

Animals/Wildlife

This category includes non-profits focused on animal and wildlife care and advocacy.

Alliance for Stray Animals and People (ASAP): <http://4asap.org/>
Doris Day Animal Foundation: <http://www.ddaf.org/>
Friends of the National Zoo (FONZ): <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/>
People Animals Love (PAL): <http://www.peopleanimalslove.org>
SPCA International: <http://www.sPCA.com/>
Washington Animal Rescue League: <http://www.warl.org/>
Washington Humane Society: <http://www.washhumane.org/>

Arts and Culture

Opportunities in fine and performing arts organizations range from giving tours at an art museum, introducing local youth to the arts and performing with a dance troupe.

Arena Stage: <http://www.arenastage.org>
Art Enables: <http://www.art-enables.org/>
Atlas Performing Arts Center: <http://www.atlasarts.org/>
Community Help in Music Education (CHIME): <http://www.chime-dc.org/mainpage.html>
Corcoran Gallery of Art: <http://www.corcoran.org/>
Dance Place: <http://www.danceplace.org/>
DC Youth Orchestra: <http://www.dcyop.org/>
The Kennedy Center: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/>
The Midnight Forum: <http://www.midnightforum.org>
National Symphony Orchestra: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/nso/>
Project Create DC: <http://www.projectcreatedc.org/>

Children and Youth Services

These organizations focus on families and children, offering services like counseling for children and parents, foster care placement and free health care.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the National Capital Area: <http://www.bbbsnca.org/>
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington: <http://www.bgcgw.org/>
Break the Cycle: <http://www.breakthecycle.org/>
The Good Samaritan Foundation: <http://www.gsf-dc.org/>
Grandma's House: <http://www.grandmashouse.org/>
Kid Power, Inc.: <http://www.kidpowerdc.org/>
New Community for Children: <http://www.ncfc-dc.org/>
Sasha Bruce Youthwork, Inc.: <http://www.sashabruce.org/>
UDC 4-H Program: http://www.udc.edu/cooperative_extension/4h_youth_dev.htm

Community

These organizations work with community members to provide community resources and support services in a variety of areas, including education, housing and employment, to help them overcome social and economic difficulties.

Afro-American Counseling, Inc.: <http://www.afroamericancounseling.com/>
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN): <http://www.carecencdc.org/>
Community Family Life Services: <http://www.cflsdc.org/>

Community for Creative Non-Violence: <http://www.theccnv.org/>
Jubilee Jobs: <http://www.jubileejobs.org/>
New Endeavors by Women (NEW): <http://www.newendeavorsbywomen.org>
N Street Village: <http://www.nstreetvillage.org/>
Perry School Community Services Center, Inc.: <http://www.perryschool.org/>
Second Chance Employment Services: <http://www.scesnet.org/>
The Women's Center: <http://www.thewomenscenter.org/>

Disabled Persons

Some non-profit organizations help people with mental, developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities. They offer life skills training, community living services and recreational activities for handicapped children and adults.

American Council of the Blind: <http://www.acb.org/>
L'Arche Greater Washington DC: <http://www.larchewashingtondc.org/> The ARC (Association for Retarded Citizens) of DC: <http://www.arcdc.net/>
Autism Society of America DC Chapter: <http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/state-resources/district-of-columbia.html>
Best Buddies International: <http://www.bestbuddies.org>
Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind: <http://www.clb.org/>
Green Door: <http://www.greendoor.org/>
March of Dimes, National Capital Area Chapter: <http://www.marchofdimes.com/metrodc/>
National Children's Center: <http://www.nccinc.org/>
Shared Horizons, Inc.: <http://www.dcsafehorizons.org/>
Special Olympics District of Columbia: <http://www.specialolympicsdc.org>
Spina Bifida Association: <http://www.spinabifidaassociation.org>

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

These groups tend to provide emergency assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Typical services include 24-hour telephone help lines, walk-in clinics and safe houses. Other groups advocate for the rights of victims of sexual assault.

Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP): <http://www.dvrp.org/>
Break the Cycle: <http://www.breakthecycle.org/>
Center for Child Protection and Family Support: <http://www.stopchildabusenow.org/>
Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect (CCAN): <http://www.dccourts.gov/dccourts/superior/family/ccan.jsp>
DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence: <http://www.dccadv.org/>
DC Rape Crisis Center: <http://www.dcrcc.org/>
House of Imogene Shelter & Women's Center: <http://www.houseofimogene.org/index.html>
House of Ruth: <http://houseofruth.org/>
Men Can Stop Rape: <http://www.mencanstoprape.org/>
My Sister's Place, Inc.: <http://www.mysistersplacedc.org/>
Ramona's Way: <http://www.ramonasway.org/>
Safe Shores – The DC Children's Advocacy Center: <http://www.safeshores.org/>

Education

Educational non-profit groups often tutor children, teach adults to read and write, and teach English as a second language to immigrants.

Books for America: <http://www.booksforamerica.org/>
DC LEARNS: <http://www.dclearns.org/>
For Love of Children: <http://www.flocdc.org/>
Literacy Volunteers and Advocates: <http://www.lvanca.org/>

MATHCOUNTS: <http://mathcounts.org/>
Rising Star Tutors: <http://risingstartutors.com/>
Teach for America: <http://www.teachforamerica.org>

Elder Care

Elder care volunteer opportunities include helping senior citizens perform everyday tasks like driving to the doctor or fixing dinner. Some non-profits in this category help take care of elderly people with long-term illnesses like Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area: <http://www.alz.org/nca/>
American Association of Retired Persons (AARP): <http://www.aarp.org>
Meals on Wheels Association of America: <http://www.mowaa.org/>
Meals on Wheels of Washington DC: <http://www.mealcall.org/meals-on-wheels/dc/>
Seabury Resources for Aging: <http://www.seaburyresources.org/>
So Others Might Eat (SOME): <http://some.org/>
Washington DC Office on Aging: <http://dcoa.dc.gov/DC/DCOA>

Environment

This category includes non-profits focused on environmental issues and the outdoors.

American Rivers: <http://www.americanrivers.org>
Clean Beaches Council: <http://www.cleanbeaches.com/>
Coalition for Smarter Growth: <http://www.smartergrowth.net/anx/>
DC Audubon Society: <http://www.dcaudubon.org/>
Earth Day Network: <http://ww2.earthday.net/>
Endangered Species Coalition: <https://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/qiga.cgi?c=1704>
Environmental Citizens Action Corps: <http://www.envirocitizen.org/>
Keep DC Beautiful: <http://www.keepdcbeautiful.org/>
League of Conservation Voters: <http://www.lcv.org/>
Living Classrooms: <http://livingclassroomsdc.org/>
National Resources Defense Council (NRDC): <http://www.nrdc.org/>
National Wildlife Refuge Association: <http://www.refugenet.org/>
Ocean Conservancy: <http://www.oceanconservancy.org>
Sierra Club – Washington DC Chapter: <http://www.dc.sierraclub.org/>

Ex-Offender Re-entry

These non-profit organizations help ex-felons transition from prison into society by offering structured housing, skills training, employment assistance and educational opportunities.

Camille's Place: <http://www.ourplacedc.org/>
Conquest Offender Reintegration Ministries: <http://www.conquesthouse.org/>
Jubilee Jobs: <http://www.jubileejobs.org/>

Health

Health-based non-profit organizations often provide medical care to those who cannot otherwise afford it. Others help terminally ill patients and their families cope financially and emotionally with their illnesses. Organizations that help individuals with drug and alcohol addictions are also included in this list.

Adele Lebowitz Center for Youth & Families – Mental Health Services: <http://www.wspdc.org/alc.htm>
American Liver Foundation – National Capital Area Chapter: <http://www.liverfoundation.org/chapters/alfdc/>

American Lung Association: <http://www.lungusa.org/>
Capital Hospice: <http://www.capitalhospice.org/>
La Clínica del Pueblo: <http://www.lcdp.org/>
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of DC: <http://www.nami.org/MSTemplate.cfm?MicrositeID=74>
Pediatric AIDS/HIVCare, Inc.: <http://pediatricaidshivcare.org/>
Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, DC: <http://www.ppmw.org/>
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Washington, DC: <http://www.rmhc.greaterdc.org/>
United Cerebral Palsy of DC: <http://www.ucpdc.org/>
Unity Health Care: <http://unityhealthcare.org/>
VITAS Innovative Hospice Care: <http://www.vitas.com/>

Homelessness

Most non-profit organizations that combat homelessness operate shelters where people sleep and eat. Sometimes, they also help the homeless find jobs and low-rent homes and offer financial assistance.

Calvary Women's Services: <http://www.calvaryservices.org/>
Capitol Hill Group Ministry: <http://www.capitolhillgroupministry.org/>
Community of Hope: <http://www.communityofhopedc.org/>
Different Avenues: <http://differentavenues.org/>
Hannah House: <http://www.hannahhouse.org/>
Mary House: <http://www.maryhouse.org/>
New Endeavors by Women (NEW): <http://www.newendeavorsbywomen.org>
Samaritan Inns: <http://www.samaritaninns.org/>

International

This category includes organizations with an international focus.

Amnesty International USA: <http://www.amnestyusa.org>
Beyond Borders: <http://www.beyondborders.net/index.php>
EarthRights International: <http://www.earthrights.org/>
Freedom House: <http://www.freedomhouse.org/>
International Rescue Committee – Washington DC: <http://www.theirc.org/>
Polaris Project: <http://www.polarisproject.org/>

Legal Assistance

Legal advocacy non-profits offer low-cost legal services to low-income residents. They often represent individuals in child custody, divorce and domestic violence cases. Some legal assistance groups specialize in helping children or the elderly.

American Civil Liberties Union – DC Office: <http://www.aclu.org/>
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center: <http://www.apalrc.org/>
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law: <http://www.bazelon.org/>
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington – Pro Bono Assistance: <http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/>
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Washington DC: <http://www.casadc.org>
DC Employment Justice Center: <http://www.dcejc.org/>
DC Prisoners' Project: http://www.washlaw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=76&Itemid=58
Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia: <http://legalaiddc.org/>

Poverty

These organizations provide any number of services to the poor, including those relating to health, hunger, education, housing and economic development, with the goal of creating healthy lifestyles and prosperous environments.

Bread for the City: <http://www.breadforthecity.org>
Capital Area Food Bank: <http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/>
DC Habitat for Humanity: <http://www.dchabitat.org/>
Dress for Success – Washington DC: <http://www.dressforsuccess.org/affiliate.aspx?pageid=1&sisid=86>
Good Will of Greater Washington: <http://www.dcgoodwill.org/>
Martha's Table, Inc.: <http://www.marthastable.org/>
Perry School Community Services Center, Inc.: <http://www.perryschool.org/>
The Salvation Army – National Capital Area
Command: http://www.uss.salvationarmy.org/uss/www_uss_natcaparea.nsf
So Others Might Eat (SOME): <http://some.org/>

Umbrella Organizations

Many non-profit organizations oversee a broad range of activities or give financial assistance to numerous charitable organizations. A non-profit job seeker can start at the umbrella organization and read about its non-profit members. Better yet, some non-profit umbrella organizations maintain their own job databases.

American Red Cross – National Headquarters: <http://www.redcross.org/>
American Red Cross – National Capital Region.: <http://www.redcrossdc.org/>
AmeriCorps: <http://www.americorps.gov>
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington: <http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/>
DC Department of Human Services: <http://www.dhs.dc.gov/dhs/cwp/>
Greater DC Cares: <http://www.dc-cares.org/>
Hands on DC: <http://www.handsondc.org/>
United Way of the National Capital Area: <http://www.unitedwaynca.org>
YMCA of Metro Washington: <http://www.ymcadc.org/>
YWCA of the National Capital Area: <http://www.ywcanca.org/>

Non-Profit Employment Listings

Many of the district's non-profit opportunities are listed in national or statewide databases of volunteer positions. The following websites list numerous non-profit organizations in DC.

All For Good: <http://allforgood.org/>
VolunteerMatch: <http://www.volunteermatch.org>