

Las Vegas Holy Community Shine City Project helps Opportunity Village at the Magical Forest

Ki Hoon Kim
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On December 15, 2023, Shine City Project volunteered with Opportunity Village at the Magical Forest! Founded in 1954, Opportunity Village is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving people with disabilities by providing them with enrichment, empowerment, and employment opportunities. Every year, they serve over 3,000 people in Las Vegas with intellectual and developmental disabilities in hopes of giving them the opportunity to live their best possible lives.



Fundraising events like HalloVeen, the Great Santa Run, and the Magical Forest help to provide programs, services, as well as wages and benefits to those they serve. On this Friday evening, our Shine City Project volunteers made our way to the Magical Forest where we were largely assigned to help out at the front entrance. At the front gate, families, groups, couples, and individuals were welcomed and greeted by our Shine City Project volunteers, and they were directed to several lines where a couple of us scanned QR codes ensuring everyone had tickets for entry. Once guests were checked in, two of our other volunteers offered the opportunity to take photos with the Grinch!

We offered to take photos of the guests with their cell phones and cameras in order to allow all members of a group to be in the photo. Afterwards, a couple of our volunteers were stationed at the Neon kiosk to help promote and facilitate the sale of light-up wands and other merchandise. Finally, in the depths of the Magical Forest, we had one volunteer who was responsible for helping to prepare funnel cakes and other delicious, deep-fried treats! In total, we had twelve Shine City Project volunteers with one joining us for the first time! Overall, it was great that our team could be the first few faces that guests see when they come to the Magical Forest.



We hope that everyone could feel loved and welcomed as they made their way into the Magical Forest, as well as when they were leaving the Magical Forest towards the end of the event. After volunteering, we also enjoyed some time ourselves at the Magical Forest by riding the Forest Express Train and eating some deep-fried delectables. It was a nice evening for all of our volunteers!