

Chapter IV

HOW TO SUPERVISE VOLUNTEERS

Supervision
by Professional
Staff

It is not enough to select, train, and assign a volunteer to a particular task. Since practically every volunteer needs help and guidance on the job, professional workers should supervise wherever possible. If there is daily or frequent contact on a playground, in an indoor recreation center or a boys' club, the staff member can give advice, encouragement, and help with problems that are bound to arise.

Staff members should avoid professional arrogance and recognize the volunteer's willingness to learn and zeal to serve. In case the volunteer happens to be as highly trained as the paid worker - or more so - all hands should work together in a cooperative spirit. While the volunteer's contribution, little or great, is to be sincerely appreciated, he or she should be held, within reason, to a definite schedule of hours and should be as responsible as the paid worker for the performance of assigned tasks.