**32 Ideas for Volunteer Recognition**

*(http://www.hr-esources.com/11/19/32-ideas-for-volunteer-recognition-and-motivation/)*

1. Smile at them. Acknowledge their presence on site.
2. Treat them to a coffee or meal.
3. Reimburse any of the out-of-pocket expenses.
4. Send a birthday, holiday and thank-you cards to volunteers and their families.
5. Give service pins or certificates.
6. Plan an annual recognition program.
7. Provide good pre-service orientation and training.
8. Hold volunteer meetings and ask for input.
9. Enable them to grow on the job.
10. Create a pleasant work environment.
11. Enlist experienced volunteers to train new volunteers.
12. Take time to talk and listen
13. Have a plan: job descriptions and task lists for volunteers.
14. Carefully match volunteer with job
15. Provide scholarships to volunteer conferences or workshops
16. Utilize volunteers on advisory committees.
17. Celebrate National Volunteer Week.
18. Nominate them for volunteer awards.
19. Praise them to their friends and peers
20. Provide in-service training
21. Plan staff and volunteer social events
22. Promote a “Volunteer-of-the-month” program
23. Send letter of appreciation to their employer
24. Plan a “Recognition Edition” the organization’s newsletter.
25. Send commendatory letters to prominent public figures
26. Say, “we missed you.” when they are away.
27. Award special citations for extraordinary achievements
28. Plan a theatre party
29. Have a picnic
30. Have employees adopt a volunteer as a “secret friend”.
31. Have a volunteer planning retreat.
32. Create a volunteer bulletin board with announcements, pictures, and recognition.