

VOLUNTEERS AND PRACTICUM STUDENTS

Communitas welcomes the participation of volunteers within our organization. Volunteers enrich the services we provide by offering a variety of gifts and are viewed as an integral part of our team. Your life will also be enriched as you develop meaningful relationships and give to those we support. Communitas encourages all those interested in volunteering their time to apply for a placement.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

Volunteers will provide assistance to Residential Support Workers in community group home settings enhancing the life quality of the residents. Volunteers help provide those we support with companionship and opportunities to lead a fuller life by encouraging participation in community activities. Specific duties may include:

- Assisting residents with eating
- Grooming (hair and nails)
- Reading/singing/games
- Accompanying residents and staff on outings
- In-home activities
- Practical duties in accordance with skill level/ school program (Practicum Students only)

WHERE WILL I BE WORKING?

Volunteers serve in varying Group Homes located in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Aldergrove and Langley. Volunteers are also needed to assist participants at our Brain-Injury Drop-In program for people who have an acquired Brain Injury. Drop-In centres are located in Abbotsford and Chilliwack. Applicant preferences will be taken into consideration during the application process but preferences cannot always be accommodated.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

The coming and going of many different people is difficult for those we support. Therefore we ask that all volunteers and practicum students commit to a minimum of 80 volunteer hours. Scheduling will be flexible to accommodate students and long-term volunteers, as possible within the framework of the residents' lives. Typically volunteers work one or two 2-hour shifts per week.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO VOLUNTEER WITH COMMUNITAS?

Volunteers must be at least 19 years of age. Prior to beginning service with Communitas, volunteers are required to submit to the HR Department:

1. Volunteer Application Form (link to PDF)
2. References
 - 2 past or present employers
 - 2 personal references
3. Criminal Record Search*
4. TB Test Results*

Volunteers/Practicum Students must also possess:

- A philosophy of care that is in line with Communitas philosophy of service and of support for people with disabilities
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to maintain honest, direct and respectful relationships
- Ability to receive direction and work as part of a team
- Good written and verbal communication skills

* All interviewed candidates are expected to submit their Criminal Record Search and TB Test results no later than 1 week following the interview. Volunteers will be reimbursed for the cost of their Criminal Record Search and TB Testing upon placement. Please keep your receipts and submit them to the HR Department. Practicum Students will not be reimbursed for these costs.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete (in its entirety) the Communitas Volunteer Application Form (link to PDF), and return it to:

Alisa Young, HR Assistant

103 – 2776 Bourquin Cres. West

Abbotsford, BC V2S 6A4

Email: volunteer@CommunitasCare.com

Fax: 604-850-2634

Applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Practicum Students: Please note that placements can take several weeks to process. To ensure school deadlines are met, please submit all requirements at least 3 weeks prior to your practicum commencement date.