Volunteer Bell Ringer Frequently Asked Questions

If you don’t find your answer below, please call us at (239) 775-9447.

Where does the money given to my red kettle go?
When you volunteer to bell ring, you help improve, and even save lives. The money dropped in a red kettle goes right back into your local community.

Does bell ringing count as community service?
Yes, it does. If you would like to schedule community service hours, indicate this in the notes or comments field when you select your shift. Fill out as much of your form ahead of time and bring it with you to be signed. If you need additional documentation, please contact the kettle coordinator in your area.

What if I have to reschedule?
If you are unable to make your scheduled ringing time, please call your local Salvation Army office at least 48 hours in advance of your form ahead of time and bring it with you to be signed. If you need additional documentation, please contact the kettle coordinator in your area.

Can I give our Christmas treats or gifts to shoppers?
As part of our agreements with the stores, we are not allowed to give out items or promotional materials at kettles. We ask that while you are volunteering you do not give anything such as candy canes, flyers or other items to shoppers.

How long do I have to ring?
Groups of more than three people may ring at a kettle site up to five people may ring at a kettle site at one time, except in special cases. Most kettle sites have limited space.

Is there an age requirement for bell ringers?
Teens 16 and older do not need to have an adult present. Families report bell ringing is a great way to instill a sense of community spirit in young children.

Do you need a specific age to bell ring?
While anyone is invited to join us as a bell ringer, kids under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Teens 16 and older do not need to have an adult present. Families report bell ringing is a great way to instill a sense of community spirit in young children.

For seasonal volunteer opportunities call Maria Ramos at (239) 210-3076.