

Mariah Williams

Class 2017

Congrat! You now get to volunteer at the homeless shelter. It may be scary at first but it is really a lot of fun. During my time there I volunteered in the family site of the shelter, Families Moving Forward. I would play with the children, serve and eat dinner with them, watch movies, play video games or board games, help them with homework, and etc. While serving, I wish someone would have told me the reality of serving at a shelter. Although being there is fun, you are exposed to a lot and it's hard to witness or hear some of the homeless people's stories. Some skills you may need to know are soft skills, knowing what to say during a conversation with a parent or teen during volunteering. Some days when there aren't many people to serve you'll do laundry, or other work around the shelter. Some challenges you may face are controlling your facial expressions when seeing some of the homeless people. Another is actually knowing some of the homeless people. The people you will be working with are very friendly and nice; makes you feel welcomed and apart of the staff. The most rewarding thing about serving at the shelter is the impact you'll make the homeless people's lives. At first it may not seem like a big deal but they appreciate everything you do for them. With this volunteering site you really have a chance

to make difference in someones life, there views on life
and in your community. I loved volunteering at the shelter
and hope your experience is just a good as mine.
was.

Sincerely,
Mandy Williams