

# Volunteer Poems: Bringing the Message Home

Like the sayings on my volunteer quotes page, these volunteer poems seek to express the incredible value of volunteer work to both the volunteers and the people who they serve.

Volunteers are richly rewarded and generously acknowledged within their paid jobs, careers and other parts of their lives for their volunteer work, which they include on their resumes.

The first volunteer appreciation poem is what radio host **Bernard Meltzer** called "**My Golden Rule**":

*Do all the good you can  
By all the means you can  
In all the ways you can  
In all the places you can  
At all times you can  
To all the people you can  
As long as you can.*

Next, poet **Alexander Pope** wrote this volunteer poem called "**The Universal Prayer**" in 1738.

It clearly expresses the "**giving, then receiving**" nature of volunteering:

*Teach me to feel another's woe,  
To hide the fault I see;  
That mercy I to others show,  
That mercy show to me.*

Philosopher **Lao Tzu** offers some similar advice:

*Learn to lead in a nourishing manner.  
Learn to lead without being possessive.  
Learn to be helpful without taking the credit.  
Learn to lead without coercion.*

**Mother Teresa** offers that,

*Love cannot remain by itself -- it has no meaning.  
Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.*

Human rights activist and reverend **Martin Luther King** offers this encouragement for all of us to volunteer:

*If I can help somebody as I pass along,  
if I can cheer somebody with a word or song,  
if I can show somebody he's traveling wrong,  
Then my living will not be in vain.*

And finishing things off are three volunteer poems from "**Anonymous.**" :-)

This one ...

*We may not always realize that everything we do  
Affects not only our lives but touches others too.*

*A single happy smile can always brighten up the day  
For anyone who happens to be passing by your way.*

*And a little bit of thoughtfulness that shows someone you care  
Creates a ray of sunshine for both of you to share.*

*Yes, every time you offer someone a helping hand,  
Every time you show a friend you understand.*

*Every time you have a kind and gentle word to give,  
You help someone to find beauty in this precious life we live.*

*For happiness brings happiness and loving ways bring love,  
And giving is the treasure that contentment is made of.*

... This one ...

### **You Make a Difference**

*There are many who go the "second mile"  
And greet each day's tasks with a smile;  
Who spend their lives serving others  
And look upon all men as brothers.*

*Who work for all children everywhere,  
When there's a need - they are there.  
Their time and talents freely dedicate  
Serving in places small and great.*

*These are the ones we honor today  
And to you we wish to say -  
This world is now a better place  
Because it looked upon your face.*

... And finally this one ...

*V aluable is the work you do  
O utstanding in how you always come through  
Loyal, sincere, and full of good cheer  
U ntiring in your efforts throughout the year  
N otable are the contributions you make  
T rustworthy in every project you take  
E ager to reach your every goal  
E ffective in the way you fulfill your role  
R eady with a smile like a shining star  
S pecial and wonderful -- that's what you are!!*

**From the website: <http://www.job-search-coach.com/volunteer-poems.html>**