

Volunteer Opportunities

To view all UNK volunteer opportunities, visit HANDSHAKE:

<https://unk.joinhandshake.com/login>

Log into your student account in Handshake and follow Kearney Area Volunteer Opportunities (Employer # 690841) to be notified when new volunteer opportunities become available.

Alzheimer's Association

There are many volunteer opportunities including their annual Walk to End Alzheimer's held in Kearney.

Contact: Ashley Shum, Walk to End Alzheimer's

402-613-4966

aashum@alz.org

American Automobile Experience

Greet visitors, talk about cars with visitors and do other light tasks. Open Wednesday-Sunday 12:00-5:00 p.m.

Contact: Brad Kernick

bkernick@frontiernet.net

308.440.2941

American Cancer Society

<https://volunteercommunity.cancer.org>

1-800-227-2345

*option #4

*Create volunteer account and select area of interest

AseraCare Hospice – an Amedisys Company

Hospice Volunteers improve the quality of life for patients, their families, and their caregivers

- from patient companionship, to respite care for family members, to therapeutic activities and programming, to organizational and administrative office support. Volunteering is a great way to help hospice patients live their days to the fullest.
- Extensive training that covers the ins-and-outs of hospice care; how to provide spiritual, grief, and bereavement support to families; communication skills, and more.
- A meaningful way to work directly with patients and their families.
- Opportunities to learn about and support healthcare office operations.
- A flexible schedule - volunteers choose when and how much they'd like to volunteer.
- Support obtaining required volunteer hours and/or direct patient care hours for coursework.

All volunteers must pass an interview, background check, and health screenings.

For more information or to start an application, go to: <https://bttr.im/3o4v7>.

Contact: Michelle Helm, Regional Volunteer Coordinator

michelle.helm@amedisys.com

605.941.6578

Volunteer Opportunities

Cambridge Court Assisted Living

Opportunities to help with scheduled activities, assist in dietary and housekeeping areas, or bring new project ideas. View the activity calendar at: <https://www.cambridgecourtne.com/services-amenities#Calendars>

Contact:

308.237.3773

- Crystal, Activities Director
- Shelby, Office Manager
- Stephanie, Health Services Director
- Sheryl, Executive Director

Camp Quality Heartland

Camp Quality Heartland is a summer camp in Fremont, Nebraska for kids with cancer and their siblings. Campers range from ages 5 through 17 and vary in stages of their treatment and remission.

Contact: Nickie King, outreach and recruitment

Nickie.king@campqualityusa.org

<https://www.campqualityusa.org/camp/heartland/>

CHI Health Good Samaritan

Good Sam would like you to volunteer at least 40 hours over the course of the year.

Contact: Lindsay Zechmann

308-865-7150

Country House Memory Care Center

Opportunities to connect with residents in groups or in one-on-one settings or assist with activities.

Contact: Courtney Lauby, Life Enrichment Coordinator

clauby@countryhouse.net

308.455.8000

Friends Program

The Friends Program of Kearney is a supervised volunteer mentoring program designed to provide a close adult relationship for young people identified as having special relationship needs by their elementary counselor, teachers, and parent/guardian. The young person (K-5th grader) is intentionally matched with a caring adult mentor in a relationship supported by the program director. The mentor relationship can impact one's lifespan in a positive way. Our Mission is to promote the personal development of youth through positive one-on-one role modeling. Here is the link for interested volunteers to view our program brochure: [Friends Program Brochure](#)

Contact: Jalin Gerdes, Executive Director

308/236-2036

information@friendsprogram.net

www.friendsprogram.net

Volunteer Opportunities

HelpCare Clinic

Kearney's HelpCare Clinic's mission is to improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve by providing healthcare in a compassionate and respectful environment for those who would have otherwise gone without. Volunteers can submit an application online at

<https://helpcareclinic.org/be-a-volunteer/>.

Contact: Lisa Guthrie, RN, Director

308.224.2392

director@helpcareclinic.com

Homestead Assisted Living

Opportunities available for assistance with activities, performing for residents, or Adopt-a-Grandparent program.

Contact: Sarah Kepler, Activities Director

308.234.5600

Iain Nicolson Audubon Center -Rowe Sanctuary

Opportunities in various areas including visitor services, gardening/groundskeeping, special events staff, educational programs for youth, building maintenance, and trail maintenance. Rowe Sanctuary is located south of Gibbon. A background check is *not* required. Apply at

<https://www.volgistics.com/appform/1350045329>

Contact: Katie Moore, Volunteer Coordinator

308.468.5282

katie.moore@audobon.com

Kids & Dreams Foundation

Several opportunities to volunteer at the many Operation Shine Camps over the summer. Camp dates for the summer of 2025 are May 31st (one-day camp), June 6th-8th and June 27th-29th. Operation Shine Camp is for youth, ages 7-12, with autism or a related condition. Volunteers earn 53 volunteer hours during weekend camps and 12 hours for one-day camps. Volunteers can learn more about the foundation and camps at www.kidsanddreams.org.

Contact: Aaron Bly, Executive Director

308.830.0225

aaron@kidsanddreams.org

Kearney Animal Shelter

Volunteers may participate in walking dogs, socializing cats, and assisting with adoptions and events. Volunteers will gain skills in animal care, build friendships with fellow volunteers, and help make a difference in the community. Applications to apply for volunteer positions are available at kearneyanimalshelter.com, click on "Volunteer" and fill out the application. Volunteers will complete a short orientation before starting.

308.237.PETS

Volunteer Opportunities

Kearney Community Theatre

Volunteers can help with props and set work, ushering, acting, or cocktailing if old enough.

308.234.1529

www.kearneycommunitytheatre.com

Kearney Regional Medical Center

Hospital wide volunteer program allowing students to assist in a variety of setting and roles.

Contact: Amy Holcomb, Volunteer and Customer Care Coordinator

308-455-3636

Mother Hull Home

Volunteers will need to complete a 30-minute orientation prior to volunteering. Opportunities available for activities at 7:00 or 8:00pm.

Contact: Cindy Lienemann

308.234.2447

Nebraska Aids Project

Seeking volunteers to work with daily office work, out-reach, HIV counseling and testing (training provided), Spanish translation, and ongoing community fund-raisers. Visit www.nap.org for more information.

Contact: Sidney or Stacie

308.338.0527

Operation Shine Camp

Operation Shine Camp is a camp for children ages 7-12 with autism-related conditions in Hordville, Nebraska. To learn more about Operation Shine Camp, watch this one-minute video

- https://youtu.be/_WoV3X8MRfQ?si=c4dtH5ExLHNwk0vj.

To register to volunteer, visit <https://www.kidsanddreams.org/camp-volunteer/>

Contact: Kerri Bly

kerri@kidsanddreams.org

Peterson Senior Activity Center

Volunteers needed to train older adults to use cell phones, computers, and other current technology. Volunteers are able to help with other activities more suited to the volunteer's interests.

Contact: Deb Eirich, Senior Services Coordinator

308.233.3290

Volunteer Opportunities

South Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging

Volunteers needed for State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to assist older Nebraskan adults with health insurance issues one-on-one and in group presentations. Volunteers also needed for Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program to assist families with nursing, board, and care homes, as well as assisted living facilities. Information can be found at <https://agingkearney.org>.

Contact: Rod Horsley

308.234.1851

The Archway

Seeking volunteers for activities such as greeting guests, helping in guest services or the gift shop, or participating and helping with projects and events. Volunteers may apply at

<https://archway.org/volunteer>.

Contact: Kellie Risk, Volunteer Coordinator

308.237.1000

krisk@archway.org

The S.A.F.E Center

Volunteer opportunities include basic office duties, providing services to children, preparing outreach material, helping with shelter tasks, or moving large furniture and donations. A list of volunteer tasks and responsibilities, as well as the volunteer application, can be found at <https://safecenter.org/get-involved/>.

Contact: Nikki Gausman, Executive Director

308.237.2599

safecenter@safecenter.org

The World Theater

The World Theater is a nonprofit, volunteer-run organization in downtown Kearney.

Volunteer information: <https://www.theworldtheatre.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

308-234-8046

Buffalo County Historical Society/Trails & Rails Museum

Volunteers needed to help create indexes and organize archives, maintain historic buildings, and much more. Training will be provided for specific tasks. Volunteers may apply at

<https://www.bchs.us/volunteer>.

Contact:

bchs.buffalotales@hotmail.com

308.234.3041

WEL-Life Assisted Living

Volunteers can help residents do activities, write memoirs, participate in outside activities, and plant gardens during the spring and summer months. Questions or volunteer inquiries may be directed to wendy.godejohn@wlkearney.com

Contact: Activities Director

308.234.9905

Location: 5616 4th Ave., Kearney, NE 68845

Updated 2025