My Community Volunteering Experience

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In the year 2010, I had the opportunity to volunteer for the Midland community in many ways. I volunteered at Helping Hands, Meals on Wheels, and the Petroleum Museum. These volunteering experiences further opened my eyes to the needs of my community and the many opportunities of service in my hometown.

Helping Hands has helped my family in the past. Several years ago my family was struggling with income and Helping Hands was generous enough to help us pay our electric bill. I chose to volunteer at Helping Hands because I wanted to give back to the program. At the time, it seemed like there was no value in sorting piles of items but when the manager shared with me that many children would be very happy to receive toys for Christmas, it put it all into perspective for me. Volunteering isn’t just about seeing the benefits; it is also about making a way for them to be possible.

I also had the privilege of helping with the Meals on Wheels non profit organization. My grandfather used to be a Meals on Wheels recipient and he would share with me how he enjoyed looking forward to their company and a hot meal daily. I volunteered because I wanted to give back and help someone else’s loved one in the same way. It was very rewarding delivering hot meals to people who didn’t have the means of getting one as well as being there for them to talk to. Overall, it was a very humbling experience, it made me realize just how blessed I am and how much I take for granted daily.
At the Petroleum Museum I helped take inventory as well as help prepare for community services such as the Science Nights and Boy Scout and Girl Scout camp-ins. When I was young, I personally had the opportunity to participate in one of the Girl Scout camp-ins they hosted. I remember how the volunteers worked hard cooking our breakfast and helping with the activities. When I had the opportunity to be on the giving end instead of the receiving end, I did. The Science Nights, which are free to the public, are a good outreach to the young students in the Midland community. These nights are a way of making education fun and exciting for the children. It was a very rewarding experience to be a part of the free education programs presented to the community and our future generation.

I volunteered at several different organizations so I personally could touch the community in more than one way. I chose these particular organizations because they have personally touched my life in a positive way and I in turn wanted to give back and make it possible to touch others. I learned that there is not a job or act of service which is too small for each act must be done for the community to prosper and care for each other the way it has for so long.