

Get Engaged

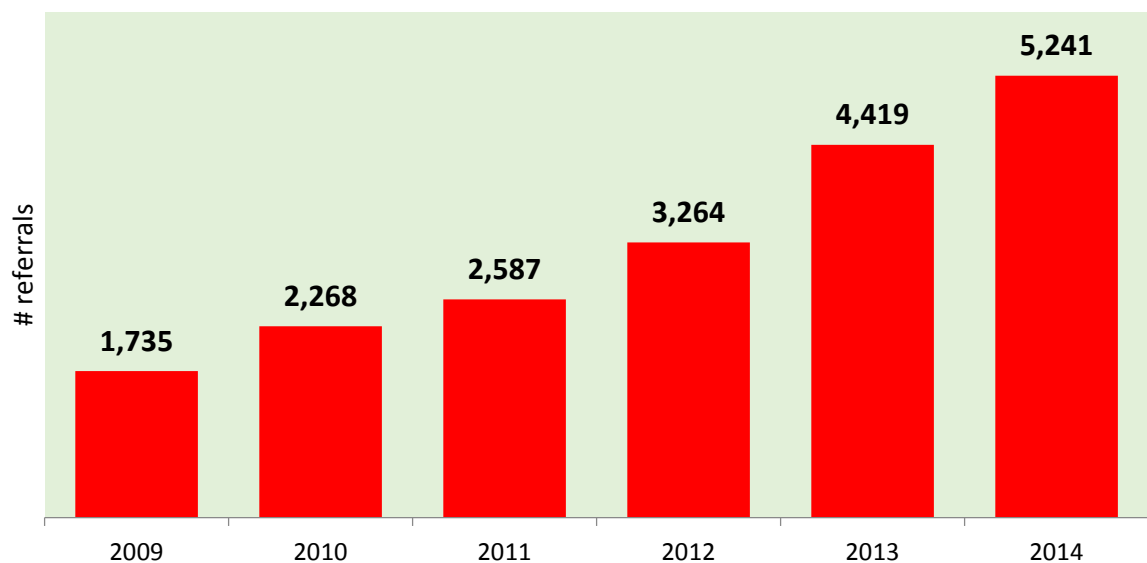
Volunteer Halton, a program of Community Development Halton (CDH), matches people looking to volunteer with volunteer opportunities via the Volunteer Halton Online Database. This is where CDH member agencies post volunteer opportunities online. Potential volunteers can then search opportunities by keyword, age (for students), interest and for community. If there is a match, a referral will be forwarded to the posting member agency and the potential volunteer will be contacted directly by the agency needing volunteers. Potential volunteers can also contact the member agency directly if they choose.



CDH has about 140 member agencies consisting of grassroots groups, nonprofit and registered charitable organizations. Each year for the past three years, more than 20 organizations have become new CDH members, with over 90% using the online database.

The number of volunteer referrals has been growing substantially. Between 2009 and 2014, the number tripled to over 5,000 referrals. A referral is the point of contact between an individual and an organization. This growth is driven largely by new member agencies, more volunteer opportunities available from existing agencies and an increase in the public looking for volunteer work.

Volunteer Referrals (CDH member agencies) 2009- 2014



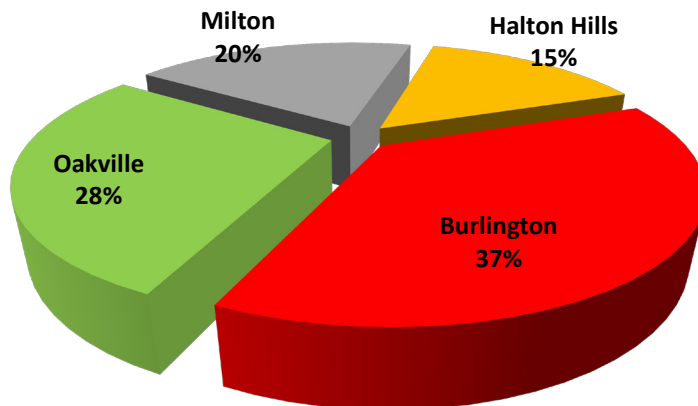
Source: CDH Volunteer Halton

A volunteer opportunity usually needs more than one individual. For example, 16 individuals were needed for the March Break Education Assistant position and 80 individuals for the Friendly Visiting Volunteer position. The duration of volunteering also varies. Some are for a specific event with a short time/one time commitment, while others require a longer commitment.

As of May 2015, there were 320 volunteer opportunities posted on the online database which would need over 5,500 individuals. This is an average of 17 individuals per volunteer opportunity. For more information visit www.volunteerhalton.ca.

Similar to the duration, the location of volunteer opportunities can also change over time. In addition, member agencies can have multi-location opportunities. In May 2015, almost two-third (65%) of the volunteer opportunities were located in Burlington and Oakville.

Proportion of Volunteer Opportunities by municipality, Halton Region, May 2015



Source: CDH Volunteer Halton

In order to facilitate the search of volunteer opportunities, they are grouped by Interest. These can also span across a number of areas of interest. Some of the popular opportunities are in Training and Education, Human Services, Office Work and Business, and Communication and Outreach.

Top 10 Area of Interest

- **Training and Education** (Mentoring and Leadership, Tutoring/ Instruction, Life Skills)
- **Human Services** (Friend/ Penpal, Program Coordination, Seniors' Support)
- **Office Work and Business** (Office Administration, Marketing & Promotion)
- **Communications and Outreach** (Writing, Community Outreach, Social Media)
- **Administration, Boards and Committees** (Committees, Board of Directors, Research)

- **Basic Needs** (Food, Transportation, Shelter, Health Care, Special Needs)
- **Planning and Coordination** (Volunteer Coordination, Event Coordination)
- **Special Event** (Registration, Event Support)
- **Children and Youth** (Youth Services, Education Support – Early Years, Child Care)
- **Sales, Fundraising and Customer Support** (Fundraising, Canvassing, Inventory)

United Way Funded Agency



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