



Screening for Nonprofits & Volunteers



Your Cause matters.

As a nonprofit organization, your cause is changing your community—and for the better. But, as a nonprofit, you're also faced with a multitude of challenges, especially when it comes to recruiting volunteers and staff. Budgets are often so tight that hiring, even part-time, can seem out-of-reach. Plus, there's the constant need to find and *retain* passionate, reliable volunteers to keep your mission flourishing.

So, with all these barriers, why should you add background screening to the mix?

Put simply: Background screening better protects who you are and what you do.

Protect your mission.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) found that **77.34 million adults volunteered** in 2018. Like many nonprofits, volunteers are the heart of the organization. And while volunteers do *so much good* for your organization, it's important that they check out.

When it comes to representing your mission and values to the community, volunteers are the face of your organization. You should feel confident in your volunteers because, just like any organization, nonprofit organizations can be legally held accountable for actions taken by volunteers. If any representative of a nonprofit turns out to be unfit for their position, the organization could be liable for any resulting consequences.

Conducting screens, such as county and federal criminal history records, and drug testing volunteers, can help reduce liability among your volunteers, protecting your mission.

Protect your community.

Nonprofit organizations that take the initiative to screen volunteers and workers send a strong message to their community—**we care about protecting you**. Failing to screen—or to do so compliantly—risks harm across your community. Improper screening can lead to:

- Damaged brand and reputation
- Decrease in donations
- Loss of trust from the community

Just *one* incident can harm your organization's opportunity to do good for your community. Requesting motor vehicle reports, sex offender status reports, and civil records will better ensure your volunteers are fit to serve your community.

Protect your volunteers.

Finding devoted and passionate volunteers is one thing—**retaining them is another**. Like any organization, providing a safe environment is key to retaining quality individuals. Your volunteers *want* to represent your mission and support its cause. Better retain passionate volunteers by keeping their safety top-of-mind and screening all volunteers and workers.

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