



Frequently Asked Questions

General Volunteer

Do I have to volunteer every week?

- No, but we encourage it for consistency. Some volunteers prefer to come every other week if that works better with your schedule.

Do I have to come at the same time and same day every week?

- No, but we encourage it for consistency. You can work with the Volunteer Coordinator for a modified schedule.

Am I able to choose my start and end times?

- For volunteers that assist with office or garden projects, there can be a lot of flexibility.
- For volunteers that work directly with the children, we ask that you pick a shift time.

Direct Care Volunteer

Am I limited to where I volunteer? Can I go to your Respite 2 Go locations?

- Yes, you can volunteer in Verona and Sun Prairie if the fit is better for you. Please talk to the Volunteer Coordinator for more information.

What types of things will I be doing during a shift?

- You will be playing games, doing arts projects, reading books, playing outside, sitting on the ground and having FUN! You will be working directly with a child throughout your shift.

Do I have to take the children to the bathroom or change diapers?



- No. If the child you are working with needs to go to the bathroom or needs a diaper change, let the staff know and they will do the toileting.

What do I do if I am sick or cannot make my shift on the day that I am scheduled?

- Please call Gio's Garden (608) 833-4467 ext 1 and leave a message as soon as possible.

How do the shifts work at Gio's?

- There are 3 shifts every day. Most volunteers choose one shift that works in their schedule.
 - 8:45 am - 12:15 pm
 - 12:45 pm - 4:15 pm
 - 4:45 pm - 8:15 pm

Will I work with the same children each time I come?

- Not all kids come at the same time every week. Scheduling is done by the parents, so it depends on when they need the help. We encourage you to work with multiple children throughout your shift.

Am I by myself with the children?

- No, there will always be a staff working alongside of you to help answer questions. They will also be working with the children.

What's the policy for cell phones and smart watches?

- Please keep cell phones away during your shift. Smart watches are fine to keep on your wrist, but please don't be on them. Our focus is on interacting with the children for the 3 hours that they are here.

Where do I park? Is it free?

- There is a 24 hour free parking lot next to the firestation.



Interns/School Credit Volunteers

What do I do if I have a test or other school commitment on the day that I am scheduled?

- If you know you are not able to work your scheduled shift, please email the Volunteer Coordinator at least 3 days prior your shift. We rely on our volunteers to work directly with the children and would need to cover your shift. If you missed your assigned shift, this will be reflected in your evaluation or addressed directly with your professor.

How will I get there if I don't have a car? What if my cab is late or doesn't show?

- Uber is a good option. Also, there is a free cab service for UW students who are volunteering with us-Morgridge Center. If your cab is late or doesn't show up, please call Gio's Garden to let us know.

My internship needs to be more than 3 hours a week. Am I able to work more than one shift?

- Yes. You will work with the Volunteer Coordinator or your internship supervisor to create a schedule.