

Additional Opportunities:

Family Interaction Program:

Volunteers support children in out-of-home care by supervising the family interaction with their parents.

Volunteer Drivers: Assist with transporting children and families safely to and from authorized visits and appointments.

Parent Pals Program: Volunteer mentors spend time (2-3 times per month) with parents referred by Brown County Child Protective Services who have identified an interest in having an informal support in their lives.

Volunteer Guardians: A legal guardian is a decision maker and an advocate for those who are incompetent due to aging, a developmental disability, chronic mental illness or alcohol and drug abuse.

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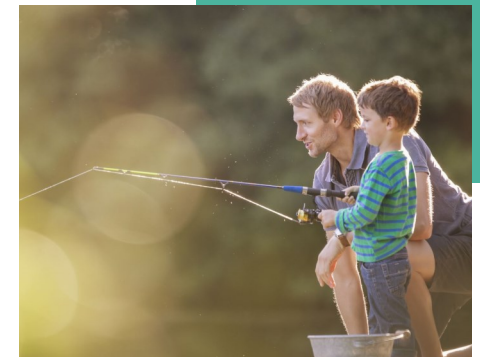
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**BROWN COUNTY
VOLUNTEER SERVICES**



About:

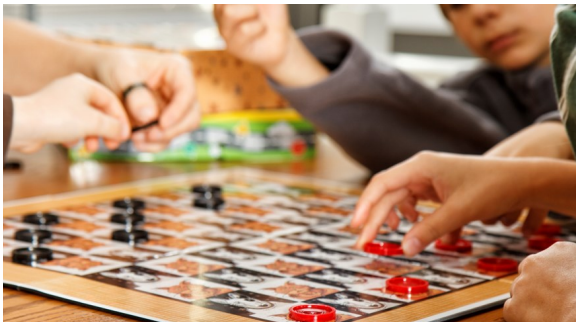
Pals Program is a mentoring program of Brown County Health & Human Services. Program Coordinators are responsible for training volunteers and matching them with a Pal based on compatibility.

Volunteers spend time in a recreational or learning activity with their Pal. Volunteer mentors help the child adjust to the separation or loss of a parent, enhance self-esteem and confidence, and learn new skills.

Volunteer Coordinators provide support to matches as long as the volunteer and child are involved with the program.

Population Served:

- Children ages 3-17.
- Children who have been involved with Brown County Child Protection and/or Youth Justice in some capacity.
- Children who could benefit from a positive role model in their life.



Qualifications:

Mentors can be a single adult, couple or a family. Other qualifications for volunteers in this program include:

- Must be 18 years old.
- Display the ability to be a safe and supportive adult.
- Ability to pass a criminal background check

Responsibilities:

- To observe agency rules of confidentiality.
- To report any concerns regarding possible abuse/neglect.
- Commit to interacting with their Pal 2-3 times per month.
- Submit mileage and reporting forms on a monthly basis.

Benefits:

Pals Program participants are so fortunate when it comes to being offered a variety of opportunities.

- Matches are invited to a fun activity each month that is free of charge.
- Matches receive discounts at various businesses in the community in effort to allow children access to more opportunities and experiences.
- Matches often receive invites to additional community events throughout the year as a result of participating in the Pals Program.

Process:

Once you have decided to commit to the Pals Program, we ask that volunteers complete formal applications and agree to attend orientation to the program.

- 1) Complete an application which includes consent to a background check and providing three references. We also request volunteers to submit a copy of a valid driver's license and verification of auto insurance with their application.
- 2) Once your application is processed, an overview of the program and training is provided. We learn more about you so that we can make the best match.
- 3) After learning about your interests, we review our waitlist and select 2-3 children to present that seem like they may be compatible.
- 4) Volunteers then select a child to move forward with. A time is scheduled for the volunteer to meet the child and their caregiver. If it seems like a great fit, we will make a match!

