

# Volunteering: Making Your Investment of Time Worthwhile

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American Translators Association

# About Me

- ATA-certified Spanish to English freelance legal and commercial translator
- The Savvy Newcomer blog team
- Buddies Welcome Newbies
- Delaware Valley Translators Association
- ATA ad hoc website committee



<http://www.atanet.org/resources/podcasts.php>

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# Making the Case

- What is volunteering?
- Why do people volunteer?  
Feel good · Pass it on · Keep things afloat · Experience · Network
- Barriers



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# Statistics

- BLS survey

- <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm>
- <http://www.businessinsider.com/bls-volunteering-chart-2016-2>

- Who in the world volunteers?



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# What does it look like?



- Community vs. professional
- Volunteering vs. pro bono work
- In-person vs. digital
- One-time vs. long-term

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# I'm sold. Now what?

- ATA

[Divisions/chapters](#) · [School outreach](#) · [Conference](#) · [Committees](#)

- Advocacy

- Volunteering your services

[The Rosetta Foundation](#) · [Kiva](#) · [Translators without Borders](#)

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# Making your work work for you

- What does volunteering say about me?
- Opportunity for education, experience
- Showcasing and leveraging

Resume · References · Go above and beyond



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# Things to avoid

- Burnout / over-serving

Paid work · Professional Development · Volunteering

- Lack of qualification

- Detracting



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# Keep in mind...

- Skill set
- How and when to say no/boundaries
- Know the commitment
- Fulfill your commitments
- Thank your volunteers!

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**Questions?**

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