



Character Handler Volunteer Information

What makes for a great volunteer experience as a character handler?

To be a great character handler you must be able to read a crowd. You'll be interacting with families and promoting WFYI while ensuring the character knows where to look and when to greet fans. Having a positive and outgoing personality and being politely assertive as needed will also help you have a great volunteer experience. Please note that you must be at least 18 years of age to volunteer as a character handler.

What will I be doing?

A character handler volunteer helps in many ways! As a character handler you will:

- Help the character get put the costume on
- Be the eyes and ears of the character (assume they can see/hear nothing, you'll be their narrator)
- Serve as a bodyguard to the character
- Guide the friends that are visiting (example: give me your camera and I'll take the photo of you and mom/dad, can you give a high five, come say hello, etc.)
- Monitor the time for the character (30 mins in costume (max)/20-30 mins out of costume)
 - When giving time updates say things like "can you visit friends for 10 more minutes? 5 more minutes?" so the character can give you a yes/no hand gesture.
- Serve as a brand ambassador

What do I wear?

Wear whatever is comfortable for you, you will be given a WFYI smock to wear over your clothes.

When can photos be taken?

We encourage you to take photos for friends that are visiting with the character. Ensure that photos are only taken when the character has the full costume on.

How do I communicate with the character?

The character handler will be the eyes and ears of the character. You should narrate what is going on while the character is in the costume. Before you head out to visit friends decide on a hand signal or motion with the character so they can tell you if they need to get out of the costume.