

# The Value of a Volunteer ... Kim Natwig

To the House of Friends the “Value of a Volunteer” is priceless; you can see it in the faces of the participants as well as the volunteers. But what does the US Department of Labor think your contribution “*back to the community*” is really worth? According to Jeanie Teel, the Director of West Austin Caregivers (our guest speaker at Bethany’s Care Ministries Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on March 11th), the Department of Labor values volunteering at a whopping \$18.04 per hour!! So pat yourself on the back, you are saving non-profit organizations like ours millions of dollars a year!!

**Who are the volunteers?** 28.8% of American adults volunteer; one third of women and one quarter of men; over 65 million people in all. Think you don’t have time to volunteer—employed people actually volunteer more than the unemployed! Plus, age is no limit—over half the volunteers in the US are over the age of 45.

**Why do we volunteer?** Volunteers say, “its rewarding and fun, gives us a chance to put our faith in action, to fill a need, to learn something new, for fellowship or to make friends, to gain confidence and self esteem, to share what we know, and to feel good”.

Remember, “***VOLUNTEERS are the BEST people to recruit VOLUNTEERS***”, so invite a friend to visit **HOUSE OF FRIENDS** and check us out!

“It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself”.  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Check out this Recommended Read suggested by Jeanie Teel.

**“The Volunteer Revolution:  
Unleashing the Power of Everybody”**  
by author: *Bill Hybels*



Photo: Jeanie Teel - volunteer extraordinaire and member of the HOF Advisory Team!