



Step In, Stand Out: Your Volunteer Guide at Dade Foundation

A Motivational Guide for Inclusion Champions

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Welcome Letter

Dear Friend,

Welcome to DADE Foundation! By opening this guide, you have taken your first step into a journey of impact, growth, and purpose. At DADE Foundation, we believe that volunteers are not just helpers, they are leaders, innovators, and change makers.

This eBook is written to inspire you, guide you, and remind you that your service matters. Whether you volunteer online or in your community, your voice and actions are part of a global movement for disability inclusion.

So, step in boldly and stand out as a force for change.

With gratitude,

Dr. Odumusi Emmanuel

Founder, DADE Foundation



Why Volunteer?

Volunteering is more than giving your time, it's giving your heart, your energy, and your ideas to something bigger than yourself.

Think of it this way: when you choose to volunteer, you are planting seeds. One small act of kindness, a shared post, a smile, an hour of teaching can grow into hope for someone who once felt invisible.



Reflection Prompt: What inspires you to serve? Write down one reason you want to volunteer with DADE Foundation.



The Spirit of Dade Foundation

DADE Foundation exists to empower youth and promote disability inclusion across Nigeria and Africa. Our mission is to create a world where persons with disabilities can learn, work, lead, and thrive without barriers.

We stand on five values captured in our mantra I CARE:

- ✓ Innovation – finding new ways to break barriers.
- ✓ Community – standing stronger together.
- ✓ Access – opening doors for everyone.
- ✓ Representation – ensuring every voice is heard.
- ✓ Equity – fairness, dignity, and justice for all.

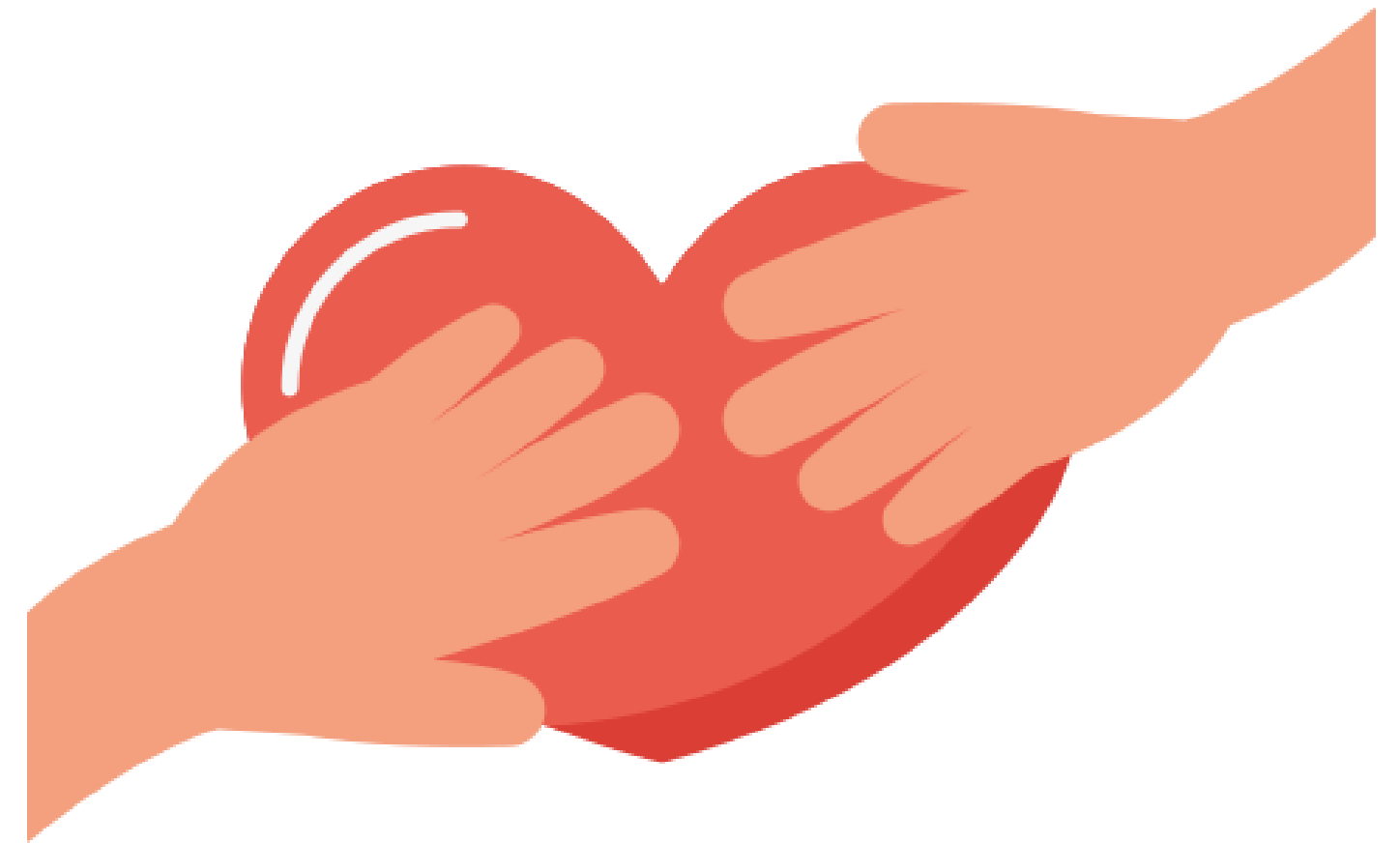
 At DADE, volunteers are not bystanders; they are changemakers.



The Power of Small Acts

Sometimes people think impact means doing something huge. The truth? Even the smallest acts matter.

A single post about inclusion may inspire someone to think differently. A volunteer-led community talk could encourage a parent to send their child with a disability to school. One voice becomes many.




 **Reflection Prompt:** What is one small action you can take this week to make inclusion real?

Stepping In: Your First Day as a Volunteer

Every big journey begins with a first step. For you, that step is registering on the DADE Volunteer Portal.

Here is what your first days look like:

- ✓ Complete your online registration form.
 - ✓ Take the short entry assessment.
 - ✓ Begin your onboarding course.
 - ✓ Join your first DADE webinar.
-  From the start, you will feel welcomed, guided and connected.



Standing Out Through Service

As you grow, you will find that volunteering is not just about what you do, it's about who you become.

Every campaign you support, every reflection you share, and every story you tell strengthens your identity as a changemaker. Standing out means daring to bring your unique gifts; your voice, your skills, your creativity into service.




Reflection Prompt: What special skill or passion do you want to bring into your volunteer journey?

Building Connections

Volunteering at DADE means you are never alone. You join a family of advocates, allies and leaders who share your passion for inclusion.

Through webinars, workshops, and campaigns, you will meet people who may become mentors, collaborators, or lifelong friends. Together, we are stronger.

 Community is at the heart of inclusion; your voice adds to the chorus.



 www.dadefoundation.com  inclusion@dadefoundation.com



Learning While Serving

At DADE Foundation, volunteering is not just about giving, it's about growing.

Each cadre level unlocks new skills:

- ✓ As an Ally, you learn the basics of inclusion.
- ✓ As an Advocate, you practice digital storytelling.
- ✓ As a Mobilizer, you organize community events.
- ✓ As a Catalyst, you innovate and lead.
- ✓ As a Strategist, you shape the future.

 **Reflection Prompt:** What new skill are you most excited to gain as a volunteer?

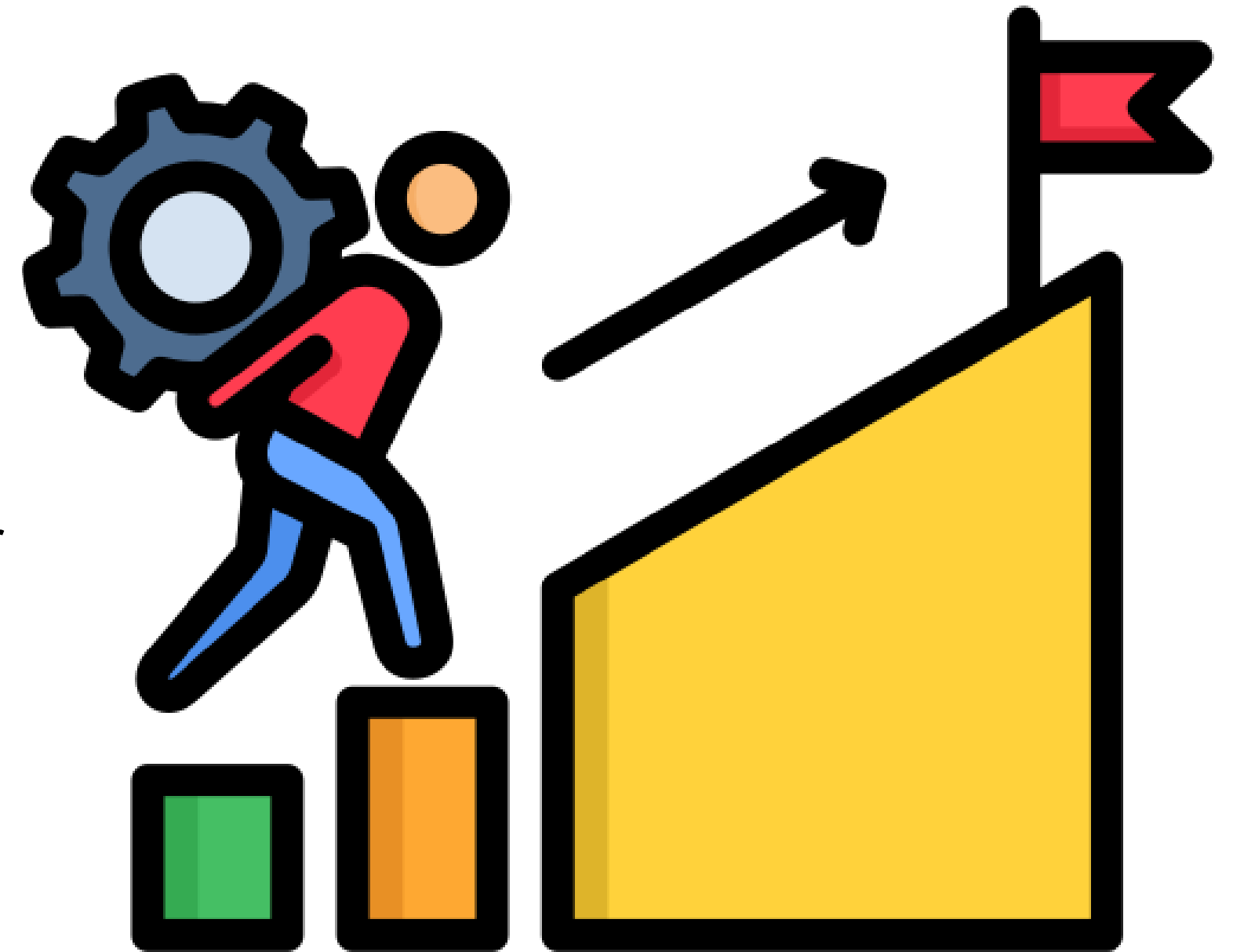


Overcoming Challenges

Every volunteer faces moments of doubt or difficulty. Maybe time feels short. Maybe a project feels bigger than you expected. That's normal.

Remember this: challenges are not roadblocks, they are stepping stones. Every test builds your resilience, leadership, and confidence.


- ▶ You are not alone, DADE equips you with training, mentors, and a community to support your journey.



Your Legacy of Impact

Volunteering is not just about today, it's about the legacy you leave tomorrow.

When you mentor a new volunteer, you're shaping the future. When you advocate online, you're shifting narratives. When you lead an event, you're changing your community.

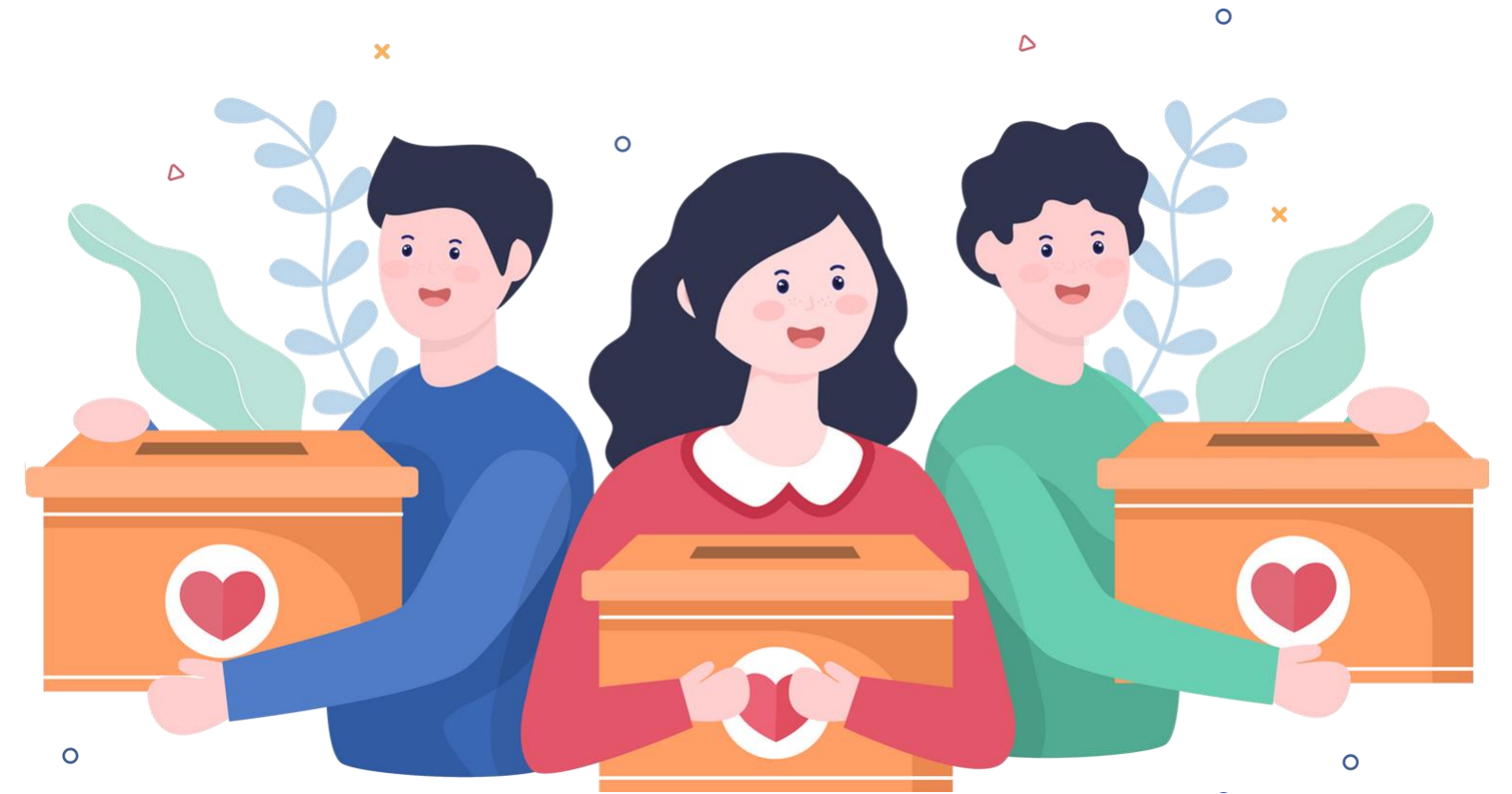
 **Reflection Prompt:** What impact do you want people to remember about your time as a volunteer?



Words From The Heart

Here are a few reminders to keep close:

- ☑ “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they have the heart.”
- ☑ “Every badge you earn at DADE tells a story of growth and service.”
- ☑ “Inclusion is not charity; it is justice.”



- 📌 Keep these words with you, they will fuel you when the journey feels tough.

Your Next Steps


Ready to move forward? Here's your starter roadmap:

- ✓ Sign Up – Create your account on the DADE Volunteer Portal.
- ✓ Access Your Dashboard – Explore your personal space to track progress.
- ✓ Take the Entry Quiz – A simple quiz to unlock your first level of engagement.
- ✓ Earn your First badge – Celebrate your start as an Inclusion Ally.
- ✓ Join your first DADE webinar – Connect, learn and meet fellow changemakers.
- ✓ Share your first reflection with the community – Inspire others by sharing your thoughts and experiences.

 Every journey begins with action, take yours today.

Staying Inspired

Ready to move forward? Here's your starter roadmap:

- ✓ Celebrate small wins, every step counts.
 - ✓ Attend DADE webinars regularly.
 - ✓ Connect with fellow volunteers.
 - ✓ Keep learning, reflecting, and sharing.
-  **Remember:** Impact is not about perfection, it's about persistence.



Gratitude & Closing

Dear Volunteer,

Thank you for daring to step in. Thank you for choosing to stand out. Your journey with DADE Foundation will change you, and it will change lives.

The world is waiting for your light. Shine boldly. Lead bravely. Serve with joy.

With appreciation,
The DADE Foundation Team

#DADEVolunteers #PathToImpact #StepInStandOut

