

Dallas County Master Wellness Volunteer Program

The Master Wellness Volunteer Program is an educational campaign with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension) focused on helping Dallas County residents learn how to make healthy lifestyle choices. The mission of AgriLife Extension is to improve the lives of people, businesses, and communities through high quality, relevant education. Volunteers are critical to fulfilling this mission, and they will assist in delivering wellness programs to area organizations, businesses, and other community groups.

Participants in the Volunteer Program will receive 40 hours of health and wellness education. Upon completion of the training, participants are expected to return 40 hours of volunteer service. There will be numerous opportunities and methods for participants to volunteer within the program.

Five training classes will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Urban Solutions Center at 17360 Coit Road, Dallas, TX 75252.

The training will be a combination of in-class and self-study education. It will include information on basic nutrition, food safety, health education, weight management, trends in health and nutrition, public speaking, and more. The training schedule is as follows.

Thursday, February 3, 2011 – Day 1: Orientation

Thursday, February 10, 2011 – Day 2: Nutrition

Thursday, February 17, 2011 – Day 3: Food Safety Training

Friday, February 25, 2011 – Day 4: Health Training

Thursday, March 3, 2011 – Day 5: Certification Day

After completing the training and giving back 40 volunteer hours, participants will become a Master Wellness Volunteer. If you are interested in participating, please complete the attached application and return it to:

Wenhsing Cheng

10056 Marsh Lane, Suite B-101, Dallas, TX 75229

There is a \$65 application fee that covers the cost of training, including all educational materials. With the application, please submit a check made payable to: Family in the Metroplex.

Application Deadline: January 24, 2011

It is required by AgriLife Extension that all volunteers have a background check. You will receive a release form on the first training date. It will be submitted to the Volunteer Center of North Texas for completion of a Criminal Background Check, which will be kept on file at AgriLife Extension.



Dallas County Master Wellness Volunteer Program Application – due no later than January 24, 2011

Please print or type all information. Upon completion, return to: Wenhsing Cheng, 10056 Marsh Lane, Suite B-101, Dallas, TX 75229

Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Are you available to participate on the training dates? _____

Are you currently employed? _____ If so, where? _____

Please list any volunteer work experience: _____

List any experience you have working with community-type organizations (schools, youth, churches, senior citizens, etc.): _____

List additional interests, skills, hobbies: _____

List any post-secondary education/diploma and/or certifications:

(continued)

Check (✓) the times you may be available to volunteer:

| | Morning | Afternoon | Evening |
|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Monday | | | |
| Tuesday | | | |
| Wednesday | | | |
| Thursday | | | |
| Friday | | | |
| Saturday | | | |
| Sunday | | | |

Why do you want to become a Master Wellness Volunteer? _____

Feel free to add any additional information you would like to share: _____

I would like to become a Master Wellness Volunteer. I understand that should I be selected for the training program, I will be required to complete 40 hours of training. Upon completion of the training, I will be required to return 40 hours of volunteer service by the end of the year under the direction of the county Extension agent. I also understand that as a volunteer, I will represent Texas AgriLife Extension Service and will be called upon to provide educational programs and disseminate educational materials. I also understand that in this capacity I cannot use my status as a volunteer to promote any personal opinions, business, or services or the opinions or services of other companies or agencies. I must present the research-based information on which Texas AgriLife Extension Service's educational programs and services are based.

My signature below indicates that I do not have a conflict of interest and that all of the information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Volunteer Application Form

And consent for criminal background history check authorization/waiver

To be completed by Extension program volunteers (ENP, BLT, etc.) and Master Volunteers only.

Please print:

1. APPLICANT'S FULL, LEGAL NAME

2. COUNTY

3. ADDRESS

4. CITY

ZIP

5. FIRST 5 DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

6. DATE OF BIRTH

7. DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER (optional)

8. GENDER (*circle one*) Male / Female

9. Are you of Hispanic ethnicity? Yes / No

10. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM AREA

RACE (*circle one*) White / Black / Asian / American Indian

Alaskan Native / Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander

Previously Screened

11. I verify that I have been previously screened including a criminal background check and PASSED. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, by who? _____

When (Year): _____

For what purpose? _____

Did you pass? If not, what restrictions were imposed? _____

Please sign at the bottom of the form.

12. I hereby authorize VERIFY! and/or its Service Provider and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service to request and receive any and all background information about or concerning me, including, but not limited to, my Criminal History, Credit History including a consumer report under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681, Driving Record, Employment History, Military Background, Civil Listings, Educational Background, Professional License from any Individual, Corporation, Partnership, Law Enforcement Agency, and other entities including my Present and Past Employers. I authorize the Texas AgriLife Extension Service or any of its components to make reference checks relating to my volunteer service. I understand that this information will be used to determine my eligibility as a volunteer/employee with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. This request is for criminal history only. No credit report will be requested or obtained.

The criminal history, as received from the reporting agencies, may include arrest and conviction data, as well as plea bargains and deferred adjudications and delinquent conduct committed as a juvenile. I understand that this information will be used, in part, to determine my eligibility for an employment/volunteer position with this organization. I also understand that as long as I remain an employee or volunteer here, the criminal history check may be repeated at any time. I understand that I will have an opportunity to review the criminal history as received by client/agency and a procedure is available for clarification, if I dispute the record as received. I also understand that the criminal history could contain information presumed to be expunged.

I further release and discharge VERIFY! and their Service Provider and all of their Subsidiaries, Affiliates, Officers, Employees, Contract Personnel, or Associates, from any and all claims and liability arising out of any request for information or records pursuant to this authorization and/or procurement of an investigative consumer report and understand that it may contain information about my character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and mode of living, whichever are applicable.

I understand that I have the right to make written request within a reasonable period of time to VERIFY! for additional information concerning the nature and scope of the investigation. I acknowledge that I have voluntarily provided the above information for employment/volunteer purposes, and I have carefully read and understand this authorization.

13. Date

14. Applicant's Signature

Volunteer Application Form Instructions

1. Applicant's Printed Name – Complete with first name, middle name and last name.
2. County – Complete with the county name in which you are applying to be a volunteer.
- 3/4. Address – Complete with your current mailing address, city and zip code.
5. Social Security Number – Complete with at least the **first five** digits of the social security number. The social security number is an individual descriptor that enables the system to complete a national criminal search of 47 jurisdictions.
6. Date of Birth – Complete with the month, day and year of birth.
7. Driver's License Number – Complete with current driver's license number and state. Although optional, this helps affirm your identity during a background check.
8. Gender – Complete by circling one of the options.
9. Race – Complete the race and ethnicity section by circling the answers that apply. This field is optional; however, it is very important in confirming accurate identity.
10. Volunteer Program Area – Complete with the program area you are volunteering for (e.g., Better Living for Texans, Expanded Nutrition Program, Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, Master Wellness Volunteer).
**4-H volunteers should complete the Texas 4-H Adult Volunteer Application (4-H 2-1.056)*
11. Previously Screened – Texas AgriLife Extension Service will accept prior screenings conducted within the past three years from other entities. The approved list of prior screenings either as an employee or volunteer include: school districts, churches, youth groups/associations (Little League, sports associations, etc.), youth agencies/organizations (Big Brother/Big Sister, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, after school/extended care programs), law enforcement (county, state or federal/prison system), Texas Youth Commission, Department of Defense – Child and Youth Services, Department of Defense – Family Programs, concealed handgun license; and/or licensed childcare workers.
** The minimum requirement is a criminal background check conducted through DPS or a National Criminal Search entity.**
*** Other sources may be considered based on documentation provided with screening criteria and specifics.***
**** Documentation is required for screenings from other entities. This could include a letter of acceptance from the employer or volunteer group, or a letter written from the screening entity to the Texas AgriLife Extension Service stating you have been screened and tested.*
12. Authorization Statement – State agencies screening volunteers are required by legislation to use the Volunteer Center of North Texas. The Volunteer Center contracts with VeriFYI. VeriFYI is a background verification software system that accesses multi-jurisdiction checks utilizing one of the largest private-sector criminal history databases in the nation (180 million records). All information received is held in confidence and not shared at the county level. Criminal record results are shredded when a volunteer's status is determined.
13. Date Completed
14. Applicant's Signature