“We are sincerely grateful to the many individuals and organizations who have supported Walker by volunteering their time on behalf of children and families facing significant challenges.”

– Susan M. Getman, M.S.W.
Walker President & CEO

For more information on how to get involved, please contact:

Sarah Whalen
Donor Relations and Volunteer Manager
(781)292–2151
volunteer@walkercares.org
Individuals who work directly with children and youth in any of the following programs must be over the age of 17 and a half, and will undergo an application process including an informational interview, CORI, and SORI background review.

CAMPUS CLEAN-UP
Help us keep our campuses clean! Walker’s Needham campus houses day and residential programs for children between the ages of 3 and 14 while Beacon High School on Walker’s Watertown campus serves students between the ages of 14 and 22. From landscaping and gardening projects to cleaning classrooms and painting buildings and walls, we offer flexible full-day, half-day, and hourly projects for small to large volunteer groups.

CAMPUS SPECIAL EVENTS
Science Fair
Career Day
National Volunteer Week (April)
Field Day (June)
Walker Fun Day
Harvest Fest (October)
Turkey Bowl (November)

SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS
For specific dates and information, please visit: walkercares.org/ways-to-give/events
Lives in Bloom
Annual Gala: Spring
Change Shoes, Change Lives
5K Run and 1-Mile Walk for Walker: Fall
Fore the Children
Golf Tournament: Fall
Walker Wishes
Holiday Toy Drive: Winter

SKILLS-BASED VOLUNTEER
Using personal talents or professional competences to connect the volunteer’s skills to the right project. A corporation can ‘adopt’ Walker to help in a variety of ways, taking advantage of the many skills and interests of the corporation’s employees.
- Teach a Musical Instrument
- Art/Craft Project

Volunteer Program

Founded in 1961, Walker is a non-profit leader in special education, mental health and residential treatment for children and youth. Each year, Walker serves nearly 20,000 exceptionally vulnerable yet resilient children and youth facing complex social, emotional, behavioral and learning challenges.

Annually, 400 volunteers contribute over 4,000 hours of service in support of children, teens, and families that deserve a brighter future.

There are many ways to get involved at Walker. We help individuals, community groups, and organizations find meaningful volunteer opportunities that make a difference in the lives of children, teens, and families. Volunteer opportunities include direct service with the children and teens Walker serves, facility and campus improvements, talent sharing, and charitable event support.

Direct Service Opportunities

ONGOING COMMITMENTS

AS AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP YOU CAN BE A:
- Visiting Resource/Mentor
- Reading Volunteer
- Homework Helper/Tutor

ADOPT-A-HOME
A group or revolving group of up to five volunteers are assigned to a single residential home on Walker’s Needham campus for an extended period of time (ie. attending 1x per month or quarter). This group assists children and staff with afternoon or weekend recreational activities, homework help, special school projects, dinner and game nights, and other fun activities.

Organize Your Own Event

FLEXIBLE COMMITMENTS

If you are looking for a fun way to raise money for a good cause, you can organize your own event to support Walker.

AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP CAN HOST A:
- Bake Sale
- Book or Toy Drive
- Community Car Wash
- Comedy Club Night
- Sports Tournament
- Yard Sale
- Bowling Tournament
- Trivia Night