



YMCA Of Metropolitan Milwaukee

Volunteer Service Description

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

POSITION: Player Buddies

Division: Core Programs

VOLUNTEER SPONSOR: Miracle League Program Specialist

DEPARTMENT: Miracle League

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

Player Buddies - One of the most important elements of a Miracle League game is the "buddy" program. Each player is paired with a friend to assist them on and off the field during a two inning game. Buddies can be anyone: a fellow schoolmate, parents, college or high school students, athletes, business leaders, Y-member, community member or any individual or group who wishes to volunteer their time to give the gift of baseball and a smile that touches us all. Enthusiasm and compassion is key. We offer confirmation for anyone who needs to meet requirements for volunteer hours.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Get to the ballpark 30 minutes before game time.
- Meet at the drop off area by the entrance to the park for your Miracle League player.
- Welcome and escort your player to the field and get to know them. You will be paired up with the player for 10-weeks.
- When you get to the field, seek out the Miracle League coach for your specific team to gain additional training and instructions.
- Warm-up with the player (play catch) and get to know your player.
- Seek out helpful tips from the player's parent/s.
- Keep your player SAFE. Watch out for fly balls, getting hit by bats, and help them with their helmet.
- Listen for the team's lineup and hang out with your player until they are up to bat or in the field.
- When your player is up, make sure they have a helmet on and have a bat. Some children will not permit you to place a helmet on their head. If that happens, let them play without the helmet. Let them do as much as possible, but some may need help batting off the tee.
- When they hit the ball, encourage them to run to first base. No one is out. If your player uses a wheelchair, push them around the bases.
- When your player is out in the field – hang out next to them. Let them do as much as possible. If they are unable to throw the ball and you get the ball, bring it over to them and see if you can help them throw or ask them where it should go and then throw yourself.
- Your main job is to have fun with them, assist where needed and PROTECT THE PLAYER.
- After the game, we do the line-up and high fives and maybe a run around the bases. THANK YOU for being a great buddy!

EDUCATION OR EXPERIENCE:

- Lives YMCA values
- Actively values diversity
- Engages community and others in the Y-mission and work
- Must be energetic
- Willing to make a difference
- Willing to develop relationships

How to apply:

Contact: Erik Kennedy, Volunteer Coordinator, at 414-274-0724 or email him at ekennedy@ymcamke.org

This volunteer job description has been designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by volunteers. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties. There should be no expectation of compensation for work performed while executing these duties.