

# Circle of Friends

## Program Support Mentor Volunteer Description



**This is a new pilot program of the Mennonite Central Committee BC, modeled after MCC Ontario's program, in which our MCC BC staff person facilitates groups of 2-3 volunteers, forming a "Circle of Friends" around an individual transitioning from homelessness or shelter living back into the community.**

### Skills/Knowledge/Attitude Requirements:

- Must be an individual over the age of 18
- Experience in social service work and/or knowledge of social service networks in Abbotsford
- Patience, open-mindedness and friendliness are assets
- Completed application including references
- Criminal record check with vulnerable sector verification

### Purpose of Assignment:

In addition to the mentors who will volunteer with a Circle of Friends with a participant, we are seeking a volunteer who could assist/mentor the Circle of Friends' staff role.

### Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Support the Circle of Friends Program Associate throughout the initial stages of the pilot project. This volunteer would participate in regular brainstorming and evaluation meetings with the Circle of Friends Program Associate.
- Support the Circle of Friends Program Associate in connecting to local networks, gathering participant referrals and redirecting participants to other helpful social services in Abbotsford.
- Assist with the logistical planning and organization of the monthly gathering events held for all Circle participants and volunteers.
- This position is flexible to the unique strengths and interests of the volunteer.

**Time Commitment:** Approximately 3 hours per week for the period of one year.

**Supervision:** Circle of Friends Program Associate

### 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."

### Contact:

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