



**Give 5** is a newly created social program launched in Springfield, Missouri that matches innovative volunteer opportunities with retired (or almost retired) Baby Boomers ages 60+ who live in Greene County, Missouri.

The program provides a way for retirees and seniors to apply their talents and passions to the community's primary areas of need. The process is one of civic matchmaking, with the program providing the journey to find the best individual fit between program participant and nonprofit in need.

**Program Benefits:**

- Matches Baby Boomer generation retirees with unfilled volunteer opportunities in the community and addresses the issues of isolation, purpose, and relevance that retirees often confront by celebrating them and their contributions in a fun and social manner.
- Introduces Boomers to new people and new ways of thinking via a shared experience and the bonding that occurs as a result, thus strengthening the community's "bridging" social capital.
- Links individuals with their true passions within a community's menu of non-profit organizations.

**How it Works:**

Each class of 25 participates in five program days over five to seven weeks. Program days last between six and seven hours, with lunch and snacks included. Day 1 includes an orientation.

Each day, participants board a bus to visit various nonprofit locations. At least one guide is with the class at all times and coordinate and guides each program day. Each class session is as interactive, fun and social. Visits to nonprofits allow participants to "see behind the curtain" to better understand the types of volunteer opportunities available. Each host organization plans an interesting, interactive and informative presentation.

After the final regular program day, participants are encouraged to commit to a volunteer opportunity and a short "graduation" celebration wraps up the program. Those who are ready to commit may do so via a "signing" ceremony at graduation, pledging to volunteer at any nonprofit of their choice at least five hours per month for the following six months.

Upon graduation from the Give 5 program, graduates are publicly celebrated and valued. These graduates intuitively become ambassadors for the myriad volunteer opportunities in the community and the Give 5 program.

**Why It's Needed:**

Because the future health and vitality of our community depend on it. With an army of skilled baby boomers already retired, and another wave of boomers retiring over the next few decades, the communities that figure out effective volunteer matchmaking will be the ones that thrive and offer the best quality of life.

Many communities have a wide variety of volunteer needs, such as ...

- Nonprofits need access to experienced leaders and technical expertise, children need mentors, access to education and safe havens.
- Young professionals and entrepreneurs need mentorship and access to expertise, institutional knowledge, and wisdom.
- City and county governments need talented, passionate volunteers to serve on their boards and commissions. volunteers are needed to assist those most in need – the homeless, children and the under-resourced.

**How to get Involved:**

Give 5 is presented by the Greene County Senior Citizens' Service Board Fund and the City of Springfield. To apply for an upcoming class, visit [www.sgfgive5.org](http://www.sgfgive5.org) or call 417.864.1009. Nonprofits wishing to participate, may also [apply](#).