

Building Bonds in the Community Volunteer

Part Time, Volunteer

(Works ONSITE at our Calgary, AB program location, and in the community)

The Agency

The Calgary John Howard Society (CJHS) is a community-based charitable organization dedicated to reducing the incidence of crime and increasing community safety through preventative and restorative justice practices. To accomplish these ends, we provide direct services to individuals at risk, advocacy for effective responses to crime with the individuals involved and education for youth and adults in the community. The Calgary John Howard Society is committed to 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.

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.

Position Summary

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.

The successful candidate will be required to provide:

- **A Police Information Check (PIC)** (completed within the last 6 months)
- **A Vulnerable Sector Check.**
- **Proof of a valid work permit allowing you to fulfill the duties of the position, if you are not a Canadian citizen or permanent resident**
- **A satisfactory reference check.**
- **a valid Driver's License and proof of \$2million liability insurance (applicable to roles that transport clients only)**

RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary focus of this position and areas of responsibility include:

In order of priority, list the top 4 -5 areas of accountability for this role in order of what they will spend most of their time doing.

- Meet one on one with the client to build relationship and provide support

- Attend weekly and/or monthly events as a way of being involved within the group
- Update program coordinator on how the client is doing with regards to areas of improvement and/or support
- Document interactions made with the client

The scope of Volunteerism may include:

- Sitting for multiple consecutive hours.
- Supporting clients with cooking and/or cleaning.
- Engaging in outdoor and indoor activities.
- Lifting and/or moving boxes and other office items that weigh approximately 20 lbs.
- Being subject to potential difficult client situations that involve the impact of trauma and/or death of clients.

EXPERIENCE & EDUCATION

- Minimum 18 years of age.
- Trauma Informed Care and Harm Reduction knowledge an asset.

SKILLS & ABILITIES

- 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.
- Strong interpersonal and professional communication skills.
- Good personal boundaries.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision, take initiative and be self-motivated.

Applications will be accepted until a suitable candidate is found.
Please submit your cover letter and resume to Olivia.Bangisa@cjhs.ca