

5 Reasons Your School Needs

Your special needs school could really benefit by partnering with a local HOPE Service Chapter. Learn what HOPE, and our Hopesters, can do for your school below.

1 HOPE provides committed, weekly volunteers.

We know: It can sometimes be hard to obtain and maintain volunteers for extended amounts of time. HOPE volunteers—called Hopesters—however are in it for the long haul! That's right...Hopesters will volunteer for at least one college semester or more. In fact, most members remain in service with HOPE for several semesters and years! Therefore, they're a great group to help your school.



Hopester Kyle with his buddy Amar

2 HOPE brings in a unique volunteer demographic.

HOPE's membership is 100% active college students, and this is very important. From our experience, college students provide a unique volunteer demographic for children with special needs in two ways. First, children look up to college students in a way that's inherently different in how they look up to their parents or teachers. Second, college students are eager to help mentor children with special needs and often learn as much—if not more!—from their children.

3 HOPE will work with you to document specific IEP goals and objectives.

Although it's great to have volunteers who perform tasks for the entire school (such as cleaning or lunch room duty), HOPE provides your school with dedicated mentors who will work with your children to meet their IEP goals and objectives. After all, a few extra hands never hurt any school...aren't we right?

4 HOPE plans special events for HOPE partner schools.

HOPE is committed to schools which educate children with disabilities. Most of this commitment comes from the weekly mentorship that our members provide to specific children with special needs, but each HOPE Service Chapter also organizes and funds special events (parties and crafts) for its partner school(s).

5 HOPE builds college students' knowledge of persons with disabilities.

Since our Hopesters actively volunteer with children with special needs in their local communities, these students significantly increase their knowledge of persons with disabilities. In doing so, HOPE helps to bridge two unique populations—college students and children with special needs—which would probably not normally interact much in everyday life.