

STUDENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

There is much to be said in support of the value of face-to-face intergenerational exchange between young and older people. However, the recent upsurge in volume of year 10 students sourcing placement in non-profit agencies in 2007 (to complete their 20 hour community service learning requirement), will mean that agencies such as Brightwater will have to become creative in order to find 'meaningful' activities that are fun for students.

It is anticipated that there will be over 25,000 students looking for placements and Brightwater is working hard to find ways in providing students with memorable, life changing experiences during their placement.

For example, it may be possible for students to be able to prepare valuable resources while at school. These resources, once developed, can then be "shared" with the residents on site. This method of fulfilling the requirement of hours should minimise staff supervision time (of students) on site at Brightwater facilities, whilst also assisting the school with minimising their transport of students to agencies and also teacher supervision time.

With the emphasis on providing students with activities that they can feel some form ownership for and pride in having developed, we have compiled the following suggested activities and resources.

Examples include:

- Woodwork Activities
- Raised Garden Beds
- Computer Activities and Training
- Table Games
- Cooking Activities
- Sensory Mat and Wall Hangings
- Performances and Entertainment
- Playgroup Assistant
- Art Activities
- Wheelchair Cleaning
- Bedroom Identification Plaques
- Social Dancing with Residents
- Creating Lifestory books for Residents

