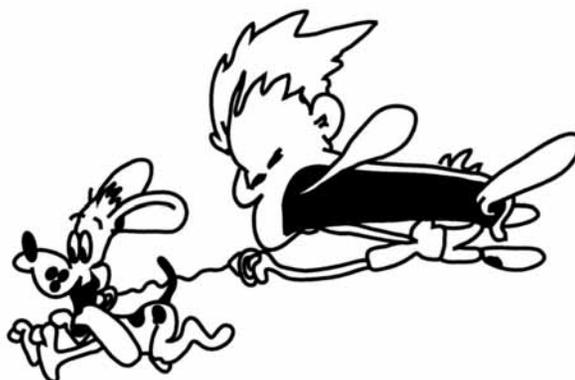
The Junior Volunteer Program enables this nonprofit organization to benefit from the services of young people in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan community who wish to perform community service.

Who May Participate

Young people aged 12 through 17 are eligible to participate. Youth may be home schooled or attend middle or high school in Maryland, Virginia, or Washington, D.C.

The program operates during the school year starting in September and ending in May. Available space for new juniors will fluctuate from year to year based on the number of returning juniors and facility limitations.

Once a junior reaches age 18, he or she may then participate as a regular Fidos volunteer.



Community Service Hours

Participants earn one community service hour for each hour they work as a junior volunteer. Young people who attend evening sessions during the school year can earn 40 hours of community service.

Activities

Public service to the Fidos For Freedom, Inc. organization is a major part of the Junior Volunteer Program. The juniors make crafts to be delivered by Therapy Dog teams to area hospitals and nursing homes, decorate the Fidos facility for holiday celebrations, help at fundraisers, demonstrations, the Annual Banquet and Client Graduation, as well as many of the other activities in which our adult volunteers participate.

Education is another major focus of the Junior Volunteer Program. Throughout the year, the Junior Volunteers learn about dogs, dog training, disability awareness, and gain a comprehensive understanding of the Fidos organization. The Junior Volunteer Program is fortunate to have access to many Fidos' volunteers who have expertise in these areas and are willing to share their knowledge with the juniors.

Beginning juniors have the opportunity to work with Fidos' dogs once per month. The purpose of this experience is to teach the juniors the basics of dog training. It is not our intent to instruct the juniors in the training of dogs for Hearing or Service work, as Fidos trainers are all adults with many years of specialized training and experience. Rather, it is our hope this aspect of the Junior Volunteer Program will spur an interest and curiosity that will encourage further learning and participation as an adult.