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Teens text to volunteer

by [Carly Rothman](#)/The Star-Ledger

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Steve Miller/The Star-Ledger This tip about a chance to volunteer at a local theater company was sent to Carly's cellphone Wednesday.

Teens looking for local volunteer opportunities can now find them at the flip of a cellphone, thanks to a new program launched by [Do Something](#).

Do Something Now, which launched last month, lets teens register to have information on local volunteer opportunities texted straight to their cellphones once a month.

To register for the updates, teens just text their zip code to #30644. Teens who text the word "now" to #30644 along with their zip codes will have information sent to them immediately.

"Teen's #1 item is still their mobile phone, and they love communicating via text message," said Do Something CEO Nancy Lublin in a statement. "We're bringing volunteer opportunities directly to teens -- and in a way that they can forward to friends easily."

The program is being sponsored by the Sprint Foundation. There is no extra charge for Do Something's texting program other than standard messaging fees, said Do Something spokesperson Janell Vantrease, who said thousands of teens registered for the program in its first month.

Do Something is a nonprofit web-based organization with the "aim to inspire, support and celebrate....people who see the need to do something, believe in their ability to get it done, and take action," offering diverse resources to help young people find volunteer work, grants and other service opportunities.

According to figures provided by Do Something, more than 500,000 people visit DoSomething.org per month, and New Jersey is among the ten states whose residents are most active on the site.