**WHY VOLUNTEER?**

People choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge. Regardless of the motivation, what unites them all is that they find it both challenging and rewarding.

[Where volunteering begins YouTube campaign](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLr1h22g_ZoT7751f_U4Q5R8ob2sihLQf3) tells five inspirational stories from ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

**Below are some of the reasons people choose to volunteer. For some it provides an opportunity to:**

Give something back to an organisation that has impacted on a person's life, either directly or indirectly

Make a difference to the lives of others

Help the environment

Help others less fortunate or without a voice

Feel valued and part of a team

Gain confidence and self-esteem.

**For some, volunteering can be a route to employment, or a chance to try something new which may lead to a career change. From this perspective, volunteering can be a way of:**

Gaining new skills, knowledge and experience

Developing existing skills and knowledge

Enhancing a CV

**What can i do for Charity?**

Fundraising is the obvious one but there are other ways to help such as:

Helping a neighbour (socially distanced of course)

Taking clothes to the clothing bank/ collect books from your community for the Read For Good campaign

Give your time to a cause like a food bank or helpline

Take part in a survey like RSPB garden watch

Raise awareness through a blog/ sponsorship/ sharing of information

**How can i show leadership at home?**

Can you plan a healthy week food menu for the family?

Can you take on household duties like hoovering, hanging the washing out each time?

Can you help look after younger siblings/ grandparents living with you? Can you phone a grandparent who isn’t living with you and have a nice chat?

Can you organise and lead on a family activity?