

Cheektowaga Y.E.S.

Even though the temperatures are still a little chilly, the sun is shining more and spring is right around the corner! I'm looking forward to winter break and celebrating all of our amazing volunteers at the Volunteer Recognition Event on Wed Feb 21 (11am-2pm at the Ice Rink)! If you'd like to attend and haven't signed up yet, please let me know by Monday, Feb 12!

NEW! Remind

We've decided to replace the Y.E.S. text phone number with Remind! When we first relaunched a few years ago, the Google phone number worked pretty well for us. However, now that we have reached over 150 volunteers, we need a more efficient way to communicate (ie send event changes, recruit for last minute activities, inclement weather updates, etc). We ask that teens and/or parents take a minute to join our list to make sure they receive important program updates. **REMIND:** @CheekYES

I can import our current contact list and will do so. If your phone number is on file, you'll receive a message and just have to confirm that you want to receive Y.E.S. updates. At this time, the text phone number is still valid, but we will begin to phase it out. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Last Minute Activity List

Lately we've been getting requests from organizations after the newsletter has already gone out. If you'd like me to contact you regarding last minute activities, please circle it on the sign up sheet and I'll add you to my text list. Also, we're STILL waiting to get word from the 10 Lives Club!

Y.E.S. Scholarship

Attention Class of 2024! We're so excited to announce that again this year we will be awarding a scholarship for a deserving senior Y.E.S. volunteer! To apply, please submit a paragraph or two telling us how volunteering with Y.E.S. has made an impact in your life. **Scholarship submissions are due by Friday, March 29 and can be submit via email to cheektowagayes@tocny.org.**

Hiring Opportunities

Spend your summer working for the town of Cheektowaga! There are a variety of opportunities for teens ages 15 and up. If interested, visit www.CheektowagaRec.org to download an application. Feel free to use me as a reference! Any questions, please let me know.

- Lifeguards - Ages 15+
- Bathhouse Attendants - Ages 15+
- Camp Counselors - Ages 16+
- Playground Counselors - Ages 15+
- ID Card Attendants - Ages 16+
- Youth Sports Coaches - Ages 15+
- Conservation Corp - Ages 16+

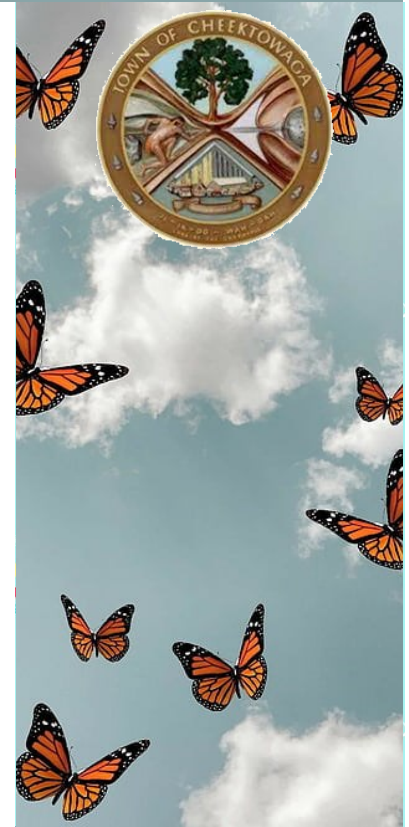
VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Volunteer of the Month December 2023: Guen Golombek - 25 activities, 50 service hours!

Volunteer of the Month January 2024: Austin Jones - 29 activities, 60 service hours!



Thank you volunteers!
- Alicia



Cheektowaga Y.E.S.

275 Alexander Ave
Cheektowaga, NY 14211
716.897.7207 ext 6655
716.427.4656 text/mobile
Remind: @CheekYES
cheektowagayes@tocny.org
www.CheektowagaYES.org

Alicia Hark
Y.E.S. Coordinator

Jessie Cecere
Y.E.S. Event Supervisor

Jessica Roberts
Y.E.S. Event Supervisor

Taylor Norton
Y.E.S. Event Supervisor



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.

Please note, volunteers may be required to wear a mask.

Wed Mar 6	6:00 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night
Wed Apr 3	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 and more! Each month will be a different fun activity.

Please note, volunteers may be required to wear a mask.

Sat Mar 30	1:45 - 3:15 pm	Afternoon Activity
Wed Apr 17	5:45 - 7:30 pm	Activity Night

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 Mar 18	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center
Wed Apr 24	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center

Want to earn some extra spending money???

The Cheektowaga Senior Center has reached out to us and asked if any Y.E.S. volunteers would be interested in getting paid to do odd jobs. You could be helping with raking leaves or light housework.

Please let us know if you'd be interested in adding your name to the "Odd Job" list. We'll share that information with the Senior Center and as jobs come up, you'll be contacted by the Senior Center Outreach Coordinator. Y.E.S. volunteers will be responsible for their own transportation. A Y.E.S. director will not be present for "odd jobs" scheduled.



Activities with Children

Event Locations

Julia Boyer Reinstein Library (JBR)
1030 Losson Rd, Cheektowaga

Reinstein Library, 2580 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga

Alexander Community Center
275 Alexander Ave, Cheektowaga

Library Craft Night & Saturday Crafternoons

Join us for crafts, games and other fun themed activities. Please remember, no water bottles are allowed at library.

Themes: **Mar: Hanging with my PEEPS**
Apr: Raining Cats & Dogs

Thurs Mar 7	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Sat Mar 16	1:15 - 2:45 pm	Reinstein
Thurs Mar 21	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs Apr 4	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs Apr 18	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Sat Apr 20	1:15 - 2:45 pm	Reinstein

LEGO Club

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

Mon Mar 11	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs Mar 14	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Thurs Mar 28	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Thurs Apr 11	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Mon Apr 15	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs Apr 25	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR



Craft Nights

Encourage kids to be creative with themed crafts, games, and other fun activities!

Preschool Craft Night

Tues Mar 19	5:45 - 7:15 pm	Alexander
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Theme: Egg-cited for Easter

Family Craft Nights

Tues Mar 26	5:45 - 7:45 pm	Alexander
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Theme: Hop to You Drop

Tues Apr 16	5:45 - 7:45 pm	Alexander
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Theme: Good to GLOW

Wear neon colors for our glow party craft night!

REMINDERS:

If you're unable to attend an event, don't forget to contact us to cancel!
Call 716-897-7207 ext 6655 or Text 716-427-4656

Community Activities

St Stephen's Food Pantry

750 Wehrle Dr, Cheektowaga

Help organize and distribute food at a community food pantry. If the weather is nice, we may be helping in the garden. **PLEASE**

NOTE: Occasionally this event finishes early and volunteers may call for a ride sooner than 3:00 pm.

Sun Mar 3, 17 12:00 - 3:00 pm *Limit 1 per month*
Sun Apr 7, 21 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. Look for the van in front of the Alexander Building. *(Limit 1 per newsletter)*

Mon Mar 25 4:00 - 6:30 pm
Tues Apr 9 4:00 - 6:30 pm

PTO Babysitting & Special Events @ TR

Theodore Roosevelt (TR) Elementary, 2495 William St, Cheek (Enter lot from Parker Ave, enter through back 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.

Thurs Mar 7 5:00 - 7:45 pm This is two-events—
PTO Babysitting prior to Author Celebration Night
Thurs Apr 11 6:00 - 7:45 pm PTO Babysitting

School Special Events @ WW

Volunteers will be helping with activities during the school's theme nights. Crafts, games, helping serve food, and more.

Woodrow Wilson (WW) Elementary

166 Halstead Ave, Sloan (Enter from back door)

Thurs Mar 21 5:45 - 8:00 pm Hero Night
Thurs Apr 25 5:45 - 8:00 pm Multicultural Night

PTO Babysitting & Special Events @ Maryvale Primary

1 Nagel Dr, Cheektowaga

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, or helping with special events.

Thurs Mar 7 5:45 - 7:30 pm Literacy Night
Tues Apr 23 6:00 - 7:30 pm PTO Babysitting

BBQ with the Bunny

Join us for our egg-cellent Easter event! Help us out with face painting, lawn games, crafts, an egg hunt and passing out a BBQ lunch! A special friend will be hopping by to join in on the fun!

Sat Mar 23 11:45 am - 2:00 pm
Cheektowaga Town Park Mega Shelter

Please note: This event will be held outside so please be sure to dress accordingly.

Sign Up Sheet (Please remember to include your name!)

Circle the dates for your activities. Four ways to register:

- 1 - Mail to 275 Alexander Ave. Cheektowaga, NY 14211
- 2 - Email cheektowagayes@tocny.org
- 3 - Call 716.897.7207 ext. 6655 (leave a message if we're not here)
- 4 - TEXT - 716-427-4656
- 5 - Send via NEW Remind group!

ACTIVITY	MAR	APR	NOTES!
Peregrine's Senior Living	6	3	
Elderwood at Cheektowaga	30	17	
Meals on Wheels Crafts	18	24	
JBR Craft Night	7 21	4 18	
JBR Lego Club	14 28	11 25	
Reinstein Crafternoon	16	20	
Reinstein Lego Club	11	15	
Preschool Craft Night	19		
Family Craft Night	26	16	
Grace Guest House	25	9	Meet @ Alexander! Limited to 8 volunteers. Limit 1 per newsletter! May be cancelled!
St Stephan's Food Pantry	3 17	7 21	Limited to 5 volunteers; Wear sneakers! Limit 1 per month!
TR PTO Babysitting/Events	7	11	
Maryvale PTO/Events	7	23	
WW Special Events	21	25	
BBQ with the Bunny	23		
Ten Lives Club	TBA	TBA	We'll contact you with date/time!
WORKSHOP: Fire Dept Visit		6	
SOCIAL: Hibachi Lunch		5	Pick: Chicken Steak Vegetarian
Would you like to be added to the Last Min Activity List?	Yes	No	
Would you like to be added to the odd job list?	Yes	No	
Tell us what career you'd like to learn more about:			

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Accomplishment:

Did you make the honor roll? Get a scholarship? Earn Student of the Month? Become captain of your team? Tell us your brag!

December Volunteer of the Month: Guenevere Golombek

No matter what type of event Guen is helping with, she always stands out! Her warm and compassionate personality make her a natural when working with elderly residents at the assisted living facilities. When working with children, she is always so patient and outgoing, while having fun and being a role model.



She is such a polite, mature and responsible young adult who is always eager to jump in and help. Even while we were face painting in a torrential down pour at the Trunk or Treat event, she still had a smile on her face! We are so happy to have you a part of the program and we look forward to seeing you at each event.

January Volunteer of the Month: Austin Jones

We have enjoyed having Austin as a Y.E.S. volunteer since the program relaunched in fall 2021! He has been a consistent volunteer with an outgoing personality and great sense of humor.

Whether Austin is inspiring future architects and engineers at Lego Club, cooking dinner at the Grace Guest House, or helping out with a holiday event, he's always willing to help with any task. His is so friendly and welcoming to all of the program participants and volunteers.

Austin - hope you enjoy the rest of your senior year of high school and wish you the very best next year in college!



Workshops & Socials



WORKSHOP: Fire Department Tour

Sat Apr 6 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Doyle Hose Co #2, 100 Willowlawn Pkwy, Cheektowaga

Learn more about what the brave men and women do in our community. Join us for an educational workshop that will show Y.E.S. volunteers what it's like to be a firefighter or EMS volunteer in Cheektowaga. Volunteer firefighters will give us a tour of the hall and show us the trucks and apparatus used in emergency situations. Teens can ask questions and find out more about the junior firefighter programs.

SOCIAL: Hibachi Lunch

Fri Apr 5 1:00 - 2:30 pm Fuji Grill, 7516 Transit Rd, Williamsville
RSVP & Payment due by Mon March 25 Cost: \$10

Join us for lunch and a show during spring break! If you haven't been out for hibachi before, it's such a great time. Our entire group will be seated around a hibachi grill while the chefs cook our lunch while doing tricks, setting food on fire and more! Volunteers can choose from vegetarian, chicken or steak options and each meal includes house salad, soup, rice or noodles and stir fried veggies.

Pre-registration is required by Monday, March 25 so we can reserve a table large enough for all of us. Space is limited! Pick up and drop off is at Fuji Grill on Transit Rd, across from the Eastern Hills Mall.

To pay \$10 fee, please call 716-897-7207, stop in at Alexander during business hours (9:30 am - 4:30 pm - you can pay in the front office or upstairs in the Y.E.S. office), or online - <http://tinyurl.com/ms2e4282>
REGISTRATION NUMBER is [8506]

To attend a social, Y.E.S. volunteers must attend at least 2 activities during March/April and have ZERO "no-shows" for the past six months.

CONGRATULATIONS OUR VOLUTNEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Maddie R - Made winter cheer team

Joseph S - Honor Roll

Riley F - 3.8 GPA

Audri - High Honor Roll

Miabella - Varsity Bowling team as 8th grader, high honor roll

Ocean B - Made honor roll

Courtney R - Honor Roll with 100.43% average! Plus taking 2 college level classes as a 9th grader!

Olivia Z - cast as Kurt in Sound of Music and high honors

Michael Z - Voted captain of hockey team Cheektowaga Warriors 12U MOHL

Cecilia K - High Honor Roll & in the school play

Jennifer T - Student of the Month Science & Music

Olivia S - 100% AP Bio test and understudy for Little Red Riding Hood (Into the Woods Musical)

Susetta - Got Hannah is School musical

Hayden J - Volunteer of the Month



Courtney R - Students of Month Technology

Lily J - Athlete of the Month - Bowling

Kendall P - Honor Roll

Abigale B - Getting 100% on Math test

MARCH 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	4 New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm @ Alexander	5	6 Activity Night 6:00 - 7:15 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living	7 PTO Babysitting & Author Celebration 4:45 - 7:45 pm @ TR Elementary Literacy Night 5:45 - 7:30 pm @ Maryvale Primary Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library	8	9
10	11 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein	12  Happy Birthday Alicia!	13	14 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	15	16 Crafternoon 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Reinstein
17 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	18 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander	19 Preschool Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ Alexander	20	21 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library Hero Night 5:45 - 8:00 pm @ WW Elementary	22	23 BBQ with the Bunny 11:45 am - 2:00 pm @ Town Park Mega Shelter
24	25 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm MEET @ ALEXANDER	26 Family Craft Night 5:45 - 7:45 pm @ Alexander	27	28 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	29	30 Activity 1:45 - 3:15 pm @Elderwood
31 						

APRIL 2024

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 SOCIAL: Hibachi Lunch 1:00 - 2:30 pm @ Fuji Grill, Transit Rd	6 WORKSHOP: Fire Dept Tour 11:00 am - 12:30 pm @ Doyle Hose Co. #2 
7 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	8	9 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm MEET @ ALEXANDER	10	11 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:45 pm @ TR Elementary	12	13
14	15 New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm @ Alexander Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein Library	16 Family Craft Night 5:45 - 7:45 pm @ Alexander	17 Activity Night 5:45 - 7:30 pm @ Elderwood Assisted Living	18 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library	19	20 Crafternoon 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Reinstein Library
21 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	22	23 PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ Maryvale Primary	24 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander	25 Multicultural Night 5:45 - 8:00 pm @ WW Elementary Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	26 Happy Birthday Taylor! 	27
28	29	30				