

Hello. I am Elana Brewer, Sr. Director of Child Life Programs and Wawa Volunteer Services at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The Wawa Volunteer program has a small, but mighty team of employees who support approximately 500 volunteers who dedicate 3 hours of their time each week to CHOP. Volunteers support departments and services all throughout the enterprise, such as pet therapy, Reach Out and Read, OT & PT, Nursing, Child Life, Seacrest Studios, Family & Visitor Services, Spiritual Care, playing the Steinway piano in the main atrium, and rounding with the Wawa Coffee Cart.

In 2016, the Wawa Foundation gave a generous financial gift to support the CHOP Volunteer program, including the building of the Wawa Volunteer Center, located on P1 Level of the Buerger building. The Wawa Volunteer Center includes a kitchen fully equipped with two double refrigerators to store hundreds of cold beverages, as well as 6 brewing stations to support the longstanding practice of volunteers distributing hot and cold Wawa beverages to families throughout the entire campus for free.

Wawa has been donating beverages to CHOP for decades. There are several CHOP employees who regularly volunteer 2 hours of their time each month to participate in taking the Wawa Coffee and Care Cart around to inpatient families or those in the Buerger Building. As a CHOPion, we invite you to participate in this rewarding opportunity. This volunteer experience can give you a firsthand experience of just how significant providing a simple beverage to the families and caregivers at the bedside can be. And it's a great way to become familiar with the numerous units, hallways, and elevator banks in the Main Hospital building. Sign up today on MyCareer under Learning to experience this fantastic and meaningful opportunity.

Or if you have a registered therapy dog, or are a gifted piano player and are interested in volunteering your time once a month, please reach out to us and let us know about your talents and interests. We would welcome the opportunity to have you join our volunteer force, bringing smiles to our patients, families, and staff. Stop by the Wawa Volunteer Center on the P1 Level of the Buerger Building, or email us at volunteers@chop.edu. Welcome!