



Bridgeport Rescue Mission
Main Campus & Administrative Offices
1088 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06605
www.BridgeportRescueMission.org
203- 333- 4087

Bridgeport Rescue Mission Volunteer Ministry

Volunteer Policy & Guidelines

Please follow these guidelines when volunteering at Bridgeport Rescue Mission. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (203) 333-4087 Ext. 114 if you have questions or concerns.

Do . . . maintain a neat, clean and modest appearance; remove hats during chapel services.

Don't . . . dress inappropriately (no tank tops, midriff tops, short shorts or skirts, low-cut or skin-tight clothing, items with lewd, indecent, or satanic imprints, or exposed body piercing). **Modesty for women is especially important when working at the Men's Center.**

Do . . . have an attitude of service. You will need patience, love, acceptance and understanding, along with firm boundaries as you work with guests and children. Remember many of our guests have grown up with dysfunctional beliefs and behaviors.

Don't . . . give money directly to our guests. Many are recovering from addictions and other habits. Giving money might cause a guest to stumble into alcohol or drug use. If you want to contribute money to a particular person or need, consult a staff member.

Do . . . talk about Jesus Christ and the Gospel message. Read from the Bible. Give personal testimonies of your salvation experience or what the Lord has done in your life.

Don't . . . share beliefs that differ from the Mission's Statement of Faith or discuss specific doctrines or controversial Biblical issues such as modes of baptism, speaking in tongues, etc.

Do . . . play Christian music or show Christian videos. G-rated videos, approved ahead of time, are acceptable. You may also have crafts, games or Christian plays or skits. You can even host a party for our children or guests. Homemade goodies are especially appreciated!

Don't . . . conduct events, plays, or show movies contrary to Christian values. Please do not play games or provide crafts with occult symbols.

Do . . . encourage our guests to problem-solve with the assistance of their case managers.

Don't . . . listen to gossip or negative talk about others. Please report problems to staff on duty so they may deal with them according to Bridgeport Rescue Mission policies.

Do . . . remember the Bridgeport Rescue Mission staff have a lot of needs to meet. Be patient with them as they attend to priorities before they may be able to assist you.

Don't . . . come to Bridgeport Rescue Mission if you've been using drugs or alcohol. Many guests are in recovery and this may cause them to stumble. If volunteers in your group have been using drugs or alcohol, ask them not to attend your volunteer event. Smoking is prohibited in our buildings; please refrain from smoking outside while you are volunteering at Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

Do . . . sign in and out in the volunteer log located at the receptionist's desk. This enables the mission to keep an accurate record of contributed hours.

Don't . . . arrange for personal time with a guest. Do not offer to take a guest somewhere. All volunteers who spend time alone with a guest must be screened and interviewed.

Thank you.