

## WHAT MOTIVATES VOLUNTEERS

- the desire to utilize special knowledge and skills;
- the need for a sense of security that results from feeling one's life has purpose, meaning and significance;
- the need to be a part of activities that have neighborhood, community, regional or national importance;
- the desire to help others;
- the desire for recognition and status;
- the need to feel useful and needed;
- an interest in learning new skills that will help advancement in employment and social arenas;
- the need to actively utilize leisure time and reduce loneliness, isolation and pressure.

*As a leader you can model motivation by clearly outlining expectations, running an efficient operation and providing an energetic example for others to follow—and they usually will.*

From the Goodwill handbook, "How to Motivate Volunteers" and Thero, Cynthia, Can I help? A practical Guide to the Care and Feeding of Volunteers, The Source, 1989.