

Circle of Friends Volunteer Position Description

Volunteer Position: Circle of Friends Volunteer

Program/Department: Circle of Friends Program

Purpose of Assignment: This is a program of Mennonite Central Committee Ontario in which an MCCO staff person facilitates a group of volunteers as they together form a "circle of friends" around an individual or family transitioning from homelessness and shelter living back into the community.

Geographic Location: Waterloo Region

Skills/Knowledge/Attitude Requirements:

- must be an individual over the age of 18
- patience, open-mindedness and friendliness are assets
- application including references required
- police check for vulnerable sector verification required

Tasks and Responsibilities:

 work with a small group of volunteers (Circle of Friends) to support a woman, man or family as they transition out of homelessness. Circles meet as a group once a week. Circle meetings might include going out for coffee, creating a budget, accessing a food bank, attending a fitness class, etc.

Time Commitment:

- expected number of hours: approximately 2 hours per week
- length of commitment required: a one year commitment is requested

Supervision: Circle of Friends Program Manager and Associates

Training and Development Offered:

- mandatory position specific orientation will be provided
- additional training for volunteers is offered on an ongoing basis
- policy and procedure manual available at all times

Other:

• volunteer liability coverage for all volunteers

All MCC volunteers are expected to be respectful of the MCC mission statement: "Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), a worldwide ministry of Anabaptist churches, shares God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. MCC envisions communities worldwide in right relationship with God, one another and creation."

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"The Circle of Friends has let me share my joys, worries and fears, and to have them offer their support and guidance. We all have some bumps in the road and it is comforting to know that we are not in the battle alone."

Program Participant