

Survey Results for Social and Civic Engagement Work Group – Survey Link Sent to JCCoA Members, April and May 2009

[Results are shown below for the questions submitted by the Social and Civic Engagement Work Group]

Upon retiring, do you plan to volunteer, and if so where will you look (or where have you looked) to find volunteer engagement opportunities?

Have looked - - and volunteered - - mainly through AARP and Kiwanis and JAC for about 20 years
I will continue to volunteer into retirement at my church and agencies and events I am interested in (Habitat, Dal Rescue...).

yes, Red Cross where I have been for 40 years

NA Am already volunteering

I'm so looking forward to the opportunity to volunteer. I will probably start out with delivering Meals on Wheels because you have the opportunity to provide a basic need and build one on one relationships with the people you are helping. Then I would like to help children learn to read and just give one on one time to a child. And then there I'm looking forward to be involve in group/civic activities, and then and then.....If I can't find the opportunities, I would probably use RSVP or my local church.

Yes, church

I will continue to volunteer as I do now with Jefferson County, my church, and other programs of interest. If I didn't already have volunteer commitments, I would contact Seniors Resource Center re their volunteer program.

That decision is not in my plans at this time. Not ready to retire.

Yes, I would like to stay productive. I would look to SRC Volunteer Services.

I am retired and I do volunteer!!!!

I already volunteer 4-5 hours per week, even though I work fulltime. If/when I retire, I would most likely increase the hours I volunteer with the organizations I am already volunteering with.

I have volunteered all my adult years, so the Senior Resource Center is where I volunteer.

Yes. I would probably go to an agency that I liked and ask if I could volunteer.

Yes, local hospital

If I was interested in volunteering, I would call SRC

Yes, I would volunteer. Alzheimer's Association Schools to help Kids read esp.

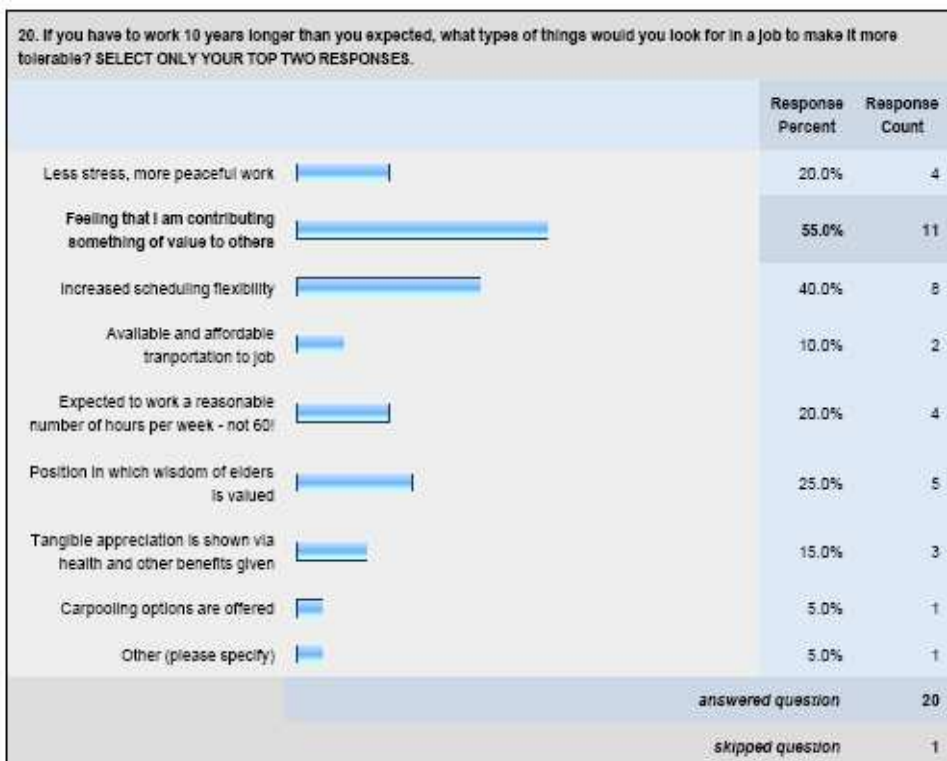
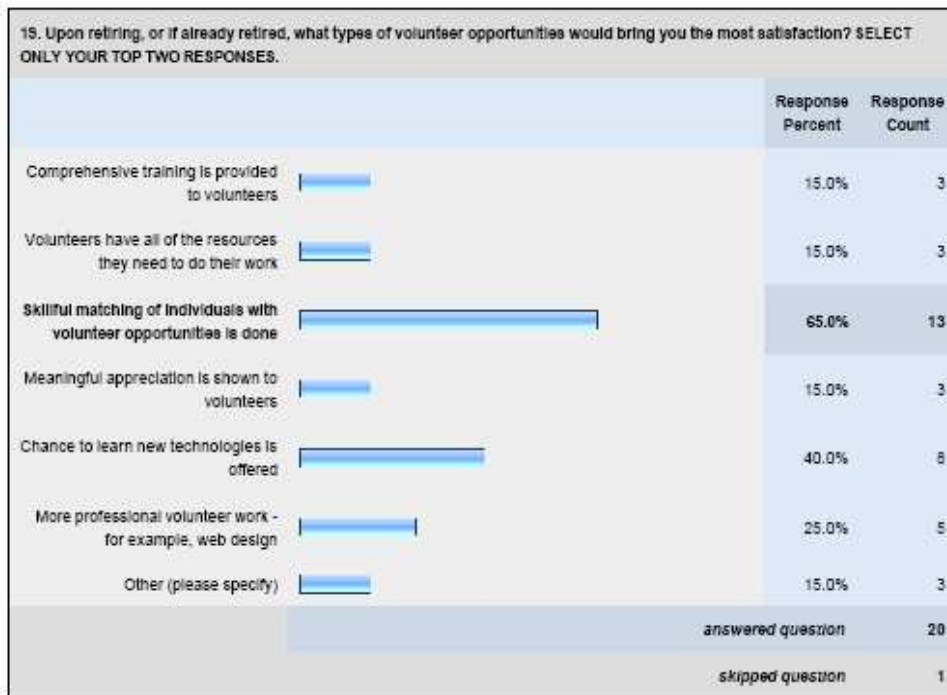
The daily newspaper regularly publishes a long list of volunteer opportunities.

Yes, I haven't given it that much thought... Currently I am a volunteer with the Red Cross, I have thought of exploring options in other countries. There are many things I am interested in

Seniors' Resource Center

Yes, I plan to volunteer. Internet?? Call the businesses I am interested in directly?

I am a lifelong volunteer, and anticipate this will continue into my (far in the future) retirement.



Upon retiring, how do you foresee yourself staying connected to your community?

Already there - - spending all the volunteer hours that I care to
Staying and getting more involved in my church, and volunteering for opportunities in my neighborhood. Taking classes at recreation centers or adult ed.
Yes
NA
I'll be looking for opportunities to give to people who need someone to care and I'll be looking to take up some fun things for myself...maybe a new hobby or learn a new physical activity.
Through church, library, neighborhood
Continue as doing. No change because retired...
Have not given this a thought
Volunteering for causes in the community
Volunteer work
Volunteering.
active in church volunteering staying connected to friends
Remain active in church and sports
Due to the financial condition, I rather doubt I will be able to retire unless forced to do so by health
Church, volunteer opportunities, book club and attending JCCOA.
Volunteering in the community
I'll tell you in 15 years
Volunteering.
musical events, volunteerism and physical exercise
Volunteering, community, ongoing friendships

What skills and/or knowledge, if any, would you like to acquire after age 60 and where would you go to find these?

Computer skills - - senior centers - - St. Anthony Passport program s
Perhaps genealogy, photography, or local history--I would attend classes at libraries, recreation centers, or adult ed.
For new hobbies or activities, I would go to the rec centers or to a senior center. I'll probably need to learn the new technologies (which I know will be ever-changing) so that I can keep up with my grandchildren.
teaching, foreign language training - college setting
Ability to relax and take advantage of relative freedom
Senior Centers, Senior Agencies, Senior Newspapers and internet.
I'm already over 60; I would like to have reasonably priced access to cooking and wine classes and photography
Senior Resource Center
don't know
plan to travel
ways to manage with very little financial resources. I have no idea where to get help for this.
More computer skills at the Clements Center.
Computer and all related skills
I am always looking for ways to grow. I would look within my profession and my spiritual community
I think just being open to experiencing new things.
Keep my computer skills sharp.

Describe some of the main obstacles seniors face when wanting to volunteer in their communities.

Not entirely skilled in computer work - - some folks might appreciate more recognition for their efforts
Overloaded staffs don't have time to adequately interview and place person in an area that holds their interest.

transportation, caring for another

The biggest problem is lack of transportation

Transportation for those who are struggling with driving. Buses are not always available or too many transfers to get where you need to go. I would think for some that it would be difficult to find the right fitting volunteer opportunity and if they have never been involved in volunteering to take the plunge and just do it.

Not finding a volunteer activity that might be done at home or within walking distance of home

Transportation is probably the biggest obstacle. Ability to work flexible hours and days may not always be possible. Age-ism, perhaps. Lack of fluent language skills, perhaps.

lack of direction and quality attention to the volunteer. Many of the older folks would like to be recognized for the work they are doing. Everyone wants acceptance and thank you for what you are doing.

Difficult to know what they want to volunteer to do that is meaningful and to find an appropriate placement.

Finding the right volunteer opportunities to fit my interest.

Transportation to and from the volunteer venues is the biggest one; I hear it all the time.

Making sure that organizations have meaningful projects to engage a volunteer when they want to get involved.

lack of knowledge of opportunities some may be hesitant because they don't know if they will be accepted or will know what they need to know

getting there

Transportation, some older adults can't volunteer because they don't drive or have a transportation service that will go WHERE they want, WHEN they need it.

They don't think they have the skills. Transportation esp. in inclement weather

Entrenched present volunteer who may acknowledge their need for help but won't let it happen

transportation having to be caregivers disabilities that come with aging

Transportation limitations. Need greater flexibility in hours and frequency of volunteer service.

Transportation, doing work that feels effective to the organization, making a difference

Lack of meaningful opportunities (too much busy work) Under utilization of a skilled labor pool Lack of flexible opportunity Lack of opportunity that leads to building a community

General Info on Survey Respondents

