

### Health Promotion International

### VOLUNTEERISM AS ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROMOTION ASSET: A SCOPING REVIEW.

Journal:	Health Promotion International
Manuscript ID	HPI-2018-227.R2
Manuscript Type:	Perspectives
Keywords:	community health promotion, adolescent, salutogenesis, volunteers
Keywords:	

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This is a pre-copyedited, author-produced version of an article accepted for publication in Health Promotion International following peer review. The version of record Naia Hernantes, María J Pumar-Méndez, Olga López-Dicastillo, Andrea Iriarte, Agurtzane Mujika, Volunteerism as adolescent health promotion asset: a scoping review, Health Promotion International, Volume 35, Issue 3, June 2020, Pages 610–623, https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/daz026 is available online at: https://doi.org/10.1093/heapro/daz026

# **VOLUNTEERISM AS ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROMOTION ASSET: A SCOPING REVIEW.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Adolescence is a time of transition with rapid physiologic, emotional, and cognitive changes. During this stage, adolescents are in the process of reshaping their identities while forming relationships with friends, family, and the community (Srof & Velsor-Friedrich, 2006). This period is a critical window of development characterized by shifts at multiple levels, from biology to social role transitions, during which opportunities for participation in meaningful activities, feeling significant to others, and forming safe and supportive relationships with adults are crucial. Furthermore, adolescence is a formative window for life-long health and civic trajectories (Ballard & Syme, 2016).

Adolescents conceive of their health in terms of "having fun" and "being happy" (Perez-Wilson, Hernán, Morgan, & Mena, 2015) and relate it to well-being, happiness, quality of life, and positive self-perception (Portero López et al., 2002). This conception might be related to the fact that they usually enjoy a high level of health, have low perceptions of risk, and understand disease as a short and transient situation that is easily resolved (Portero López et al., 2002). Attention to this population group has traditionally been viewed through a preventative lens, prioritizing activities to avoid inadequate nutrition, risky sexual relations and behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries, violence, or substance abuse (Duncan et al., 2007). Adolescents report a social tendency that regards them as conflictive and with a negative bias (Spencer, 2014). This deficit perspective has influenced policies, research, and practice (Matos et al., 2018). In many contexts worldwide, primary care (PC) services in charge of adolescent health have focused on treating and/or preventing diseases (Ozer, 2007; Taliaferro & Borowsky, 2012). This view of adolescence neglects their role relations, expectations, and abilities. In response to this, it has recently been suggested that research and assistance provided to this population group should move from a risk perspective to an understanding of factors that promote well-being (Sieving et al., 2017).

Aaron Antonovsky contributed to this positive vision of health and its promotion through the salutogenic theory (Eriksson & Lindström, 2008). Reconceptualizing health promotion (HP) from this approach implies the redirection of activities toward those that generate health (Hernán et al., 2013) to focus on positive development and the assets that they possess (Oliva et al., 2011) as well as to emphasize the importance of the community environment in which they interact. Salutogenesis is related with well-being. This can be achieved as a result of accomplishing the goal that all young people move into adulthood equipped with skills and competences to enjoy a productive, healthy and happy life; and these skills cumulate as a result of positive development in the early years (García-Moya and Morgan 2017). Likewise, is closely related to Lerner's Positive Youth Development (PYD) model, that also aims to foster the abilities and skills of adolescents to promote positive outcomes and their well-being, considering them as individuals with enormous potential to develop (Lerner et al., 2005). The PYD recognizes the importance of establishing a community context rich in assets and finding formulas that allow

an optimal fit between the adolescent and his or her context through public policies (Oliva et al., 2011).

Salutogenesis and PYD model focus on the development and well-being of adolescents in relation to their context, their community, emphasizing the importance of being involved in community-based activities. If there is an activity that stands out as being community-based, it is community volunteering. Youth volunteering can be defined as an activity with a positive social benefit performed by adolescents who volunteer for no monetary rewards (Haski-Leventhal et al., 2008). Some youth are encouraged or obliged to volunteer by their schools or as part of their school's curriculum. Although this route is considered as a way of instilling the lifelong habits of volunteering, these might not be considered as volunteers in the narrow sense that includes only volunteers who act of their own free will, entailing an altruistic nature (Haski-Leventhal et al., 2016).

Although volunteering might promote adolescent development in a broad way (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), this action has been fundamentally promoted among adolescents as a method to correct behavioral problems (Zoerink et al., 1997) and prevent them (Allen et al. 1997; O'Donnell et al., 1999; Gebbia et al., 2012; Williams & Talbott, 2016). However, volunteerism might also represent a means to train adolescents by promoting their connection with their own community through positive behaviours. Evidence coming from studies conducted with adults discovered numerous benefits both to communities and volunteers themselves (Snyder, Omoto & Dwyer, 2016). Participation in volunteering activities is significantly predictive of better mental and physical health (Piliavin & Siegl, 2007), life satisfaction self-esteem (Thoits & Hewitt, 2001), and happiness (Borgonovy, 2008), as well as reducing negative outcomes (Thoits & Hewitt, 2001; Kim & Pai, 2007), including mortality (Konrath et al., 2012). Furthermore, this health benefits are not due to self-selection bias (Piliavin & Siegl, 2007). As such, it has been pointed out that volunteering should be promoted as a kind of healthy lifestyle (Yeung, Zhang, & Yeun Kim, 2018). Given that the prosocial and meaning-making nature has been proposed as pathway for the positive health effects, it could be hypothesized that this would potentially be applicable to adolescents also. This study explored the existing evidence regarding the participation of adolescents in volunteer activities and the potential benefits that these activities have for their healthy development from a salutogenic perspective.

### **METHODS**

A scoping review was performed to map the existing literature regarding volume, nature, and characteristics (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005). This type of review is particularly interesting when the topic has not been exhaustively studied or represents a certain level of complexity (Mays et al., 2001). They resemble systematic reviews in that they employ rigorous and transparent data collection, analysis, and interpretation methods. However, they differ in that quality evaluation is not typically part of *scoping reviews* (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005) because they focus on the results themselves rather than on the means used to produce them (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005; Lambert, 2006). The five steps proposed by Arksey and O'Malley (2005) were followed: identification of the research question; identification of relevant studies; selection of studies according to pre-established criteria; extraction of information; and charting the data.

Identification of research question

Adolescent health has been an area frequently addressed in the literature. Most of these works have been developed from a preventivist perspective. Likewise, volunteerism has been conceived as an activity of interest under the condition of behavioral problems. The research question identified for this review was: What is known from the existing literature about the the relationship between adolescent health and volunteering from a salutogenic perspective?

### Identification of relevant studies

In order to develop the search strategy, between November and December 2015, a period of immersion in the literature was conducted to identify and clarify key concepts and detect two fundamental aspects for the design of the strategy. On the one hand, research on volunteering and adolescents began to emerge in the 1960s (Yates, 1995); on the other, that literature, especially the most recent reports, all too often allude to another activity called Service Learning (SL). This term has been used as a synonym of volunteerism on many occasions since the 1990s.

The main search terms used were "adolescence" and "volunteering", along with their corresponding MeSH. The detailed search strategy is available from the authors on request.

Searches were performed between January and February 2016 using the Cochrane Library Home, PsycInfo, Cinhal, and PubMed databases, including only publications in Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese. Given the high number of resulting documents, the searches were limited to articles containing the keywords in the title. Likewise, the reference sections of the selected articles were reviewed to identify additional articles.

### Selection of studies according to the established criteria

The articles were selected according to the criteria established using the salutogenic conceptualization of adolescence; They included volunteering activities carried out in community contexts that reflected effects on the development of adolescents; SL was excluded because this concept includes volunteer activities as an obligation for youth to graduate. Several authors have considered this obligation as a violation of the spirit of volunteerism (Janoski, et al., 1998). Gender differences were also excluded because the search results were primarily related to unwanted pregnancies among adolescent girls and substance abuse among adolescent boys. Given the type of review performed, no methodological quality criteria were established.

Figure 1 shows the article selection flowchart. Ultimately, 15 articles were selected. The searches were re-executed in October 2018 without changes in the article selection.

[Insert-Figure 1. Flowchart of the search and selection of studies according to the PRISMA standard-here]

### Charting the data

A table was created with the categories of interest to employ a homogeneous procedure for data extraction (see Table 2).

[Insert-table 2. Items included for the review-here]

### **RESULTS**

The results are presented in two sections attending to: (1) scope of the research performed in this field; and (2) results affecting the positive development of adolescents reported regarding volunteering?

Volume, nature, and characteristics of research

Almost all of the studies were conducted in the United States, except for one that was conducted in Canada and another that was conducted in New Zealand (see Table 2). More than half were published between 1990 and 2000. These works were primarily developed by psychologists and sociologists.

The volunteer activities described varied greatly. The volunteers performed coaching activities with other adolescents, worked with their peers, participated in community improvement services and childcare, assisted other teens who required emotional relief, helped with religious classes, and worked with socially excluded people. They also spent hours playing and reading with hospitalized children. They conducted activities in defense of the environment, and human rights, and administrative work. All activities were performed under adult supervision.

More than half of the studies consisted of primary research with quantitative methodologies. Six were exploratory studies with pre-post designs, and three used cross-sectional designs. Participants varied in age, from 12 to 24 years old. Scales were used to measure concepts such as self-perception as well as social and personal responsibility. One study also conducted interviews with participants. The remainder included four literature reviews and a report.

Impact on positive youth development

While not all articles reviewed mentioned them, the emerged themes were closely related to Five "Cs" of Lerner's PYD (Lerner et al., 2005): competence, confidence, connection, character, and caring (see table 1). The results were classified based on them.

[insert-table 1. Definitions of the Five Cs of positive youth development according to Lerner-here]

### Competence

Volunteerism increases the academic competence of adolescents (Moore & Allen, 1996; Schondel & Boehm, 2000) and their sense of responsibility, which is reflected in the school environment (Kuperminc et al., 2001); furthermore, it promotes the development of skills necessary for their professional futures (McBride et al., 2011). Likewise, the assumption of responsibilities offers an opportunity to work on the key competency of leadership (Kuperminc et al., 2001). They also developed the skills necessary for their professional future (McBride et al., 2011) such as their communicative skills (Schine, 1989) and other personal competences (McBride et al., 2011; Moore & Allen, 1996; Yates & Youniss, 1996), including the ability to resolve their own problems as well as external conflicts (Fine et al., 1976; Metz et al., 2003; Schine, 1989); these skills are of great utility for both their personal lives and their professional development. The variability in these activities offers adolescents the possibility to explore, at a young age, different options to develop themselves professionally in the future.

#### **Confidence**

Adolescents perceive themselves as important and necessary people (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988). This positive perception is amplified when they achieve the established objectives for the development of an activity, and other people benefit (Yates & Youniss, 1996). When collaborating within their community, they feel that they are protagonists and assume roles of greater importance than they are accustomed to in their daily lives (Schine, 1989; Yates, 1995). These collaborations make them aware that they can make important decisions that are heard and considered by adults (Schine, 1989), which promotes their self-perception as active agents (Metz et al., 2003). Thus, they understand that they can make a difference (Yates & Youniss, 1996), which increases their self-esteem (Johnson et al., 1998; Kuperminc et al., 2001; Moore & Allen, 1996) and self-confidence (McBride et al., 2011; Yates & Youniss, 1996). Volunteering fosters the development of adolescents' identities and autonomy (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988; Youniss et al., 2001) as well as their senses of personal agency (Yates, 1995), self-knowledge (Fine et al., 1976), self-understanding, and self-acceptance (Yates & Youniss, 1996). These activities allow them to view themselves as more effective individuals (McBride et al., 2011; Moore & Allen, 1996).

### Connection

Volunteerism promotes relationships between adolescents and adults (Moore & Allen, 1996; Schine, 1989) within various associations, thereby promoting adolescents' active participation in "the world of adults" (Schine, 1989) and fostering an intergenerational harmony (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) that can even lead to strong ties (Metz et al., 2003). Furthermore, adolescents working with individuals of the same age group increase their knowledge of teamwork and their awareness of and ability to benefit from the positive aspects of the sharing of responsibilities (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986). On many occasions, adolescents express perceptions of a sense of camaraderie (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) that allows them to expand their circle of friends and fosters their sense of belonging to the community (Harré, 2007; Kuperminc et al., 2001; McGuire & Gamble, 2006; Yates, 1995).

### Character

Volunteering during adolescence is a way to develop pro-social attitudes, assume responsible behaviors toward society, and respect social and community norms (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988; Harré, 2007; Johnson et al., 1998; Kuperminc et al., 2001; McGuire & Gamble, 2006); also, it promotes the development of a moral identity (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) and civic skills (Metz et al., 2003). It also encourages them to rethink their values (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), with both individuals and collectives being reinforced when working in groups (McBride et al., 2011). Volunteering helps adolescents to situate themselves in a normative society (Youniss et al., 2001) and, in a different way, discover and learn to appreciate the world in which they live (Schondel & Boehm, 2000). Several studies have identified a direct relationship between the participation of adolescents in volunteer programs and an increase in political participation (Metz et al., 2003; Yates, 1995; Youniss et al., 2001).

### Caring

The predominance of the volunteer activities aimed at disadvantaged individuals, groups, and families encourages volunteer adolescents to assume roles that primarily help other people (Kuperminc et al., 2001), exposing them to various altruistic settings (Johnson et al., 1998). This work makes them aware of the social inequality that can occur within the same community

environment and allows them to experience new and diverse social groups, both directly and in depth. In addition, it allows adolescents to begin to question and reject negative stereotypes associated with stigmatized groups (McGuire & Gamble, 2006) identifying the common principles and aspects that connect different social groups as well as discovering positive traits of new acquaintances (Harré, 2007). As a result, adolescents develop positive relationships with various groups based not on prejudices but on a developed sense of solidarity and tolerance among adolescents (Harré, 2007; Yates & Youniss, 1996).

### **DISCUSSION**

The present review explored the existing evidence regarding the participation of adolescents in volunteer activities and the potential benefits that this activity might produce with regard to their healthy development from a salutogenic perspective.

Concerning the volume, nature, and characteristics of the available literature, most of the evidence has come from the USA, which should be emphasized. It is also striking the timeframe in which the evidence found is located, half of the included papers predating the year 2000, and the most recent one having been published in 2011. This work also revealed that adolescence is operationalized as a wide age range. The studies reviewed included individuals aged 12 to 24 years. This range is in accordance with Higuita and Cardona (2015) who claimed that a lack of consensus exists in the literature regarding the age range of adolescents. More recently, Sawyer et al., (2018) determined that adolescence includes those aged between 10 and 24 years.

Regarding the effect of volunteering on positive youth development, the results suggest that volunteering is conducive to the positive development of adolescent health. Moreover, increased positive development of adolescents reduces the rates of risky behaviors (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), which corroborates the previous literature.

These findings support the proposal by Moore and Allen (Moore & Allen, 1996), who extolled volunteerism as one of the most energetic approaches to promoting adolescent health. Although these authors made their proposal in the American context in which volunteering is more integrated as an active part of community health, it might also represent an opportunity in other HP contexts. When adolescents internalize and act on the belief that they must foster their own development by contributing to the context in which they live, they not only achieve positive individual development or enhance their health but also reflect and promote advances in the development and health of their social environment (Lerner et al., 2005).

The concept of volunteering as an asset for HP during adolescence evokes the need to adopt and favor this view with regard to key areas of study associated with this stage such as education and health. Teams that work in community health, especially those in PC, should recognize and value existing volunteer groups as an asset to promote the healthy development of adolescents. Although 30 years have passed since the Ottawa charter, a reorientation of the health services toward a more positive concept of health and a community approach remains necessary (Cabeza et al., 2016; López-Dicastillo et al., 2017). In addition, and especially at this stage, friendlier health services should be encouraged that include comprehensive services from within educational institutions to community actions (Goicolea et al., 2015). The alignment of health

services and professionals with the concept of health and the values of adolescents through the adoption of the salutogenic approach might increase the attractiveness of this topic to this population and offer more appropriate attention to their perceived needs.

Volunteer groups within the community represent a current resource for the health sector. Authors such as Stephen (2017) have proposed and advocated for the prescription or recommendation of volunteering in the community for reasons similar to those discussed in this review. Reshaping adolescent identity, forming new relationships, developing personal responsibility, and promoting connectedness with their school, family, or community are actions that cannot be carried out by health professionals at PC centers in isolation. Strategies focused on surrounding youth with protective factors or resources in their social and environmental ecologies might achieve greater outcome improvements than efforts focused on minimizing risk (Taliaferro & Borowsky, 2012). All of these findings indicate the need to create bridges of collaboration between health services and community assets such as volunteer groups, thereby reinforcing the coordination between PC and local and citizen groups.

In conclusion, the revised evidence suggests that volunteering represents a possible opportunity to increase adolescent health from a salutogenic perspective. This recognition would imply new responsibilities for the agents and sectors involved in HP, especially those in the health sector, which should consider the potential that might derive based on collaborative community work regarding this asset. It is important to bear in mind that these potential positive outcomes are based on studies conducted in contexts that might not be completely representative of the current society, and therefore, there is a need to conduct research to confirm that they hold true today. The findings of this review call for bringing back the topic of volunteering in adolescence to further continue its development.

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Table 1. Definition	ns of the Five Cs of positive youth development according to Lerner (2005)
Competence	Positive view of one's actions in domain specific areas. including social
	academic, cognitive, and vocational. Social competence pertains to
	interpersonal skills. Cognitive competence pertains to cognitive abilities
	School grades, attendance, and test scores are part of academic competence
	Vocational competence involves work habits and career choice explorations
	including entrepreneurship.
Confidence	An internal sense of overall positive self-worth and self-efficacy; one's
_	global self-regard, as opposed to domain specific beliefs
Connection	Positive bonds with people and institutions that are reflected in
	bidirectional exchanges between the individual and peers, family, school,
	and community in which both parties contribute to the relationship
Character	Respect for societal and cultural rules, possession of standards for correct
	behaviors, a sense of right and wrong (morality), and integrity.
Caring	A sense of sympathy and empathy for others.

Author, country and discipline	Title	Methodology	Volunteer activity	Main Results/indentified "C"s
Fine, S., Knight-Webb, G., & Breau, K. (1976) Canada	Volunteer Adolescents in Adolescent Group Therapy	Quantitative, exploratory.     Aim: To examine the effects of using adolescent volunteers in patients attending a therapy group and in the adolescents themselves.     Participants: 8 adolescents between 14 and 18 years old.	They helped young people in situations of risk. Adolescents perform coaching roles with youth. There are 10 sessions not specified in time.	Volunteers gain new knowledge and new skills. They increase their self-knowledge and ability to solve their own problems.
Psychiatry		No other data available regarding SES.  Scales used: Piers Harris (PH) self-concept scale, Devereaux Adolescent Behavior Scale (DAB).  Measurement: Two weeks before project start and 4 weeks after completion.		Competence Confidence
Calabrese, R. L., & Schumer, H. (1986)	The Effects of Service Activities on Adolescent Alienation	<ul> <li>Quantitative, exploratory.</li> <li>Aim: To evaluate the effects of involvement in volunteer activities in the levels of alienation of adolescents</li> <li>Participants: 50 adolescents between 14 and 15 years</li> </ul>	They take part in a pilot volunteer activity that will be implemented in other communities. The activity is led by the adolescents themselves with occasional support from the adults. It is	Through volunteering, the levels of alienation are reduced, and behavior and school performance are improved. There is also a greater acceptance of
United States Education		<ul> <li>old. No other data available regarding SES.</li> <li>Scale used: Dean Alienation Scale.</li> <li>Measurement: Before starting the activity, 10 weeks after and 20 weeks after the first measurement.</li> </ul>	compared to a control group in which there is no leadership on the part of the adolescents.  10-week duration.	adolescents by adults in the community.  Connection Character
Hamilton, S. F., & Fenzel, L. M. (1988)	The Impact of Volunteer Experience on Adolescent Social Development: Evidence of Program Effects	Quantitative, descriptive.     Aim: To measure levels of social and personal responsibility in adolescents who participate in volunteer activities.     Participants: 44 adolescents between 12 and 17 years old. No other data available regarding SES.     Scale used: The Social and Personal Responsibility Scale Interviews: The adolescent's perception of the activity, whether he or she liked it, whether it was a challenge,	They perform various activities:  - Community improvement services: construction and maintenance of the buildings of the organization itself, drawing lots through which they obtained benefits that were donated to people in need on Thanksgiving-day, decoration of churches for the celebration of Christmas, realization of Christmas centers for senior citizens. Help in library work and help in	It shows the achievement of positive results. Volunteers express a greater awareness of themselves and the community in which they live. They have also acquired new skills in the management of groups of children. They achieve more responsible attitudes and feel important and needed.
United States  Sociology		<ul> <li>whether he or she had the opportunity to make decisions and whether they felt useful in the project.</li> <li>Measurement: At the beginning of the activity, with a second measurement at the end.</li> </ul>	animal sheltersCare of children: provision of help with homework, crafts and supervision. Does not specify duration of activity	Confidence Character

Schine, J. (1989) United States Sociology	Young Adolescents and Community Service	Paper presented as part of the annual report of the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development, which informs stakeholders of activities underway in the Council.	NA	It exposes results such as an increase in adolescents' own competence, increased interconnection with other people, moral development and an increase in self-confidence.  Competence Confidence Connection
Yates, M. (1995) United States Psychology	Community Service in Adolescence: Implications for Moral Political Awareness	<ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>Objective: To identify the relationship between the development of the identity of adolescents and participation in volunteer activities.</li> <li>44 studies performed between 1952 and 1994.</li> <li>Participants: Young people between 12 and 24 years old. No other data available regarding SES.</li> </ul>	NA	Volunteering promotes the understanding of oneself with historical and social reality. It helps adolescents to be aware that they can participate actively in history rather than just living it passively and that they can also be key players in improving social conditions. There is also an increase in political participation.  Confidence Connection Character
Moore, C. W., & Allen, J. P. (1996)  United States  Psychology	The Effects of Volunteering on the Young Volunteer	Literature review     Objective: To explore what volunteer programs during adolescence have been studied to date, whether these programs have positive effects on adolescents and why these effects occur.     Review of large volunteer programs that have been performed in the USA ("Teen Outreach Program" and "Valued Youth Program"), and the effects or results that have been measured from them.     Participants: Adolescents from 11 to 21 years old. No other data available regarding SES.		There are improvements in the academic and social environment and decreases in school absences, expulsions from the school environment and unwanted pregnancies. There is an increase in moral development, an improvement in relationships with adults, greater awareness of the problems of the community to which they belong and greater self-acceptance.  Competence Confidence Connection
Yates, M., & Youniss, J. (1996)	A Developmental Perspective on Community Service in Adolescence	<ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>44 studies conducted between 1952 and 1994.</li> <li>Objective: To explore the developmental benefits for adolescents engaging in volunteer activities.</li> <li>Participants: Young people between 12 and 24 years old.</li> </ul>	NA	Through volunteering, adolescents are offered the opportunity to live experiences that have a great impact on the volunteer. High levels of prosociability, personal competence, self-esteem and tolerance towards

United States Psychology		It is acknowledged that only 17 out of 44 studies provided information on SES and race/ethnicity. No more details provided		others, along with an increased concern for their community environment and even increased self-understanding of adolescents are observed.  compentece Confidence
Johnson, M. K., Beebe, T., Mortimer, J. T., & Snyder, M. (1998)  United States	Volunteerism in Adolescence: A Process Perspective	<ul> <li>Quantitative, descriptive.</li> <li>Objective: To identify which profiles of adolescents are more likely to take part in volunteer activities and the effects of volunteering at this stage.</li> <li>Participants: 1000 adolescents between 14 and 15 years old. The sample of the first four phases of the "Youth Development Study" (prospective cohort study) is obtained. Socieconomic variables (race, family composition, household income, education and occupation level) not significant predictors of participation in study. No data available on the actual sample in this regard.</li> <li>Questionnaire with different scales used: Self-esteem, intrinsic motivation toward school work, Positive self-esteem, Self-derogation, Depressive affect, Well-being, Intrinsic work values, Extrinsic work values</li> </ul>	It does not specify activity or duration.	Caring  There is greater planning in the academic field and a reduction in hasty decision making related to the university project. Greater and better aspirations are also observed. An increase in academic qualifications is described, along with increases in self-esteem and motivation related to the school environment.  There is also an increase in results related to future job performance.  They become more actively involved in the community.  Confidence Character Caring
Schondel, C. K., & Boehm, K. E. (2000)  United States  Sociology and anthropology	Motivational Needs of Adolescent Volunteers	Quantitative, descriptive.     Objective: To identify the motivational needs of adolescents     Participants: 255 adolescents with a mean age of 17 years. Recruited from 5 sites, one being a Catholic high school. Sample reported to be mid to upper SES and no differences between the sites (based on father's education as marker).     Scale used: The Volunteer needs profile (VNP)     Measurement: No monitoring, cross-sectional measurement.	-Adolescents taking phone calls from young people who want to talk about their concerns.  - Volunteers known as Candy Stripers. They are hospital volunteers who play with hospitalized children and read to patients.  - Volunteers who perform different work in classes on religion.  Activity duration is not specified.	The development of adolescents becomes more dynamic. There is an increase in the desire to help other people. A greater sense of belonging to the community is described, which is reflected in increases in recognition, admiration and gratitude towards others. No differences between groups in that teens respond to external encouragement to volunteer.  Competence Character

Youniss, J., McLellan, J. A., & Mazer, B. (2001) United States		Quantitative, explanatory.     Objective: To identify the existing associations between the civic commitment of the adolescents, their participation in volunteer activities and the movement of the groups.     Participants: 389 adolescents between the ages of 16 and 18 who are part of a larger longitudinal study, drawn from two Catholic high schools. Students came from relatively well-educated families, and of European/American origin mainly.     Questionnaire (not validated) that measures the civic commitment and the social orientation of the groups.     Measurement: At the beginning and end of the school year.	They perform work activities with people in need. They volunteer in activities in favor of the environment, human rights and political activities. Childcare, coaching functions and administrative work are examples of volunteer works cited.  Duration of the activity: one school year.	The experience increases the intention of volunteering in the future and activism and political participation. It is observed that volunteering is a tool to place adolescents in a normative society. It increases their ability to resolve conflicts and develop identity. There is a decrease in risky behaviors and an increase in the sense of belonging.  Confidence Character
Kuperminc, G. P., Holditch, P. T., & Allen, J. P. (2001) United States Psychology	Volunteering and Community Service in Adolescence	Literature review     Objective: To identify the benefits of volunteering in the adolescent stage.     Participants: Teenage stage, age and other SES data not specified.	NA	There is a decrease in risk behaviors, a greater sense of belonging in the community and a greater concern for the well-being of others. Some evidence that youth from middle and upper socioeconomic levels more likely to perform volunteer service.  Competence Confidence Connection Character Caring
Metz, E., McLellan, J., & Youniss, J. (2003) United States	Types of Voluntary Service and Adolescents' Civic Development	Exploratory quantitative     Objective: To explore whether volunteering and what types of volunteer activities have positive effects on adolescence.     Participants: 428 adolescents between 14 and 18 years old from a suburban middle-class public high school.     Questionnaire (not validated) that collects information	-Volunteers who provide help to people in need or with priority social problems, such as poverty Young people who help other studentsVolunteers who work in the civil service for various organizations.  9-month duration.	Volunteer activities are related to an increase in concern about social issues and an increase in the connection of adolescents with their environment.  They view themselves as active agents, and there is greater civic development among adolescents.
Psychology		<ul> <li>on the frequency with which adolescents are concerned about social problems and how often they feel they are active citizens capable of remedying community problems.</li> <li>Measurement: The questionnaire is administered at the beginning and end of the school year.</li> </ul>		Competence Confidence Connection Character

McGuire, J. K., & Gamble, W. C. (2006)  United States	Community Service for Youth: The Value of Psychological Engagement Over the Number of Hours Spent	<ul> <li>Correlational quantitative</li> <li>Objective: To know if the commitment to volunteer activities is proportional to the number of hours invested and if that relationship is predictive of changes in the level of community membership and social responsibility.</li> <li>Participants: 68 adolescents between 14 and 18 years. No other data available regarding SES.</li> <li>Questionnaire with 198 items that relate the time invested, with the commitment acquired, the sense of belonging to the community and social responsibility.</li> <li>Measurement: Before and after the activity.</li> </ul>	Teen volunteers give classes on sex education to other adolescents between the ages of 13 and 14.  The activity lasts 10 hours, with 8 hours of previous training.	Increases social responsibility and a sense of belonging to the community.  Connection Character Caring
Sociology				
Harré, N. (2007)  New Zealand	Community Service or Activism as an Identity Project for Youth.	<ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>Objective: To explore existing knowledge regarding activism or volunteering and to determine if they have an impact on identity formation.</li> <li>Participants: Age and other SES data not specified</li> </ul>	NA	Volunteering during adolescence is related to an increased sense of belonging to the community and is a stimulus for young people in increasing their effectiveness and moral integrity.  Connection
Psychology				Character Caring
McBride, A. M., Johnson, E., Olate, R., & O'Hara, K. (2011)		<ul> <li>Descriptive quantitative</li> <li>Objective: To determine the state of volunteering in Latin America and the Caribbean and to identify whether it is related to the positive development of adolescents.</li> <li>Participants: Adolescents aged 15 to 19 belonging to 374 organizations from 12 countries in Latin America and the</li> </ul>	Authors do not specify activities or duration.	The results show increases and reinforcements of both individual and collective values and an increase in self-efficacy. There is also an increase in adolescents' skills in the workplace.
Sociology		<ul> <li>Caribbean. SES is not specified in the sample.</li> <li>Questionnaire (not validated) developed and based on an institutional perspective of community service programs, the Adolescent Positive Development theory, previous research and the experience of the research group.</li> <li>Measurement: transverse.</li> </ul>		Competence Confidence Character

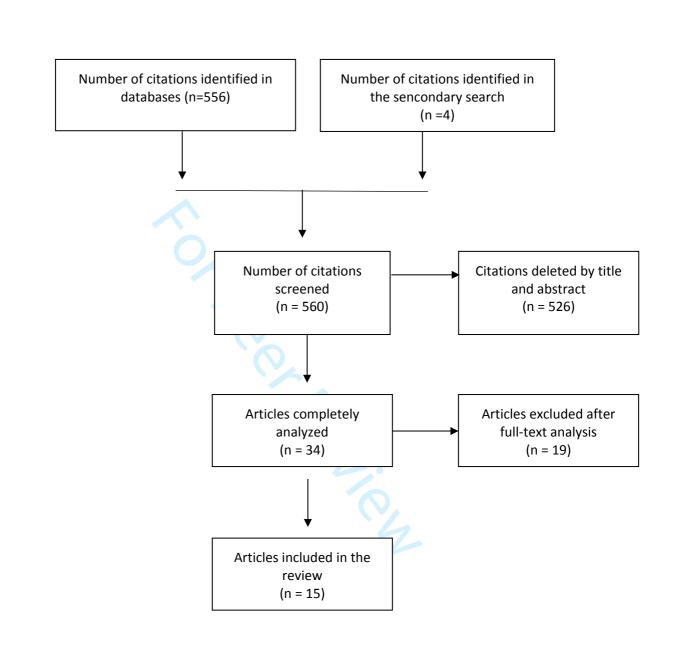


Identification

Screening

Eligibility

Figure 1. Flowchart of the search and selection of studies according to the PRISMA standard.



# **VOLUNTEERISM AS ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROMOTION ASSET: A SCOPING REVIEW.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Adolescence is a time of transition with rapid physiologic, emotional, and cognitive changes. During this stage, adolescents are in the process of reshaping their identities while forming relationships with friends, family, and the community (Srof & Velsor-Friedrich, 2006). This period is a critical window of development characterized by shifts at multiple levels, from biology to social role transitions, during which opportunities for participation in meaningful activities, feeling significant to others, and forming safe and supportive relationships with adults are crucial. Furthermore, adolescence is a formative window for life-long health and civic trajectories (Ballard & Syme, 2016).

Adolescents conceive of their health in terms of "having fun" and "being happy" (Perez-Wilson, Hernán, Morgan, & Mena, 2015) and relate it to well-being, happiness, quality of life, and positive self-perception (Portero López et al., 2002). This conception might be related to the fact that they usually enjoy a high level of health, have low perceptions of risk, and understand disease as a short and transient situation that is easily resolved (Portero López et al., 2002). Attention to this population group has traditionally been viewed through a preventative lens, prioritizing activities to avoid inadequate nutrition, risky sexual relations and behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries, violence, or substance abuse (Duncan et al., 2007). Adolescents report a social tendency that regards them as conflictive and with a negative bias (Spencer, 2014). This deficit perspective has influenced policies, research, and practice (Matos et al., 2018). In many contexts worldwide, primary care (PC) services in charge of adolescent health have focused on treating and/or preventing diseases (Ozer, 2007; Taliaferro & Borowsky, 2012). This view of adolescence neglects their role relations, expectations, and abilities. In response to this, it has recently been suggested that research and assistance provided to this population group should move from a risk perspective to an understanding of factors that promote well-being (Sieving et al., 2017).

Aaron Antonovsky contributed to this positive vision of health and its promotion through the salutogenic theory (Eriksson & Lindström, 2008). Reconceptualizing health promotion (HP) from this approach implies the redirection of activities toward those that generate health (Hernán et al., 2013) to focus on positive development and the assets that they possess (Oliva et al., 2011) as well as to emphasize the importance of the community environment in which they interact. Salutogenesis is related with well-being. This can be achieved as a result of accomplishing the goal that all young people move into adulthood equipped with skills and competences to enjoy a productive, healthy and happy life; and these skills cumulate as a result of positive development in the early years (García-Moya and Morgan 2017). Likewise, is closely related to Lerner's Positive Youth Development (PYD) model, that also aims to foster the abilities and skills of adolescents to promote positive outcomes and their well-being, considering them as individuals with enormous potential to develop (Lerner et al., 2005). The PYD recognizes the importance of establishing a community context rich in assets and finding formulas that allow

an optimal fit between the adolescent and his or her context through public policies (Oliva et al., 2011).

Salutogenesis and PYD model focus on the development and well-being of adolescents in relation to their context, their community, emphasizing the importance of being involved in community-based activities. If there is an activity that stands out as being community-based, it is community volunteering. Youth volunteering can be defined as an activity with a positive social benefit performed by adolescents who volunteer for no monetary rewards (Haski-Leventhal et al., 2008). Some youth are encouraged or obliged to volunteer by their schools or as part of their school's curriculum. Although this route is considered as a way of instilling the lifelong habits of volunteering, these might not be considered as volunteers in the narrow sense that includes only volunteers who act of their own free will, entailing an altruistic nature (Haski-Leventhal et al., 2016).

Although volunteering might promote adolescent development in a broad way (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), this action has been fundamentally promoted among adolescents as a method to correct behavioral problems (Zoerink et al., 1997) and prevent them (Allen et al. 1997; O'Donnell et al., 1999; Gebbia et al., 2012; Williams & Talbott, 2016). However, volunteerism might also represent a means to train adolescents by promoting their connection with their own community through positive behaviours. Evidence coming from studies conducted with adults discovered numerous benefits both to communities and volunteers themselves (Snyder, Omoto & Dwyer, 2016). Participation in volunteering activities is significantly predictive of better mental and physical health (Piliavin & Siegl, 2007), life satisfaction self-esteem (Thoits & Hewitt, 2001), and happiness (Borgonovy, 2008), as well as reducing negative outcomes (Thoits & Hewitt, 2001; Kim & Pai, 2007), including mortality (Konrath et al., 2012). Furthermore, this health benefits are not due to self-selection bias (Piliavin & Siegl, 2007). As such, it has been pointed out that volunteering should be promoted as a kind of healthy lifestyle (Yeung, Zhang, & Yeun Kim, 2018). Given that the prosocial and meaning-making nature has been proposed as pathway for the positive health effects, it could be hypothesized that this would potentially be applicable to adolescents also. This study explored the existing evidence regarding the participation of adolescents in volunteer activities and the potential benefits that these activities have for their healthy development from a salutogenic perspective.

### **METHODS**

A scoping review was performed to map the existing literature regarding volume, nature, and characteristics (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005). This type of review is particularly interesting when the topic has not been exhaustively studied or represents a certain level of complexity (Mays et al., 2001). They resemble systematic reviews in that they employ rigorous and transparent data collection, analysis, and interpretation methods. However, they differ in that quality evaluation is not typically part of *scoping reviews* (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005) because they focus on the results themselves rather than on the means used to produce them (Arksey & O'Malley, 2005; Lambert, 2006). The five steps proposed by Arksey and O'Malley (2005) were followed: identification of the research question; identification of relevant studies; selection of studies according to pre-established criteria; extraction of information; and charting the data.

Identification of research question

Adolescent health has been an area frequently addressed in the literature. Most of these works have been developed from a preventivist perspective. Likewise, volunteerism has been conceived as an activity of interest under the condition of behavioral problems. The research question identified for this review was: What is known from the existing literature about the the relationship between adolescent health and volunteering from a salutogenic perspective?

### Identification of relevant studies

In order to develop the search strategy, between November and December 2015, a period of immersion in the literature was conducted to identify and clarify key concepts and detect two fundamental aspects for the design of the strategy. On the one hand, research on volunteering and adolescents began to emerge in the 1960s (Yates, 1995); on the other, that literature, especially the most recent reports, all too often allude to another activity called Service Learning (SL). This term has been used as a synonym of volunteerism on many occasions since the 1990s.

The main search terms used were "adolescence" and "volunteering", along with their corresponding MeSH. The detailed search strategy is available from the authors on request.

Searches were performed between January and February 2016 using the Cochrane Library Home, PsycInfo, Cinhal, and PubMed databases, including only publications in Spanish, English, French, and Portuguese. Given the high number of resulting documents, the searches were limited to articles containing the keywords in the title. Likewise, the reference sections of the selected articles were reviewed to identify additional articles.

### Selection of studies according to the established criteria

The articles were selected according to the criteria established using the salutogenic conceptualization of adolescence; They included volunteering activities carried out in community contexts that reflected effects on the development of adolescents; SL was excluded because this concept includes volunteer activities as an obligation for youth to graduate. Several authors have considered this obligation as a violation of the spirit of volunteerism (Janoski, et al., 1998). Gender differences were also excluded because the search results were primarily related to unwanted pregnancies among adolescent girls and substance abuse among adolescent boys. Given the type of review performed, no methodological quality criteria were established.

Figure 1 shows the article selection flowchart. Ultimately, 15 articles were selected. The searches were re-executed in October 2018 without changes in the article selection.

[Insert-Figure 1. Flowchart of the search and selection of studies according to the PRISMA standard-here]

### Charting the data

A table was created with the categories of interest to employ a homogeneous procedure for data extraction (see Table 2).

[Insert-table 2. Items included for the review-here]

### **RESULTS**

The results are presented in two sections attending to: (1) scope of the research performed in this field; and (2) results affecting the positive development of adolescents reported regarding volunteering?

Volume, nature, and characteristics of research

Almost all of the studies were conducted in the United States, except for one that was conducted in Canada and another that was conducted in New Zealand (see Table 2). More than half were published between 1990 and 2000. These works were primarily developed by psychologists and sociologists.

The volunteer activities described varied greatly. The volunteers performed coaching activities with other adolescents, worked with their peers, participated in community improvement services and childcare, assisted other teens who required emotional relief, helped with religious classes, and worked with socially excluded people. They also spent hours playing and reading with hospitalized children. They conducted activities in defense of the environment, and human rights, and administrative work. All activities were performed under adult supervision.

More than half of the studies consisted of primary research with quantitative methodologies. Six were exploratory studies with pre-post designs, and three used cross-sectional designs. Participants varied in age, from 12 to 24 years old. Scales were used to measure concepts such as self-perception as well as social and personal responsibility. One study also conducted interviews with participants. The remainder included four literature reviews and a report.

Impact on positive youth development

While not all articles reviewed mentioned them, the emerged themes were closely related to Five "Cs" of Lerner's PYD (Lerner et al., 2005): competence, confidence, connection, character, and caring (see table 1). The results were classified based on them. in the attempt to keep coherence with the theoretical framework of this work.

[insert-table 1. Definitions of the Five Cs of positive youth development according to Lerner-here]

### Competence

Volunteerism increases the academic competence of adolescents (Moore & Allen, 1996; Schondel & Boehm, 2000) and their sense of responsibility, which is reflected in the school environment (Kuperminc et al., 2001); furthermore, it promotes the development of skills necessary for their professional futures (McBride et al., 2011). Likewise, the assumption of responsibilities offers an opportunity to work on the key competency of leadership (Kuperminc et al., 2001). They also developed the skills necessary for their professional future (McBride et al., 2011) such as their communicative skills (Schine, 1989) and other personal competences (McBride et al., 2011; Moore & Allen, 1996; Yates & Youniss, 1996), including the ability to resolve their own problems as well as external conflicts (Fine et al., 1976; Metz et al., 2003; Schine, 1989); these skills are of great utility for both their personal lives and their professional development. The variability in these activities offers adolescents the possibility to explore, at a young age, different options to develop themselves professionally in the future.

### Confidence

Adolescents perceive themselves as important and necessary people (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988). This positive perception is amplified when they achieve the established objectives for the development of an activity, and other people benefit (Yates & Youniss, 1996). When collaborating within their community, they feel that they are protagonists and assume roles of greater importance than they are accustomed to in their daily lives (Schine, 1989; Yates, 1995). These collaborations make them aware that they can make important decisions that are heard and considered by adults (Schine, 1989), which promotes their self-perception as active agents (Metz et al., 2003). Thus, they understand that they can make a difference (Yates & Youniss, 1996), which increases their self-esteem (Johnson et al., 1998; Kuperminc et al., 2001; Moore & Allen, 1996) and self-confidence (McBride et al., 2011; Yates & Youniss, 1996). Volunteering fosters the development of adolescents' identities and autonomy (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988; Youniss et al., 2001) as well as their senses of personal agency (Yates, 1995), self-knowledge (Fine et al., 1976), self-understanding, and self-acceptance (Yates & Youniss, 1996). These activities allow them to view themselves as more effective individuals (McBride et al., 2011; Moore & Allen, 1996).

### Connection

Volunteerism promotes relationships between adolescents and adults (Moore & Allen, 1996; Schine, 1989) within various associations, thereby promoting adolescents' active participation in "the world of adults" (Schine, 1989) and fostering an intergenerational harmony (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) that can even lead to strong ties (Metz et al., 2003). Furthermore, adolescents working with individuals of the same age group increase their knowledge of teamwork and their awareness of and ability to benefit from the positive aspects of the sharing of responsibilities (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986). On many occasions, adolescents express perceptions of a sense of camaraderie (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) that allows them to expand their circle of friends and fosters their sense of belonging to the community (Harré, 2007; Kuperminc et al., 2001; McGuire & Gamble, 2006; Yates, 1995).

### Character

Volunteering during adolescence is a way to develop pro-social attitudes, assume responsible behaviors toward society, and respect social and community norms (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988; Harré, 2007; Johnson et al., 1998; Kuperminc et al., 2001; McGuire & Gamble, 2006); also, it promotes the development of a moral identity (Calabrese & Schumer, 1986) and civic skills (Metz et al., 2003). It also encourages them to rethink their values (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), with both individuals and collectives being reinforced when working in groups (McBride et al., 2011). Volunteering helps adolescents to situate themselves in a normative society (Youniss et al., 2001) and, in a different way, discover and learn to appreciate the world in which they live (Schondel & Boehm, 2000). Several studies have identified a direct relationship between the participation of adolescents in volunteer programs and an increase in political participation (Metz et al., 2003; Yates, 1995; Youniss et al., 2001).

### Caring

The predominance of the volunteer activities aimed at disadvantaged individuals, groups, and families encourages volunteer adolescents to assume roles that primarily help other people (Kuperminc et al., 2001), exposing them to various altruistic settings (Johnson et al., 1998). This work makes them aware of the social inequality that can occur within the same community

environment and allows them to experience new and diverse social groups, both directly and in depth. In addition, it allows adolescents to begin to question and reject negative stereotypes associated with stigmatized groups (McGuire & Gamble, 2006) identifying the common principles and aspects that connect different social groups as well as discovering positive traits of new acquaintances (Harré, 2007). As a result, adolescents develop positive relationships with various groups based not on prejudices but on a developed sense of solidarity and tolerance among adolescents (Harré, 2007; Yates & Youniss, 1996).

### **DISCUSSION**

The present review explored the existing evidence regarding the participation of adolescents in volunteer activities and the potential benefits that this activity might produce with regard to their healthy development from a salutogenic perspective.

Concerning the volume, nature, and characteristics of the available literature, most of the evidence has come from the USA, which should be emphasized. It is also striking the timeframe in which the evidence found is located, half of the included papers predating the year 2000, and the most recent one having been published in 2011. This work also revealed that adolescence is operationalized as a wide age range. The studies reviewed included individuals aged 12 to 24 years. This range is in accordance with Higuita and Cardona (2015) who claimed that a lack of consensus exists in the literature regarding the age range of adolescents. More recently, Sawyer et al., (2018) determined that adolescence includes those aged between 10 and 24 years.

Regarding the effect of volunteering on positive youth development, the results suggest that volunteering is conducive to the positive development of adolescent health. Moreover, increased positive development of adolescents reduces the rates of risky behaviors (Hamilton & Fenzel, 1988), which corroborates the previous literature.

These findings support the proposal by Moore and Allen (Moore & Allen, 1996), who extolled volunteerism as one of the most energetic approaches to promoting adolescent health. Although these authors made their proposal in the American context in which volunteering is more integrated as an active part of community health, it might also represent an opportunity in other HP contexts. When adolescents internalize and act on the belief that they must foster their own development by contributing to the context in which they live, they not only achieve positive individual development or enhance their health but also reflect and promote advances in the development and health of their social environment (Lerner et al., 2005).

The concept of volunteering as an asset for HP during adolescence evokes the need to adopt and favor this view with regard to key areas of study associated with this stage such as education and health. Teams that work in community health, especially those in PC, should recognize and value existing volunteer groups as an asset to promote the healthy development of adolescents. Although 30 years have passed since the Ottawa charter, a reorientation of the health services toward a more positive concept of health and a community approach remains necessary (Cabeza et al., 2016; López-Dicastillo et al., 2017). In addition, and especially at this stage, friendlier health services should be encouraged that include comprehensive services from within educational institutions to community actions (Goicolea et al., 2015). The alignment of health

services and professionals with the concept of health and the values of adolescents through the adoption of the salutogenic approach might increase the attractiveness of this topic to this population and offer more appropriate attention to their perceived needs.

Volunteer groups within the community represent a current resource for the health sector. Authors such as Stephen (2017) have proposed and advocated for the prescription or recommendation of volunteering in the community for reasons similar to those discussed in this review. Reshaping adolescent identity, forming new relationships, developing personal responsibility, and promoting connectedness with their school, family, or community are actions that cannot be carried out by health professionals at PC centers in isolation. Strategies focused on surrounding youth with protective factors or resources in their social and environmental ecologies might achieve greater outcome improvements than efforts focused on minimizing risk (Taliaferro & Borowsky, 2012). All of these findings indicate the need to create bridges of collaboration between health services and community assets such as volunteer groups, thereby reinforcing the coordination between PC and local and citizen groups.

In conclusion, the revised evidence suggests that volunteering represents a possible opportunity to increase adolescent health from a salutogenic perspective. This recognition would imply new responsibilities for the agents and sectors involved in HP, especially those in the health sector, which should consider the potential that might derive based on collaborative community work regarding this asset. It is important to bear in mind that these potential positive outcomes are based on studies conducted in contexts that might not be completely representative of the current society, and therefore, there is a need to conduct research to confirm that they hold true today. The findings of this review call for bringing back the topic of volunteering in adolescence to further continue its development.

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Competence  Positive view of one's actions in domain specific areas. inc academic, cognitive, and vocational. Social competence interpersonal skills. Cognitive competence pertains to cogn	pertains to
School grades, attendance, and test scores are part of academic Vocational competence involves work habits and career choice including entrepreneurship.	competence. explorations,
Confidence  An internal sense of overall positive self-worth and self-efficac global self-regard, as opposed to domain specific beliefs	y; one's
<b>Connection</b> Positive bonds with people and institutions that are reflected i bidirectional exchanges between the individual and peers, fam and community in which both parties contribute to the relation	ily, school,
Character  Respect for societal and cultural rules, possession of standards behaviors, a sense of right and wrong (morality), and integrity.	
Caring A sense of sympathy and empathy for others.	

Table 2. Items included for review					
Author, country and discipline	Title	Methodology	Volunteer activity	Main Results/indentified "C"s	
Fine, S., Knight-Webb, G., & Breau, K. (1976) Canada	Volunteer Adolescents in Adolescent Group Therapy	Quantitative, exploratory.     Aim: To examine the effects of using adolescent volunteers in patients attending a therapy group and in the adolescents themselves.     Participants: 8 adolescents between 14 and 18 years old.	They helped young people in situations of risk. Adolescents perform coaching roles with youth. There are 10 sessions not specified in time.	Volunteers gain new knowledge and new skills. They increase their self-knowledge and ability to solve their own problems.	
Psychiatry		No other data available regarding SES.  Scales used: Piers Harris (PH) self-concept scale, Devereaux Adolescent Behavior Scale (DAB).  Measurement: Two weeks before project start and 4 weeks after completion.		Competence Confidence	
Calabrese, R. L., & Schumer, H. (1986)  United States  Education	The Effects of Service Activities on Adolescent Alienation	<ul> <li>Quantitative, exploratory.</li> <li>Aim: To evaluate the effects of involvement in volunteer activities in the levels of alienation of adolescents</li> <li>Participants: 50 adolescents between 14 and 15 years old. No other data available regarding SES.</li> <li>Scale used: Dean Alienation Scale.</li> <li>Measurement: Before starting the activity, 10 weeks after and 20 weeks after the first measurement.</li> </ul>	They take part in a pilot volunteer activity that will be implemented in other communities. The activity is led by the adolescents themselves with occasional support from the adults. It is compared to a control group in which there is no leadership on the part of the adolescents.  10-week duration.	Through volunteering, the levels of alienation are reduced, and behavior and school performance are improved. There is also a greater acceptance of adolescents by adults in the community.  Connection Character	
Hamilton, S. F., & Fenzel, L. M. (1988)  United States	The Impact of Volunteer Experience on Adolescent Social Development: Evidence of Program Effects	Quantitative, descriptive.     Aim: To measure levels of social and personal responsibility in adolescents who participate in volunteer activities.     Participants: 44 adolescents between 12 and 17 years old. No other data available regarding SES.     Scale used: The Social and Personal Responsibility Scale Interviews: The adolescent's perception of the activity, whether he or she liked it, whether it was a challenge, whether he or she had the opportunity to make decisions and whether they felt useful in the project.     Measurement: At the beginning of the activity, with a second measurement at the end.	They perform various activities:  - Community improvement services: construction and maintenance of the buildings of the organization itself, drawing lots through which they obtained benefits that were donated to people in need on Thanksgiving-day, decoration of churches for the celebration of Christmas, realization of Christmas centers for senior citizens. Help in library work and help in animal sheltersCare of children: provision of help with homework, crafts and supervision. Does not specify duration of activity	It shows the achievement of positive results. Volunteers express a greater awareness of themselves and the community in which they live. They have also acquired new skills in the management of groups of children. They achieve more responsible attitudes and feel important and needed.  Confidence Character	
Sociology					

Schine, J. (1989) United States	Young Adolescents and Community Service	Paper presented as part of the annual report of the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development, which informs stakeholders of activities underway in the Council.	NA	It exposes results such as an increase in adolescents' own competence, increased interconnection with other people, moral development and an increase in self-confidence.
Sociology				Competence Confidence Connection
Vates, M. (1995) United States Psychology	Community Service in Adolescence: Implications for Moral Political Awareness	Literature review     Objective: To identify the relationship between the development of the identity of adolescents and participation in volunteer activities.     44 studies performed between 1952 and 1994.     Participants: Young people between 12 and 24 years old. No other data available regarding SES.	NA NA	Volunteering promotes the understanding of oneself with historical and social reality. It helps adolescents to be aware that they can participate actively in history rather than just living it passively and that they can also be key players in improving social conditions. There is also an increase in political participation.  Confidence Connection Character
Moore, C. W., & Allen, J. P. (1996) United States	The Effects of Volunteering on the Young Volunteer	Literature review     Objective: To explore what volunteer programs during adolescence have been studied to date, whether these programs have positive effects on adolescents and why these effects occur.     Review of large volunteer programs that have been performed in the USA ("Teen Outreach Program" and		There are improvements in the academic and social environment and decreases in school absences, expulsions from the school environment and unwanted pregnancies. There is an increase in moral development, an improvement in relationships with
Psychology		"Valued Youth Program"), and the effects or results that have been measured from them.  • Participants: Adolescents from 11 to 21 years old. No other data available regarding SES.		adults, greater awareness of the problems of the community to which they belong and greater self-acceptance.  Competence Confidence Connection
Yates, M., & Youniss, J. (1996)	A Developmental Perspective on Community Service in Adolescence	<ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>44 studies conducted between 1952 and 1994.</li> <li>Objective: To explore the developmental benefits for adolescents engaging in volunteer activities.</li> <li>Participants: Young people between 12 and 24 years old.</li> </ul>	NA	Through volunteering, adolescents are offered the opportunity to live experiences that have a great impact on the volunteer. High levels of prosociability, personal competence, self-esteem and tolerance towards

United States Psychology		It is acknowledged that only 17 out of 44 studies provided information on SES and race/ethnicity. No more details provided.		others, along with an increased concern for their community environment and even increased self-understanding of adolescents are observed.  compentece Confidence Caring
Johnson, M. K., Beebe, T., Mortimer, J. T., & Snyder, M. (1998)  United States	Volunteerism in Adolescence: A Process Perspective	Quantitative, descriptive.     Objective: To identify which profiles of adolescents are more likely to take part in volunteer activities and the effects of volunteering at this stage.     Participants: 1000 adolescents between 14 and 15 years old. The sample of the first four phases of the "Youth Development Study" (prospective cohort study) is obtained. Socieconomic variables (race, family composition, household income, education and occupation level) not significant predictors of participation in study. No data available on the actual sample in this regard.     Questionnaire with different scales used: Self-esteem, intrinsic motivation toward school work, Positive self-esteem, Self-derogation, Depressive affect, Well-being, Intrinsic work values, Extrinsic work values	It does not specify activity or duration.	There is greater planning in the academic field and a reduction in hasty decision making related to the university project. Greater and better aspirations are also observed. An increase in academic qualifications is described, along with increases in self-esteem and motivation related to the school environment.  There is also an increase in results related to future job performance.  They become more actively involved in the community.  Confidence Character Caring
Psychology  Schondel, C. K., &	Motivational Needs of	Overativative descriptive		The <b>development</b> of adolescents
Boehm, K. E. (2000)  United States  Sociology and anthropology	Adolescent Volunteers	<ul> <li>Quantitative, descriptive.</li> <li>Objective: To identify the motivational needs of adolescents</li> <li>Participants: 255 adolescents with a mean age of 17 years. Recruited from 5 sites, one being a Catholic high school. Sample reported to be mid to upper SES and no differences between the sites (based on father's education as marker).</li> <li>Scale used: The Volunteer needs profile (VNP)</li> <li>Measurement: No monitoring, cross-sectional measurement.</li> </ul>	-Adolescents taking phone calls from young people who want to talk about their concerns.  - Volunteers known as Candy Stripers. They are hospital volunteers who play with hospitalized children and read to patients.  - Volunteers who perform different work in classes on religion.  Activity duration is not specified.	becomes more dynamic. There is an increase in the desire to help other people. A greater sense of belonging to the community is described, which is reflected in increases in recognition, admiration and gratitude towards others. No differences between groups in that teens respond to external encouragement to volunteer.  Competence Character

Youniss, J., McLellan, J. A., & Mazer, B. (2001) United States		Quantitative, explanatory.     Objective: To identify the existing associations between the civic commitment of the adolescents, their participation in volunteer activities and the movement of the groups.     Participants: 389 adolescents between the ages of 16 and 18 who are part of a larger longitudinal study, drawn from two Catholic high schools. Students came from relatively well-educated families, and of European/American origin mainly.     Questionnaire (not validated) that measures the civic commitment and the social orientation of the groups.     Measurement: At the beginning and end of the school year.	They perform work activities with people in need. They volunteer in activities in favor of the environment, human rights and political activities. Childcare, coaching functions and administrative work are examples of volunteer works cited.  Duration of the activity: one school year.	The experience increases the intention of volunteering in the future and activism and political participation. It is observed that volunteering is a tool to place adolescents in a normative society. It increases their ability to resolve conflicts and develop identity. There is a decrease in risky behaviors and an increase in the sense of belonging.  Confidence Character
Kuperminc, G. P., Holditch, P. T., & Allen, J. P. (2001) United States Psychology	Volunteering and Community Service in Adolescence	<ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>Objective: To identify the benefits of volunteering in the adolescent stage.</li> <li>Participants: Teenage stage, age and other SES data not specified.</li> </ul>	NA NA	There is a decrease in risk behaviors, a greater sense of belonging in the community and a greater concern for the well-being of others. Some evidence that youth from middle and upper socioeconomic levels more likely to perform volunteer service.  Competence Confidence Connection Character Caring
Metz, E., McLellan, J., & Youniss, J. (2003)  United States  Psychology	Types of Voluntary Service and Adolescents' Civic Development	<ul> <li>Exploratory quantitative</li> <li>Objective: To explore whether volunteering and what types of volunteer activities have positive effects on adolescence.</li> <li>Participants: 428 adolescents between 14 and 18 years old from a suburban middle-class public high school.</li> <li>Questionnaire (not validated) that collects information on the frequency with which adolescents are concerned about social problems and how often they feel they are active citizens capable of remedying community problems.</li> <li>Measurement: The questionnaire is administered at the beginning and end of the school year.</li> </ul>	-Volunteers who provide help to people in need or with priority social problems, such as poverty Young people who help other studentsVolunteers who work in the civil service for various organizations.  9-month duration.	Volunteer activities are related to an increase in concern about social issues and an increase in the connection of adolescents with their environment.  They view themselves as active agents, and there is greater civic development among adolescents.  Competence Confidence Connection Character

McGuire, J. K., & Gamble, W. C. (2006)  United States  Sociology	Community Service for Youth: The Value of Psychological Engagement Over the Number of Hours Spent	<ul> <li>Correlational quantitative</li> <li>Objective: To know if the commitment to volunteer activities is proportional to the number of hours invested and if that relationship is predictive of changes in the level of community membership and social responsibility.</li> <li>Participants: 68 adolescents between 14 and 18 years. No other data available regarding SES.</li> <li>Questionnaire with 198 items that relate the time invested, with the commitment acquired, the sense of belonging to the community and social responsibility.</li> <li>Measurement: Before and after the activity.</li> </ul>	Teen volunteers give classes on sex education to other adolescents between the ages of 13 and 14.  The activity lasts 10 hours, with 8 hours of previous training.	Increases social responsibility and a sense of belonging to the community.  Connection Character Caring
Harré, N. (2007)  New Zealand  Psychology	Community Service or Activism as an Identity Project for Youth.	Literature review  Objective: To explore existing knowledge regarding activism or volunteering and to determine if they have an impact on identity formation.  Participants: Age and other SES data not specified	NA	Volunteering during adolescence is related to an increased sense of belonging to the community and is a stimulus for young people in increasing their effectiveness and moral integrity.  Connection Character Caring
McBride, A. M., Johnson, E., Olate, R., & O'Hara, K. (2011)  United States  Sociology		Descriptive quantitative Objective: To determine the state of volunteering in Latin America and the Caribbean and to identify whether it is related to the positive development of adolescents. Participants: Adolescents aged 15 to 19 belonging to 374 organizations from 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. SES is not specified in the sample. Questionnaire (not validated) developed and based on an institutional perspective of community service programs, the Adolescent Positive Development theory, previous research and the experience of the research group.  Measurement: transverse.	Authors do not specify activities or duration.	The results show increases and reinforcements of both individual and collective values and an increase in self-efficacy. There is also an increase in adolescents' skills in the workplace.  Competence Confidence Character



Identification

Screening

Eligibility

Figure 1. Flowchart of the search and selection of studies according to the PRISMA standard.

