Successful volunteer engagement requires projects and an environment that are attractive to volunteers. Good planning is essential to make service projects successful and volunteers content.

What do volunteers look for?

**Doing good work**. The work must be worthwhile.

**A good use of their time.** Time is precious to everyone. If they reserved a block of time for the service project, ensure most of the time is spent doing service.

**Low commitment levels.** Asking someone to make long-term commitments or to sign up to be on a team as a first step usually fails.

**Time-bounded.** Make sure that they can leave when they plan to, or as advertised, even if the work is not complete.

**Doable.** Find projects that people can do without special training and that they can succeed at quickly.

**Family-Friendly.** Volunteers do not want to be away from their families as they do service, and parents want to pass values on to their children.

**Fun and Fellowship.** Volunteering should be enjoyable.