

# VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills – from working as part of a team to setting and reaching goals. It gives you a chance to discover what kinds of things you are best at and enjoy the most, which can help shape your ideas about your career goals. Volunteering can also provide a person with a sense of responsibility because people really depend on you. And it can help you develop a new understanding of people who are different from you – people with disabilities, people in financial distress, sick kids, or the elderly. In addition to all other reasons for volunteering it can look impressive on college, job or scholarship applications. Volunteering also shows employers and colleges you believe in making the world a better place – and you're willing to sacrifice your time and energy to do it. Volunteering can develop self-esteem, confidence, social, interpersonal, and leadership skills while giving a person an understanding of responsibility associated with civic and job related duties.

### WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Gain employment, social and interpersonal skills
- Learn business operations
- Gain self-esteem and respect
- Open the door to job opportunities
- Fill the gap of time between jobs
- Obtain a letter of recommendation
- Job shadow and career search
- Gain entrance to college
- Make the world a better place
- Obtain a promotion in current job

Part of being a great volunteer is loving what you're doing. Find something that you're passionate about or something that inspires you, and then find a need in your community. There are dozens of reasons why you should volunteer - you just need to find the one that feels right.

*To choose to act in recognition of a need, with an attitude of social responsibility and, without concern for monetary profit, going beyond one's basic obligations and one's personal duties to help others in need.*

*Knowing you can make a difference and give back to the community can be a rewarding and incredible experience that can impact people for the rest of their lives.*

- Contribute to a cause
- Explore areas of interest
- Expand your horizons
- Make new friends
- Strengthen your resume
- Learn new skills
- Polish existing skills
- Community involvement
- Improve job, college, or scholarship application

*Volunteering can have rewarding life long implications with outcomes that can have lifelong impressions as a person moves up the career ladder of success.*

# CONTACT

## NORTHWEST MICHIGAN WORKS! CENTER LOCATIONS

### Traverse City

1209 S. Garfield Ave., Suite C  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
1-800-442-1074

### Cadillac

401 N. Lake Street, Suite 700  
Cadillac, MI 49601  
(231) 775-3408

### Manistee

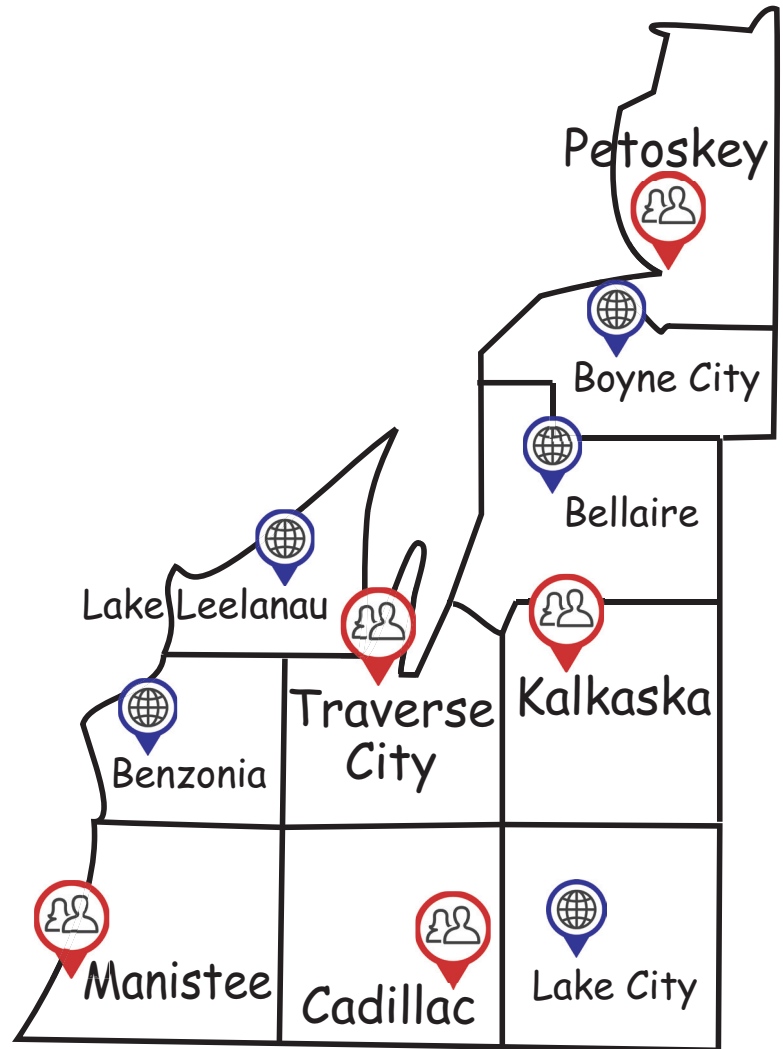
1660 Manistee Hwy  
(US 31 South)  
Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 723-2535

### Petoskey

2225 Summit Park Drive  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 347-5150

### Kalkaska

103 Third Street  
Kalkaska, MI 49646  
(231) 258-8889



Service Centers



Access Points

[NWMichWorks.org](http://NWMichWorks.org)

*Connecting You To Opportunities*