

Building Bonds in the Community Volunteer

The Agency

The Calgary John Howard Society (CJHS) is a charity that reduces crime and makes Calgary communities safer by helping youth and adults make positive changes and move away from criminal behaviour. We do this by addressing the root causes of crime through housing, education, employment programs and support so that individuals have alternatives to breaking the law. CJHS is committed to restorative justice and an organizational environment that recognizes the dignity and worth of each person. CJHS values diversity and inclusion and welcomes qualified applicants from all walks of life.

The Program

Building Bonds in the Community works with adult men, while incarcerated and in the community. The program provides professional and non-judgemental relationships, pro-social involvement, social skills development and cultivating meaning and purpose in the lives of the participants. The program seeks to create meaningful connections and bonds between volunteers and participants.

The Position

The Building Bonds in the Community volunteer will be connected directly to an individual in the community, offering regular support and guiding them into making healthy social connections. The support offered depends on the needs of the client. It is oriented around pro-social behavior and can consist of going to the grocery store together, doing leisure activities, practical and emotional support.

The volunteer will be supported by the coordinator and time will be committed to the volunteer's personal development including supervision, support, appraisal and training plans.

Building Bonds in the community has weekly social gatherings where the volunteer will be welcome to and can offer additional support to the community members in cultivating healthy relationships. Volunteers are welcome to be involved in the development of the program and social activities.

Qualifications/Expectations

The candidate is expected to:

- Have a non-judgemental attitude in working with offenders and ex-offenders.
- Have strong personal boundaries and self-care.
- Work trauma informed with participants in sometimes difficult situations.
- Have a strong belief in the community role in restorative justice.

As a condition of placement at CJHS, we require the successful candidate to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Where the candidate has not obtained the vaccine, the candidate will be considered on an exceptional, and case by case basis; CJHS will adhere with its obligations under the Alberta Human Rights Act.

Time Commitment

The time commitment is to be agreed upon by the volunteer and the participant. The program recommends having weekly contact with each other. We organize monthly volunteer meetings on which the volunteer is expected to be present and weekly social gatherings with the group.

A minimal commitment of 1 year is required.

Training

Orientation and initial training will be provided in addition to ongoing training. All volunteers are provided an opportunity to join in an agency tour to learn about the various programs and services the agency offers. They will also be invited to participate in agency events and relevant meetings where additional training opportunities may be provided.

Applications will be accepted until we find a suitable candidate.

Please submit your cover letter and resume to:

Lauren Collier, Building Bonds in the Community Coordinator at
lauren.collier@cjhs.ca

Please cite: 'Application Building Bonds in the Community' in the subject line

The Calgary John Howard Society thanks all applicants; however, only those considered for an interview will be contacted.