

Community Corner

5 Amazing Volunteer Organizations In Capitola-Soquel

Looking for ways to give back in your community? Start here!

Patch Patch Community Leaders, Patch Staff @

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Giving back is rewarding and helps build stronger, more connected communities. (Shutterfly)

Volunteering is a wonderful way to give back and get involved in your community. Fortunately for folks in the Capitola-Soquel area, there's no shortage of organizations nearby that would love to have your help.

Here are five outstanding volunteer organizations in the Capitola-Soquel area.

- 1. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County: Dedicated to creating and supporting one-on-one mentoring relationships, this organization matches children ages 7-14 with dedicated adults from the community. Big brothers and sisters spend time each month with their matched "Littles" for activities like board games, nature walks, or library visits. Learn more at santacruzmentor.org.
- 2. Second Harvest Food Bank: Working to end hunger in Santa Cruz County, Second Harvest Food Bank serves 65,000 people each month with food distribution and educational programs. Volunteers are needed to pack and distribute food throughout the county, assist with events and support clerical duties.
 Learn more at thefoodbank.org.
- 3. Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks: In partnership with California state parks, this volunteer organization provides

support for educational programs and improvement projects at the county's state parks. There are volunteer opportunities at several parks, including storm recovery, special event assistance, clean-up events, trail maintenance and more.

Learn more at that smypark.org.

4. Santa Cruz SPCA: With a focus on animal welfare, this organization offers adoption services for pets and a variety of community programs. The shelter operates a pet food pantry, and the Peaceful Paws Program brings animal companionship to residents in senior communities, hospitals and hospice centers. Learn more at spcasc.org.

5. The Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz: This organization aims to be a "one-stop shop" for volunteerism in Santa Cruz County. By partnering with local organizations, the Volunteer Center connects local residents with opportunities to connect and get involved. They offer a match-making service to help prospective volunteers find the best fit, as well as programs for teens and seniors. Learn more at scvolunteercenter.org.

Do you know of another volunteer organization in Capitola-Soquel that should be recognized? Let us know about it in the comments!

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Link to original story.