Ways to Give Recognition to Volunteers

1. Smile
2. Put up a volunteer suggestion box
3. Treat to a soda
4. Reimburse assignment-related expenses
5. Ask for their feedback
6. Send a birthday card
7. Arrange for discounts
8. Give service Stripes
9. Maintain a coffee bar
10. Plan annual ceremonial occasions
11. Invite to staff meetings
12. Recognize personal needs and problems
13. Accommodate personal needs and problems
14. Be pleasant
15. Use in an emergency situation
16. Provide a baby sitter
17. Post Honor Roll in reception area
18. Respect their wishes
19. Keep challenging them
20. Send a Thanksgiving Day card to the volunteer's family
21. Provide a nursery
22. Say “Good Morning”
23. Greet by name
24. Provide pre-service training
25. Help develop self-confidence
26. Award plaques
27. Take time to explain the work they will be doing
28. Encourage agency VIP's to interact with them
29. Give additional responsibility
30. Afford participation in team planning
31. Respect sensitivities
32. Enable to grow on the job
33. Enable to grow out of the job
34. Send newsworthy information to the media
35. Have wine and cheese tasting parties
36. Ask client-patient to evaluate their work-service
37. Say “Good Afternoon”
38. Honor their preferences
39. Create pleasant surroundings
40. Welcome to staff coffee breaks
41. Enlist to train others
42. Have a public reception
43. Take time to talk
44. Defend against hostile or negative staff
45. Make good plans
46. Commend to supervisory staff
47. Send a Valentine
48. Make thorough pre-arrangements
49. Persuade “personnel” to equate volunteer experience with work experience
50. Recommend to prospective employer
51. Provide scholarships to volunteer conferences or workshops
52. Offer advocacy roles
53. Utilize as consultants
54. Write them thank you notes
55. Invite participation in policy formulation
56. Surprise with coffee and cake
57. Celebrate outstanding projects and achievements
58. Nominate for volunteer awards
59. Carefully match volunteer with job
60. Praise them to their friends
61. Provide substantive in-service training
62. Provide useful tools in good working conditions
63. Say “Good night”
64. Plan staff and volunteer social events
65. Be a real person
66. Accept their individuality
67. Provide opportunities for conferences and evaluation
68. Maintain meaningful file
69. Send impromptu fun cards
70. Plan occasional extravaganzas
71. Instigate client planned surprises
72. Utilize purchased newspaper space
73. Promote a “Volunteer-of-the-Month” program
74. Send letter of appreciation to employer
75. Plan a “Recognition Edition” of the agency newsletter
76. Color code name tags to indicate particular achievements (hours, years, unit, etc.)
77. Send commendatory letters to prominent public figures
78. Say “we missed you”
79. Facilitate personal maturation
80. Distinguish between groups and individuals in the group
81. Maintain safe working conditions
82. Adequately orient to job
83. Award special citations for extraordinary achievements
84. Fully educate your agency
85. Send Holiday cards
86. Be familiar with the details of assignments
87. Conduct community-wide cooperative, inter-agency recognition events
88. Plan a theater party
89. Attend a sports event
90. Have a picnic
91. Say “Thank You”
92. Smile