

Cheektowaga Y.E.S.

Dear Amazing Y.E.S. Volunteer,

Summer is always a whirlwind and is over way too fast! Hope you enjoyed your break and have a fantastic start to the new school year!

Just a few reminders - please do not arrive too early for Y.E.S. events. Our staff team arrives approximately 15 minutes prior to the start of the event (and stays for approximately 15 minutes after). Also, if your friend is not a Y.E.S. volunteer, they cannot attend Y.E.S. events with you. It's more fun to volunteer with friends, but they must attend an orientation session before participating.

WELCOME KIRKLAND

We'd like to introduce **Kirkland Nguyen**! He has been a lifeguard at Town Park pool for the past two summers. We love his outgoing personality and think he will be great addition to our Y.E.S. team! Please give him a warm welcome as you meet him at events.

ADVISORY BOARD (AB) 2026

We're wrapping up our first Advisory Board term and we'll be accepting new applications for 2026. Want to see what it's all about? You're welcome to attend the meetings in 2025! We're looking for dedicated volunteers who would like to take their commitment to Y.E.S. to the next level. AB is a group of leaders that will be the advocates for the Y.E.S. program. AB members get together monthly to help with program planning (ie. providing ideas for activity themes, workshops, etc), mentor new volunteers by introducing them to the group and pairing up with them at activities while they learn the ropes, attend orientation and present a portion of the session and share their Y.E.S. experiences, participate in exclusive leadership opportunities and activities, and provide a voice for the entire organization. If selected, each board member will serve a one year term (Jan 1—Dec 31, 2026).

Advisory Board Requirements:

- Must be an active Y.E.S. volunteer for at least 1 year
- Act in a mature, responsible, respectful and positive manner, being a role model for other Y.E.S. volunteers
- Is enthusiastic about the program's mission and wants to help improve and expand the program
- Is dependable and does not no-show for activities

To apply, visit CheektowagaYES.org and select **Advisory Board** and complete the online form by **December 1**.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER REGISTRATION

Registration for Sept/Oct will go live on **Saturday, August 16 at 9:00 am**. I will send out a Remind with the link and it will be posted on the Y.E.S. website —www.CheektowagaYES.org.

If you have not started following Y.E.S. on Remind, please do so! It's the best way for me to reach out and get out mass messages to parents and volunteers. Whether we have a program cancelation due to weather, a last minute activity added or an update, it's the most effective way to reach everyone!

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

We had a typo in our last newsletter! I apologize to Ashlyn as spellcheck changed your name!!!

Volunteer of the Month June 2025: Zoey Feind - 46 activities, 97.5 service hours

Volunteer of the Month July 2025: Olivia Ziccardi - 38 activities, 84.75 service hours

Thank you volunteers! - Alicia



Cheektowaga Y.E.S.

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Y.E.S. Program Coordinator:
Alicia Hark

Y.E.S. Event Supervisors:
Jessie Cecere
Anastasia Figueroa
Kirkland Nguyen

Y.E.S. Volunteer Advisory Board
Cole DiGesare
Giada DiGesare
Audri Miller
Maddy Pollack
Maddie Radder

Activities with the Elderly

Activities at Peregrine Senior Living

575 Cayuga Creek Rd, Cheektowaga

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month for activities, games and crafts. Cornhole tournaments have become a volunteer and resident favorite!

The first time you volunteer here, you'll be required to complete a HIPPA form. Forms can be downloaded from our website www.CheektowagaYES.org. Extra forms will be available the night of the event.

Wed Sept 3	6:00 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night
Wed Oct 1	6:00 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night

Activities at Elderwood Assisted Living at Cheektowaga

229 Bennett Rd, Cheektowaga

(enter by 2nd driveway awning)

Join us for crafts, games, bingo, holiday events and more! Each month will be a different fun activity.

Tues Sept 23	5:45 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night
Tues Oct 28	5:45 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night

BINGO at Glenwell DePaul Assisted Living

2248 Old Union Rd, Cheektowaga

There are multiple buildings - look for 2248 above the entrance!

Join us for Saturday Bingo! We'll be adding new activities in the future but the residents love weekend Bingo!

Sat Sept 13, 27	1:15 - 2:45 pm
Sat Oct 11, 25	1:15 - 2:45 pm

Dress in a Halloween costume for the Oct 25 Bingo!

Meals on Wheels Craft Night

Give the gift of a smile! Help us make crafts to add to Meals on Wheels trays for seniors in the community. Each volunteer will create at least a dozen favors during the event. We've gotten multiple thank you notes from seniors who've received our favors!

Mon Sept 15	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center
Mon Oct 6	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center

CONGRATULATIONS OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Maddie R was voted Freshman Class President @ Clevehill!

Audri was voted Freshman Class Treasurer @ Clevehill!

NJHS Inductees: Abbey B, Ferryn, Charlotte H, Riley K, Chloe R

Honor Roll Students: Erik F, Chloe R, Maddie R, Jeanette W

Ceci won the Do the Right Thing Award!

Maddie R just completed her 10th year of dance!

Maddy P won the Varsity Coach's Award for Cross Country as an 8th grader!

Audri finished middle school on high honor roll for having a 95 and higher average every quarter!



Activities with Children

Event Locations

- Alexander Center, 275 Alexander Ave, Cheektowaga
- Julia Boyer Reinstein Library (JBR)
1030 Losson Rd, Cheektowaga
- Recreation Center, 2600 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga
- Reinstein Library, 2580 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga
- Stiglmeier Park (Losson Park), 810 Losson Rd, Cheektowaga

Library Craft Night

Join us for crafts, games and other fun themed activities.

Themes: Sept: That's FALL Folks
Oct: BATTY for Candy

Thurs Sept 4	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs Sept 18	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs Oct 2	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs Oct 16	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR

Library LEGO Club

Help kids embrace their creative side as they build structures, vehicles, and anything else they can dream up!

Thurs Sept 11	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Mon Sept 22	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs Sept 25	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Thurs Oct 9	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Mon Oct 20	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs Oct 23	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR



Special Events

Help run an activity station while kids make crafts, cook/bake, play games, and more!

Theme: The WITCHING Hour

Tues Oct 21 5:45 - 7:45 pm Alexander

Activities will include Hocus Pocus, Wicked, and our other favorite Disney villains!



Community Activities

St Stephen's Food Pantry

750 Wehrle Dr, Cheektowaga

Help pack grocery orders for families and organize and restock food at a community food pantry. If the weather is nice, we may be helping in the garden.

Sun Sept 7, 21	12:00 - 3:00 pm	Limit 1 per month
Sun Oct 5, 19	12:00 - 3:00 pm	No open toe shoes!

Grace Guest House - MEET AT ALEXANDER

The Grace Guest House provides a place for families to stay while loved ones receive care in area hospitals. We'll be cooking dinner for the guests staying there. Meet at the Alexander Center and we'll be driving together in the van. Don't forget to bring a hat! All volunteers must wear gloves and a hairnet (or baseball cap while cooking). **Must complete waiver - download at CheektowagaYES.org —> Volunteer Resources.**

IF YOU DO NOT COMPLETE A WAIVER YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND.

Tues Sept 9	4:00 - 6:30 pm	Limit 1 per newsletter
Tues Oct 7	4:00 - 6:30 pm	

South Line FD Picnic in the Park

We'll be face painting and making balloon animals at Stiglmeier Park during South Line Fire Dept's fall community event. We are outside so please dress for the weather.

Sat Sept 6	1:00 - 4:00 pm	Stiglmeier Park
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Fall Fest @ Reinstein Woods

We'll be face painting at the beautiful Reinstein Woods nature preserve. Volunteers can bring money for snacks. Please dress for the weather—we will be outside under a tent.

Please select one shift:

Sat Sept 21	10:00 am - 1:00 pm or 1:00 - 4:00 pm
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Reinstein Woods, 93 Honorine Dr, Depew

Apraxia Awareness Walk

This is their inaugural Apraxia walk, bringing awareness for children with Speech Apraxia, an uncommon form of neurological speech delay that makes it difficult to speak. Y.E.S. will be face painting and making balloon animals at the event.

Sat Sept 13	10:00 am - 1:30 pm	Town Park Mega Shelter
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Theme Nights @ The Rink

This year, there will be fun theme nights at the ice rink during open skate! Come help face paint and make balloon animals. Come dressed for the theme!

Theme: Superhero Night

Sat Oct 11	5:45 - 8:00 pm	Rec Center/Ice Rink
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Halloween Prep

Here Comes Halloween, Here comes Halloween—and we need help transforming the Alexander Building into a not-so-haunted house! Help prep for our Halloween happenings, including creating decorations and items for Trunk or Treat.

Mon Oct 13	12:00 - 2:00 pm	Alexander
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Monster Mayhem

Help us get into the spooky Halloween spirit by helping us lead the Monster Mayhem event. We'll be playing games, making crafts, face painting, and much more. Please come dressed in a family-friendly Halloween costume.

Sat Oct 18	5:45 - 8:15 pm	Alexander
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Cheektowaga Police Trunk or Treat & Touch A Truck

Join us for spooky face painting and balloon animals. You're welcome to wear a family-friendly costume. Please dress accordingly, as we will be outdoors.

Sun Oct 19	11:45 am - 3:00 pm	Stiglmeier Park (outdoors)
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PTO Babysitting & Special Events

Locations

- Theodore Roosevelt (TR) Elementary, 2495 William St, Cheektowaga (Enter lot from Parker Ave, enter through back door)
- Woodrow Wilson (WW) Elementary, 166 Halstead Ave, Sloan (Enter lot behind school on Reiman Ave, enter through back door)
- Maryvale Primary, 1 Nagel Dr, Cheektowaga (enter front door)

We'll be hanging out with kids ages 4-10 while their parents attend the PTO meeting for their school. We'll be making crafts and playing games. For special events, we'll be helping with stations as needed.

Wed Sept 10	5:45 - 7:30 pm	WW (Activity Stations - face paint, balloons, games, ice cream)
Wed Sept 17	6:00 - 7:30 pm	WW (Babysitting)
Wed Oct 8	6:00 - 7:30 pm	WW (Babysitting)
Thurs Oct 9	6:00 - 7:30 pm	TR (Babysitting)
Wed Oct 15	6:15 - 7:45 pm	Maryvale (Babysitting)
Fri Oct 17*	5:45 - 8:00 pm	TR (facepaint & balloon animals)

*This is Trunk or Treat - Drop off Parker Ave & Lot Entrance. Can wear a costume.

Workshops & Socials

WORKSHOP: Career Day Series - Part 1

Tues Sept 30	6:00 - 8:00 pm	Alexander
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Learn more about different career opportunities and possibilities for your future. We've put together a panel full of experts in their respective fields and we'll get to host a question and answer session to learn more about what each of them do and you will get to ask their own questions too! We've gotten a ton of interest and will be offering multiple workshops featuring different careers! Our next will take place in January 2026!

ATTENTION PARENTS - If you're interested in participating in future Career Days and telling the group about your career, please contact me! We're recruiting an assortment of different professionals and will feature one for each type of career!

SOCIAL: Outdoor Halloween Movie Night

Fri Sept 26	6:00 - 8:30 pm	Town Park Mega Shelter
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Raindate: Fri Oct 3

Join us for a night full of spooky movie night fun. We'll be gearing up for the Halloween season by projecting Hocus Pocus on the big screen. Dress in your hoodies and sweats and bring along your own chair and blankets and get cozy. Pizza, popcorn, and drinks will be served!

REMINDER: To attend a social, volunteers must participate in at least 2 events during the 2 month newsletter and have ZERO no-shows for the past 6 months.



June Volunteer of the Month: Zoey Feind

Zoey's outgoing personality has made her a shining star at so many Y.E.S. events! Whether she's enthusiastically calling Bingo numbers at Glenwell DePaul, ensuring children's safety while being a Jr Rink Guard at open skate, or helping pack groceries for families in need at St Stephen's food pantry, she is making a huge difference in the Cheektowaga community.



Recently, Zoey stood out during a Grace Guest House event. She quickly and efficiently helped prep and cook dinner (though we may leave the avocados for someone else to cut next time haha). And when no one else wanted to wash dishes, she quickly stepped up and got the job done.

July Volunteer of the Month: Olivia Ziccardi

At every single event, Olivia jumps in to help with enthusiasm and a big smile on her face. Her warm and welcoming personality make her easily approachable and fun to be around.



Thank you for being a regular at St. Stephen's Faith & Joy Food Pantry. Without dedicated volunteers like Olivia, packing groceries for families and helping restock shelves, the pantry would not be able to provide such a much-needed service in the community. We also love to see her culinary skills at work while preparing meals for families at the Grace Guest House and her artistic skills displayed while face painting during special events.

We understand how busy you are as a well-rounded young adult balancing theatre, dance, and volunteering. We are grateful for you dedicating time to help make a difference in the community. Keep spreading kindness!

Sign Up Genius 101

Visit the link via **CheektowagaYES.org**. You'll be able to view the calendar for the upcoming two months.

On the Calendar, select **Sign Up** on the activities you'd like to select.

4 12:00pm-3:00pm St Stephen's... 5:45pm-7:45pm Family Concert Sign Up	5	6	7 6:00pm-7:15pm Activities wit... Sign Up	8	9	10
11 5:45pm-7:45pm Family Concert	12	13	14	15	16	17

If there is more than one activity on the date, all of them events will show up when clicked. Select **Sign Up** for the dates you'd like to participate in.

If you'd like to pick more dates, choose **Select Other Days** and you'll go back to the calendar. If you're finished, select **Save & Continue**.

On this page, you'll also see how many spots are available for the activity.

08/04/2024 (Sunday) Dates shown as mm/dd/yyyy EDT

Location	Time	Available Slot	
St Stephen's Food Pantry	12:00pm-3:00pm	St Stephen's Food Pantry 1 of 10 slots filled Please select ONLY 1 pantry date per month.	Sign Up
Town Park Mega Shelter	5:45pm-7:45pm	Family Concert 0 of 10 slots filled	Sign Up

[Select Other Days](#)
[Save & Continue](#)

Once you complete the sign up process, you'll get an email with everything that you selected.

SignUpGenius Group Organizing Made Easy

Thank you, Alicia!

You're all signed up for "TEST Activity Sign Ups."

- ✓ **St Stephen's Food Pantry** - Please select ONLY 1 pantry date per month.
08/04/2024 (Sun.) 12:00pm - 3:00pm EDT
Location: St Stephen's Food Pantry
- ✓ **Family Concert**
08/04/2024 (Sun.) 5:45pm - 7:45pm EDT
Location: Town Park Mega Shelter

[View Sign Up](#)

Fun Fact: If you create a Sign Up Genius account, you'll also have the option to cancel your activities here, but selecting the **X (delete)**.

07/07/2024 (Sunday) Dates shown as mm/dd/yyyy EDT


Location	Time	Available Slot	
St Stephen's Food Pantry	12:00pm-3:00pm	St Stephen's WAITLIST 2 of 20 slots filled If you sign up for the WAITLIST, we'll contact you if we have cancellation:	Sign Up Delete

Alicia H [edit](#) [refresh](#) [X](#) (AH)

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3 Activity Night 6:00 - 7:15 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living	4 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library	5	6 South Line FD Picnic in the Park 1:00 - 4:00 pm @ Stiglmeier Park
7 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	8	9 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm MEET @ ALEXANDER	10 Meet the Teacher Night Activity Stations 5:45 - 7:30 pm @ WW Elementary	11 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	12	13 Afternoon Activity 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Glenwell DePaul Awareness Walk 10:00 am - 1:00 pm @ Town Park Mega Shelter
14	15 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander	16	17 PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ WW Elementary	18 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library	19	20 Fall Fest 10:00 am - 1:00 pm 1:00 - 4:00 pm @ Reinstein Woods
21 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	22 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein Library New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm @ Alexander Advisory Board Meeting 6:00 - 8:00 pm @ Alexander	23 Activity Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ Elderwood	24	25 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	26 Social: Outdoor Halloween Movie Night 6:00 - 8:30 pm @ Town Park Mega Shelter	27 Afternoon Activity 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Glenwell DePaul
28	29	30 Workshop: Career Day Panel Discussion 6:00 - 8:00 pm @ Alexander	 			



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Reminder</i></p>  <p>Wear your nametag!</p>			<p>1 Activity Night 6:00 - 7:15 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living</p>	<p>2 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library</p>	<p>3 RAINDATE Social: Outdoor Halloween Movie Night 6:00 - 8:30 pm @ Town Park Mega</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens</p>	<p>6 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander</p>	<p>7 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm MEET @ ALEXANDER</p>	<p>8 PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ WW Elementary</p>	<p>9 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library</p> <p>PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ TR Elementary</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Afternoon Activity 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Glenwell DePaul</p> <p>Theme Night 5:45 - 8:00 pm @ Rec Center/Ice Rink</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13 Halloween Prep 12:00 - 2:00 pm @ Alexander</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 PTO Babysitting 6:15 - 7:45 pm @ Maryvale Primary</p>	<p>16 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library</p>	<p>17 Trunk or Treat 5:45 - 8:00 pm @ TR Elementary</p>	<p>18 Monster Mayhem 5:45 - 8:15 pm @ Alexander</p>
<p>19 CPD Trunk or Treat 11:45 am - 3:00 pm @ Losson Park</p> <p>Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens</p>	<p>20 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein Library</p> <p>New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm @ Alexander</p> <p>Advisory Board Meeting 6:00 - 8:00 pm @ Alexander</p>	<p>21 Family Craft Night 5:45 - 7:45 pm @ Alexander</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Afternoon Activity 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Glenwell DePaul</p> <p>Trunk or Treat 5:45 - 8:15 pm @ Rec Center/Ice Rink</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Activity Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ Elderwood</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>		