



Welcome back or welcome to Key Club! Please look for information you will need! Share this one with your parents, please! Every week the newsletter will also be posted at the Valley website.

What is Key Club anyway? (by Lily Schmidt)

Key Club is the oldest and largest service program for high school students. But what makes Key Club so successful is the fact that it is a student-led organization that teaches leadership through serving others. As members of the Kiwanis International Family, Key Club members build themselves as they build their schools and communities.

Today Key Club exists on over 5,000 high school campuses, primarily in the US and Canada. However, growth efforts have taken the Key Club experience internationally to Canada, the Caribbean nations, Central and South America, and most recently to Asia and Australia. So briefly, An Outstanding Club Dedicated to Serving Our Communities!

Volunteer Hours needed:

Everyone—in order to qualify for the United Way Service Award, you need 19 hours of community service EVERY YEAR between September 1, and August 31 (seniors need to be done by April 1). The United Way requirement is 25 hours, but if you participate in Valley's service days, that is a total of 6! Community service generally means outside your church and school, but does not have to be only United Way organizations.

Juniors and Seniors—in order to qualify for the Key Club Medallion you need 50 hours EACH YEAR and you must attend 75% of Key Club meetings. This can be a bit flexible—55/45 split between the two years, for example. Seniors must complete hours before May 15. Remember, there are many more possibilities for these hours—church, working at Valley, etc.

Keeping track of hours:

Set up an account and log your hours on www.1-800-volunteer.org

Do you remember Mr. Rogers talking about PrepHQ? You DO NOT have to log hours in both places, but the United Way requires them on the www.1-800-volunteer.org site. Mr. Rogers says either place is fine—as long as you keep track of what you do and use PrepHQ for college searching, etc. If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, www.1-800-volunteer.org lists hundreds! Instructions are attached.

Attending Meetings:

The most common question is “Do I have to attend meetings?” If you are a junior or senior and want the Key Club Medallion, the answer is YES. If you are a freshman or sophomore, it is a good idea to attend most meetings to see what is going on. Also, if you apply for National Honor Society, being a member of Key Club means coming to meetings. You can miss one per month—come to 75%! You can come to EITHER the Tuesday morning meeting or the Wednesday after school meeting. Wednesdays will earn you about an hour of service time if you would like to stay and work on blood bank mailings or other projects.

www.1-800-volunteer.org website information

Start searching for volunteer opportunities TODAY!

To sign up as a volunteer:

- 1.) Log into: <https://www.1-800-volunteer.org/1800Vol/UWSC/vcindex.do>
- 2.) Click the blue “**Create Account**” box
- 3.) Click the blue “**Sign Up as Volunteer**” box

**PLEASE NOTE: Your account should be associated with United Way of Saginaw County Volunteer Services – this will be the first thing you see. If not, please click the blue “Find A Volunteer Center” box and choose the correct one.*

- 4.) Enter all the required information
- 5.) It is very important that after confirming your password you pick Valley Lutheran High School (this will help for statistical purposes)
- 6.) When it asks if this is for a service learning class, you can pick Valley Key Club
- 7.) Also, you can pick the United Way Student Service Award when it asks if this is for a specific award/scholarship
- 8.) You now have the option to either click
 - a. “**Create Account**” and be finished or...
 - b. you can click “**Continue to Skills & Availability**” to increase your volunteer matching options – fill out that section, then press “**Create Account**” and you are all set to search for opportunities

Congratulations you are one step closer to making Community Impact!

To find volunteer opportunities:

- You can use the orange search box at the top of the page or you can click the “**Search**” tab on the left side of the page
- You can click the “Calendar” tab to find opportunities occurring in a specific time frame
- Do you want to see what a specific agency’s opportunities are? Click “**Browse Organizations**” and search from there

What’s Next:

- At any time you can go in and edit your information, skills, and/or availability * check out your volunteer schedule * set a personal goal * sign up through “**Volunteer Alerts**” to be emailed when a specific opportunity you are searching for is available * and most importantly, print your record of service

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

United Way of Saginaw County Volunteer Services

Kelly Johnson, Community Impact Assistant

(989) 755-0505 ext. 211

[Kjohnson@unitedwaysaginaw.org](mailto:kjohnson@unitedwaysaginaw.org)

