



**Ask the Health Expert**  
*Arizona Republic*

**Q: With summer quickly approaching, my daughter is looking to see if there are any volunteer opportunities available at Chandler Regional or Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers. How can she learn more?**

**A:** Yes! Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers, members of Catholic Healthcare West (CHW), have a volunteer program for teenagers between the ages of 14 and 18. The Volunteens program provides great work experience for those who are interested in helping others and making new friends. Participants can volunteer at either medical center or at a CHW Urgent Care center in Ahwatukee, Gilbert or Queen Creek.

Some of the service areas where Volunteens can participate include delivering flowers, mail and newspapers; working in the gift shop; performing clerical duties; assisting at the nursing stations; and running miscellaneous errands around the medical centers.

CHW makes every effort to match a volunteer's skills and interests depending upon what the medical center's needs are. Volunteering is really a perfect opportunity for teenagers to get an inside look at what it's like to work in the healthcare industry while at the same time having an important and positive impact on our patients, staff and visitors.

In addition to a positive attitude, CHW requires Volunteens to serve a minimum of 40 hours over the summer. Upon successful completion of the program, they will receive a certificate, a copy of their hours, and a letter of recommendation.

To learn more about becoming a Volunteen, please visit [www.ChandlerRegional.org](http://www.ChandlerRegional.org) or [www.MercyGilbert.org](http://www.MercyGilbert.org). From there, select Volunteer Information on the left-hand navigation bar and click on Application Information.

*Barb Farmer is the manager of Volunteer Services at Chandler Regional and Mercy Gilbert Medical Centers. To learn more about volunteer opportunities at either organization, please contact Barb via e-mail at [Barb.Farmer@chw.edu](mailto:Barb.Farmer@chw.edu). You may also call the Volunteer Services office at Chandler Regional Medical Center at 480.728.3308 or Mercy Gilbert Medical Center at 480.728.7187.*