

# Does Your Organization Need Volunteers?

We can help! The **Dane County Timebank** matches organizations in need of assistance with people who can provide it. The Timebank has helped organizations like yours to:

- transport participants
- fundraise and design promotional materials
- clean, paint and repair facilities
- provide help at home and companionship to clients
- landscape and maintain building grounds
- answer phones and do other office work
- staff and organize events

By using the Timebank, organizations have been able to:

- connect with the community
- save money
- access a diverse, pre-screened database of helpers
- meet goals more readily
- reduce the work load for volunteer coordinators and other staff

The Dane County Timebank, established in October 2005, is rapidly catching on. Within its first six months of operation, 180 individuals and 18 organizations have joined. The Timebank catalogs individuals' and organizations' strengths, skills, and willingness to help others, and then links these organizations and individuals together to help meet their respective needs.

Timebank members receive time dollars for their service. Any member who helps another member earns one time dollar per hour, which can then be spent on needed services from individuals or organizations in the network. Every member's time is equal and there is no monetary equivalent associated with time dollars. We'll help your organization be creative in earning time dollars, and organizations can spend time dollars before they start earning them. It's common for Timebank members to fluctuate between positive and negative time dollar balances.

The Timebank is currently developing a flexible dues structure for organizations. Members will be able to pay dues in cash, time dollars, or a combination of both.

Joining the Dane County Timebank is easy. To join or learn more, visit [www.danecountytimebank.org](http://www.danecountytimebank.org) or contact Stephanie Rearick, Timebank Director, at 443-8229.

Here's what other organizations have to say about the Timebank:

*"Joining the Timebank has been great for my organization! We were able to save \$300 by using a Timebank member to do our annual financial audit. We also plan on using the Timebank to run the Northside Farmers Market. To earn timedollars, we will encourage NCC members to provide Timebank services on behalf of the Northside Farmers Market."*

**- Lisa Wiese, Board President, Northside Community Coop**

*"We are a non-profit organization that recently moved - a very costly endeavor. Our membership in the Dane County Timebank was invaluable when they helped us connect with an off-season construction worker. In the time our staff put together one build-your-own desk, she put together four! Then, she proceeded to hang items, measure for blinds and even determined safety issues around hanging heavy cabinets in our childcare room. With none of these skills among our staff, we couldn't have done this move without the help of this Timebank member."*

**- Erin Thornley, Executive Director, Parental Stress Center**

*"The Lindbergh PTA joined the Timebank to bring more community resources into our school including help in classrooms, in the lunchroom, on the playground, with tutoring, and with PTA events and activities. To earn timedollars, we hope to offer occasional after-school classes, workshops and performances, in which people attending would have the option of paying us with timedollars. We also hope that teachers and students will work together to raise timedollars for their classrooms. Through community service activities, they might volunteer for local nonprofit organizations, or do services for individual Timebank members in the neighborhood."*

**- Clare Norell, Lindbergh PTA Timebank Coordinator**

*"Timebanking is an important tool for the Northside Planning Council, especially in engaging a broader cross-section of Northside residents in issues that are important to the community. Timebank members provide child care at our community events, we offer Time Dollars for involvement with committees and task forces, and we plan on asking Timebank members with web design experience to help us develop Northside Online, our website. We've earned Time Dollars by requesting donations from Timebank members who attend NPC-sponsored public forums. We'll also earn Time Dollars by offering our support and training for meeting facilitation and neighborhood association revitalization."*

**- Abha Thakkar, Associate Facilitator, Northside Planning Council**