

Parent involvement



Why should people get involved?

- **It feels good.** The satisfaction and pride you feel when helping others are important reasons to volunteer. When you commit your time and effort to an organization you care about or a cause you feel strongly about, the feeling of fulfillment can be endless.
- **It strengthens your community.** Organizations and agencies that make use of volunteers are providing important services at low or no cost to those who need them. When a community is doing well as a whole, the individuals are better off, too.
- **It can strengthen your family.** Most people who shy away from volunteering insist they just don't have the time to give after fulfilling work and family commitments. But it often just involves rethinking the way you spend some of your free time together as a family. Volunteerism is a wonderful way for families to have fun and feel closer to each other to boot.

How do I get parents involved? Ideas from our round table discussion – November 15, 2007.

- Ask! Email a list of jobs at the start of the year
- Be Positive! Create something they want to be involved with
- Make sure all of your parents are on an email communications list
- Ask parents that work to come to the troop and talk to the girls about their careers
- Working Moms arrange a field trip to their work
- Have parents sign up to lead an activity for a "Try-it"
- Have different parents in charge of the Daisy petals activity
- Have all parents fingerprinted and signed up as volunteers
- Explain, at the beginning of the year how much you depend on their help and sign them up right away
- Create a job list
- Conduct a Parent/Leader Meeting
- Make sure your ask is one on one

http://www.girlscouts.org/for_adults/leader_magazine/2003_fall/getting_to_yes.asp