



FAQ for Partner Agencies: Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) New Community Engagement Requirements

What are the key changes to the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP)?

New community engagement requirements- Beginning **January 1, 2027**, most HIP members ages **19–64** who do not qualify for an exemption must complete **80 hours each month** of one or more approved activities, including:

- Working
- Volunteering with an eligible nonprofit organization
- Attending school at least half-time
- Participating in an apprenticeship, or in an approved job training or work program
- **Individuals may combine activities to reach the required 80 hours per month.**
- **Individuals will be required to submit quarterly documentation to the IN Family and Social Services Adm.**

Who are HIP volunteers?

- HIP volunteers are individuals seeking meaningful volunteer opportunities while fulfilling Indiana's community engagement requirements for health coverage. Many are looking for opportunities to gain work experience, build new skills, and give back to the community.

Volunteer Service count but must be documented

- Volunteer service with eligible nonprofit organizations is an approved way to meet the monthly community engagement requirements.
- This creates an opportunity for nonprofit organizations to engage new volunteers while helping individuals maintain their health coverage.
- Your agency will be required to provide documentation of volunteer hours unless the volunteers are registered through the Volunteer Center Get Connected system.

How can the Volunteer Center help?

- We are here to help connect HIP participants with volunteer opportunities and support nonprofit agencies.
- A new ***Volunteer-HIP Work Requirements section*** was added to VC's website with easy to access information.

When can you anticipate the first inquiries to come?

- **October 1, 2026 is the key date here.** Beginning January 1, 2027, HIP applicants who are subject to the community engagement requirement must show they met the requirements during the **3-months before applying.**

Does our organization have to participate?

- No. Each organization determines whether to participate, how many volunteers they can accommodate, what volunteer positions are available and minimum time commitment requirements. You may want to review your own internal policies about accepting clients serving as volunteers in your organization.

Who tracks volunteer hours?

- Each nonprofit should maintain accurate records of volunteer attendance and hours served, including volunteer name, date, time in/out, total hours, and supervisor verification.

What if a volunteer does not show up? Can we dismiss a volunteer?

- Treat HIP volunteers the same way you would any other volunteer. Follow your normal volunteer policies if a volunteer fails to attend scheduled shifts, violates policies, behaves inappropriately, or creates safety concerns.

Questions? Reach out to Ani Etter at the Volunteer Center at anae@volunteerfortwayne.org and (260)424-3505

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