

HOW TO TRAIN VOLUNTEERS

Types of Training Institutes

Three general types of recreation training institutes have been successfully used in training volunteers. The first is designed to train volunteers for service in a special type of facility or for a special group such as an institute for playground workers. This type of training program has four broad objectives:

- (1) To acquaint volunteers with the value of playgrounds, the significance of play, the place of recreation in community life and other aspects of the philosophy underlying playground service.
- (2) To familiarize leaders with the accepted procedures, rules, and operations of playgrounds and other recreation centers.
- (3) To improve leadership skill in various activities including knowledge of the various play interests of different age groups, diversification of activities to sustain interest, etc.
- (4) To develop technical knowledge of various games and activities.

The major part of the institute time is usually devoted to the last two purposes.

The second type of institute is for the training of workers in the conduct of different special activities where the outstanding need is to strengthen understanding of the significance of recreation and a knowledge of leadership principles and methods. Technical knowledge of the activity in which the volunteer is to participate is presumed in this type of program.

This institute usually comprises three to five sessions. A typical session opens with an address, forum, or panel