



Providing Healing and Hope to Children and Families for More than 100 Years

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

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Denton, Texas 76201

Dear Prospective Volunteer,

Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home (CPCH) has been providing healing and hope to children and families for more than 100 years. As a CPCH volunteer, you will become a part of our tradition of providing a safe and wholesome environment for the development of children and families.

We sincerely appreciate your interest in volunteering at CPCH. A wide range of volunteer opportunities are available here, and we're sure you'll find a perfect fit for your skills and interests.

Please look through the attached materials. If you feel we are the place for you, fill out the Volunteer Information Form and Criminal History and Central Registry Check. You can either return them by mail or bring them by CPCH's front desk. I'll then contact you so we can visit about your particular volunteer interests.

On behalf of the staff and residents of Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home, I appreciate you taking the time to pursue volunteering with us. I know many organizations could use your time and talents – I'm so glad you have chosen us.

If you have questions, please contact me at (940) 382-5112 ext. 272 or eperusse@cpch.org.

Regards,

Erica Perusse

Erica Perusse
Volunteer Advancement Associate

About Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home

Overview

Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home (CPCH) is a non-profit organization providing residential care for children between the ages of 5 and 17. CPCH also offers residential care for single parents and their children. Children and families are accepted regardless of race, creed, or national origin. CPCH is licensed by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services to care for up to 40 children. It is not licensed for adoption or foster care placement.

CPCH also supports families in our community who are working to improve their own lives through our Family Outfitters Program, which provides counseling on a sliding fee scale and parenting and pre-marital education classes. In addition, CPCH provides training and support to other organizations that provide family services.

Mission

As a ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in response to Christ's love and example, the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home exists to provide a safe and wholesome environment for the development of children and to bring healing and hope to children and their families.

History

Established by the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination, the Children's Home was originally chartered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky in 1904. At the invitation of Texas Synod and the Denton Chamber of Commerce, the Home moved to Denton, Texas, in 1932. Since the building of Old Main in 1939, CPCH has served children in need of a place to live in its current location along Interstate Highway 35 between the Ft. Worth Drive and McCormick exits.

Funding

As a 501 (c)(3) corporation, more than half of each year's budget is raised in gifts or grants from various church groups, individuals, businesses and organizations. CPCH is supported in part by the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. Earnings from permanent endowment and trust funds also provide a financial base. Sometimes, county, state or Social Security benefits are received for individual children in residence.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is CPCH an orphanage?

No. CPCH was originally opened in 1904 as a home for orphans and widows, but as society has changed over the past 100 years, the services offered at CPCH have evolved to meet the needs of the modern family. CPCH is not licensed for adoption or foster care placement.

How many kids live at CPCH? How old are they?

CPCH usually has about 24 kids in our residential care program. Our residents can be as young as 5 and as old as 17. Currently all of our residents in this program are teenagers. Children who live with their parents as part of our Single Parent Family Program can be infants all the way up to teenagers.

How do the kids come to live at CPCH? How long do kids live at CPCH?

Children in basic residential care may be placed at CPCH by a custodial parent or legal guardian. Sometimes children are placed by court order or through a state child protective agency. The length of a resident's stay depends on each child's individual situation, though they can live in basic residential care at CPCH until they graduate from high school.

Children who are part of the single parent family program will live on campus with their parent as long as the parent is a part of the program.

Where do the kids live while they're at CPCH?

In basic residential care, children live in one of three cottages on CPCH's campus. Each cottage has Youth Care Workers that care for the children 24 hours a day. In the single parent family program, the children live with their parent in one of four duplexes on CPCH's campus.

Where do the kids eat?

During school year weekdays, the kids have breakfast and dinner in their cottages and lunch at school. During the summer, they have breakfast, lunch and dinner in their cottages. As part of preparing for independent living, kids in the program help plan meals, budget and shop for groceries and prepare meals.

Children in the single parent family have their meals at home in their duplex with their parent.

Do the kids go to school?

Our residents attend public school in the Denton Independent School District. Most of them go to Borman Elementary, Calhoun Middle School or Denton High School.

Do the kids see their families?

Yes. CPCH is a family-focused agency that believes our residents need to build stronger, healthier family relationships while they are here. We make every attempt to keep families very involved throughout residents' stays, and if it is safe and beneficial for a resident to see their parents or other relatives, they can.

Do the kids go to church?

Yes. Each cottage attends a mainstream Protestant church in the Denton area.

What other programs do you have?

CPCH offers a variety of child and family-oriented services, including a single parent family program, parenting classes, counseling and program sharing. All of these services help children and families identify their strengths and find solutions to their ongoing challenges.

Are you the place with the donkeys I can see from I-35?

Yes. CPCH's campus borders I-35 frontage road between the Ft. Worth Drive and McCormick exits. We currently have two donkeys. For many years, a special donkey named Abigail lived here. She was famous for drinking Dr Pepper, and many people in Denton knew and loved her. After a long and happy life at CPCH, Abigail passed away in 2002. Currently residing on our campus are Buster Brown and Ozella.

Volunteer Requirements

CPCH's volunteer family includes individuals, organizations, congregations, businesses and schools. Our volunteers help us in a wide variety of ways, from working directly with our residents or helping with administrative tasks to maintaining our campus and assisting with fundraising. All volunteer activities are equally needed and greatly appreciated!

Criminal Background Check for Individual Volunteers

For the safety and security of our residents, all potential volunteers must pass a criminal background check before they begin volunteering at CPCH. A completed criminal background check form (provided by CPCH) and copies of the potential volunteer's driver's license and Social Security card are needed for this process (see "Application" paragraph below). The background check usually takes 10 working days. **GROUP VOLUNTEERS TYPICALLY DON'T NEED TO SUBMIT A BACKGROUND CHECK FORM, BUT WILL BE SIGNING A RELEASE FORM.**

Consistency and Reliability

It is important for our residents to be surrounded by consistent, reliable and positive adult role models. Since volunteers often are role models to our residents, it is important to follow the directions of CPCH staff and to operate within CPCH rules and regulations.

Even though they might not always admit it, our residents are excited by volunteer participation and are disappointed when a volunteer cancels. Please do all you can to fulfill the commitment you make as a volunteer.

Respect for Others

CPCH does not discriminate in the acceptance or referral of volunteers on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, age or veteran status or membership in any other protected class. As part of CPCH's volunteer family, you are expected to respect all of our residents, clients, staff members and fellow volunteers.

Orientation, Training and Supervision

All volunteers will receive orientation and training because it is important for them to know CPCH as an agency and understand its philosophy. Each volunteer will have a CPCH staff supervisor while they are on campus.

Application

To become a volunteer at CPCH, please fill out the Volunteer Information Form and Criminal History and Central Registry Check attached to this document. Return them, along with a copy of your driver's license and Social Security card, by mail to P.O. Drawer G, Denton TX 76202 or by dropping them off at CPCH's offices at 909 Greenlee in Denton.

Once your background check is cleared, the volunteer coordinator will contact you to schedule a volunteer interview, orientation and training session.



Volunteer Information Form

1304 Bernard * PO Drawer G
Denton, TX 76202
(940) 382-5112

<i>For office use only</i>	
Date Received	_____
Received by	_____
B.C.	_____
Referred to	_____
Interview date	_____

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Physical address _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail address _____

How did you find out about CPCH? _____

Why are you interested in becoming a volunteer at CPCH? _____

Volunteer experiences (past/present): _____

Work experience: _____

Skills/hobbies/interests: _____

When are you available to volunteer? _____

Weekdays Weekends Evenings M T W TH F S SUN

Number of hours requested per work week: 0-2 2-4 4-10 10-15 15-20 20-40

Is volunteering in reference for a class assignment? If so, please specify requirements: _____

References (other than family members): If applicable, include one work reference.

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Yrs Known _____

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Yrs Known _____

The Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home does not discriminate in the acceptance or referral of volunteers on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, age or veteran status or membership in any other protected class. The information solicited by Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home is intended to be used in a non-discriminatory manner to determine the best use of the volunteer's gifts and talents. I hereby authorize Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home to request information as needed (including a criminal background check) prior to beginning any volunteer training or volunteer activity.

Signature of Volunteer Applicant

Date

Volunteer Interests and Skills Inventory

Please indicate your volunteer areas of interest and talents below.

-First box indicates you are interested

-Second box indicates you have experience and/or a license

Residential Care Program

Working with children in Basic Residential Care

Working with families in the Single Parent Family Program

Environmental Services

Lawn and garden Building maintenance

Housekeeping

Spiritual life

Recreation

Development

Administration (office/clerical)

Donation drive

Animal care

Childcare

Special events/parties

Academic Tutoring (subject and grade level proficient at) _____

Other (please list) _____

Arts & Crafts

Craft skills and tools (glue gun, scissors, etc.)

Experience working with textiles

Sewing experience

Painting

Sketching, artwork, drawing

Woodworking, power tools

Scrapbooking

Other (please specify) _____

Lawn/Garden

Mow, trim & edge

Flower bed care

Weeding

Pruning

General trash pickup

Sprinkler system care

Baseball field care

Computer Skills

Data entry

Database operation

Desktop publishing

Microsoft Excel

Microsoft Access

Microsoft Word

Photoshop/graphics

Web browsers & Web research

Word-processing

Working knowledge of PCs

Other software programs you are familiar with _____

Maintenance

Plumbing

Carpentry

Painting

Vehicle detailing & repair

Electrical

Pool care

Furniture moving

Window/screen repair

Heat/air-conditioning care

Power tools _____

Work Environment

Attention to detail

Enjoy working alone

High level of patience

Enjoy independent projects

Prefer to work with others/in a group

Enjoy researching special projects

Other (please specify) _____

Office Skills & Business Machines

Filing, sorting, etc.

Bulk/mass mailings

Copier, fax, etc.

Writing, proofing, editing, etc.

Other (please specify) _____

Please list any other skills or information you would like us to know _____

Criminal History and Central Registry Check

Social Security Number		Drivers License or state issued identification number		State	ID Type (DL or ID Card)
First Name		Middle Name	Last Name		
Street Address		City	State	Zip	
County	Telephone Number		Date of Birth		Sex M F
List all other cities in Texas where there has been residency:		Relationship of person to requestor			
List all other cities and states where there has been residency:		Adoptive Parent Caregiver Director Staff Foster parent Household Member Other Staff Licensed Administrator <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Other:			
		Ethnicity (must accompany race) Hispanic Other			
Date Hired /Used by the Operation/Agency		Race White Asian/Pacific Islander Black American Indian/Alaskan Native			
Other names used (married, maiden, etc.) First Name		Middle Name		Last Name	

Have you ever been convicted of a crime (excluding minor traffic violations)? Yes No

Note: If so, please provide complete details, including date of conviction and incarceration, if any, and disposition, including any suspended sentence, fines, probation, deferred adjudication, or similar disposition.

Please use another sheet for additional information that does not fit on this form.

Please attach a photocopy of your driver's license and Social Security card to this form.