

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

# MASON COUNTY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015 | MEDIA RELEASE | LEAVE A COMMENT

United Way of Mason County is partnering with Mason Transit Authority (MTA) to host a Volunteer Summit at the Transit-Community Center (T-CC) on October 7, 2015. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about the organizations in Mason County that provide social services to the community, the services they provide, as well as promote the volunteer positions those organizations have available and are currently recruiting for. And for some, they are desperate to find volunteers.

According to Christina Kramer, the outreach manager at MTA, their volunteer driver program has seen a 59% decline in volunteers over the last five years. Isaac Wagnitz, the volunteer coordinator for United Way of Mason County, says there are other organizations that rely on volunteers who have experienced declines as well. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the percentage of Americans volunteering has dwindled nationwide, last year the volunteer rate was 25.3 percent compared with 29 percent of the population in 2003. (Official statistics on volunteer rates go back only to 2002.)

The event is free and open to the public. It will be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in the gym at the Transit-Community Center, located at 601 W. Franklin St in downtown Shelton, WA. For more information, please contact Isaac Wagnitz at United Way of Mason County at 360-426-4999 or [iwagnitz@unitedwaymasonco.org](mailto:iwagnitz@unitedwaymasonco.org).

