

VOLUNTEERS & YOUTH SERVICE TEAM

LEARNING
TOGETHER
ARIZONA

TOP SEVEN THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VOLUNTEERING AT THE AFHE CONVENTION

1. We are thankful for you!

- It takes 100+ volunteers during the AFHE Convention weekend to make everything happen!
- We appreciate each of you! And we hope you are blessed as you serve fellow homeschoolers.

2. You're part of the AFHE team!

- When you volunteer at our event you are serving on behalf of our organization.
- AFHE has a culture of service and care.
- We want each person to feel welcome.
- We are grateful for all who serve and represent AFHE well to the community and public.
- Read the Code of Conduct, Dress Code, and additional information on the website.

3. AFHE is the statewide homeschool organization.

- AFHE is a nonprofit organization that exists to serve and support Arizona homeschool families.
- Our mission keywords are **Inspire, Promote, Preserve, and Support**.
 - Inspire parents to homeschool their children
 - Promote parent-directed, privately funded, home-based education in Arizona
 - Preserve the freedom to homeschool
 - Support parents who choose a home-based education option for their children
- Homeschooling is a legally defined option that is unique in our state.
- AFHE supports the right of parents to choose whichever education option best fits their family's needs—and there are many options to choose from in Arizona, which truly is wonderful.
- We will have families at the AFHE Convention who are utilizing various education options, and we want everyone to feel welcome.
- Our organization has a specific mission and focus—to promote and protect homeschooling as defined in state law.
- As you serve at the AFHE Convention, you are part of our team; please support our mission as you interact with attendees, speakers, and other volunteers.
- Please review the information on the AZ Law page afhe.org/az-law-and-affidavit.
- If an attendee has questions, please encourage them to stop by the Mentoring Connections booth in the exhibit hall. We have AFHE brochures and literature and experienced homeschool moms ready to answer questions. The AFHE booth also has information and will be staffed throughout the convention.

4. We've published helpful information for you.

- Familiarize yourself with AFHE Convention information and instructions. On the website you'll find the schedule overview, facility maps, convention info, etc.
- If you are serving as a workshop host, you'll find more detailed information about your responsibilities in the workshop hosts checklists posted on the Convention Volunteers page.

5. We need you!

- Please arrive on time (5-10 minutes before your shift begins), ready to serve.
- Make childcare arrangements.
- Follow the instructions for your particular area. We have carefully thought through all areas and parameters and things will run more smoothly if we have consistency. We want you to have success and for our attendees to have a good experience.
- If you have questions or run into a challenge, ask for help. Suggestions to solve immediate problems can be directed to the Volunteer Coordinator; suggestions for future years should be communicated to convention@afhe.org following the Convention.
- You are on the front lines of defusing any tense situations that might arise.
- Whatever role you're filling, remember to be warm and welcoming. Smile.
- We do not have backup volunteers waiting in the wings . . . we need you!
- When you complete a task or shift, return to the Volunteer counter to let the Coordinator know; please do not leave without letting us know.
- If an emergency comes up, please notify the Volunteer Coordinator or your area leader ASAP.

6. Checking in

- Volunteers will go to Volunteer Check-In at the front end of the registration counter.
- You will confirm your volunteer shift(s) and pick up your name badge envelope, a program, and a welcome bag.
- For those volunteering in an area that the Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for, you will check in with her for any additional instructions (workshop hosts, booth hosts, greeters.)
- Registration volunteers will receive instruction from the on-site registration coordinators.
- If you are volunteering in an area overseen by another coordinator such as Mentoring Connections, Thursday volunteers, or the Service Team, you will connect with your particular coordinator when you arrive. You still pick up your name badges at the Volunteer Check-In counter.
- Service Team members will receive check-in instructions from the Service Team admin prior to the convention and will proceed as specified.

7. Enjoy!

- It really is a joy and an honor to get to serve our fellow homeschoolers!
- Your participation makes a difference, and we are grateful for you.
- We pray you are blessed and refreshed even as you serve.