

In Many States:

Professionals Manage Volunteer Services

The latest edition of the U.S. Department of Labor's *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* has included a new career ladder and occupation: Supervisor, Coordinator, and Director of Volunteer Services. The *Dictionary* classifies the new positions as "professional, technical, and managerial."

Volunteers Increase

In the past twelve years, the number of Americans serving as volunteers has more than doubled and the various services that they perform have become more diversified. New volunteers range in age from teenager to senior citizen and come from all walks of life and all educational and employment backgrounds.

This situation has created a need for skilled professionals to coordinate and manage volunteer services. Thirty-five states now have such professional positions, located in governors' offices or in state departments of social service, education, corrections, and recreation. Additional positions are found in schools, public welfare offices, libraries, museums, and residential care facilities such as hospitals and youth homes.

Recent surveys have shown that, for many of these positions, salaries are low and turnover is consequently high. However, it is in the interest of State and local governments to hire and retain skilled volunteer personnel administrators to encourage citizen participation and program enrichment in human services. Readers seeking information on ways to upgrade positions in volunteer services should contact Harriet Naylor, Director, Volunteer Department, Office of Human Development, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, DC 20201.

Inter-governmental

Personnel

Notes

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