



Childcare Volunteer Description

Make a difference in a child's life: Become a Childcare Volunteer!

Title: Childcare Volunteer

Responsible to: Victims Advocate Coordinator and Group Therapist/Advocates

Primary Objective of Position: Offer support and respect to children of clients (all ages) during support group, group counseling, or as respite care inside the Safehouse. Provide children with safe, positive and nurturing play experiences while modeling non-violence.

Essential Functions:

- Play with, care for and talk to children of clients during support group, group counseling and/or as respite for families inside the Safehouse, offering them support and respect
- Maintain a safe environment for the children - one that includes no violent play
- Communicate with the Group Therapist/Advocates regarding on-going facility, program, and client needs or concerns
- Keep the playroom and childcare areas clean and organized
- Act as a positive role model, particularly modeling and promoting non-violence and healthy interpersonal behaviors
- Must be able to understand and follow ATV's confidentiality policy and other policies and procedures
- Responsible for making sure each guardian has signed Childcare Agreement and Permission for Snacks forms
- Abide by mandatory reporting laws
- Document any behavioral or accidental incidents

Qualifications:

- Good listening and communication skills
- Childcare experience is necessary
- Experience in childhood education and activity planning is a plus
- Basic knowledge of domestic and sexual violence is helpful
- Ability to maintain a regular schedule, including a commitment of 2-3 hours per week or as needed
- Must be at least 18 years of age or older
- Must pass a criminal background check; any crime against a person may disqualify you from consideration

Address: 313 East 4th Street Loveland, CO 80537 Phone: 970-669-5150 Fax: 970-669-5136

Email: volunteers@alternativetoviolence.org



Selection, Training and Support:

If you are interested in becoming a Childcare Volunteer, please fill out and return an Application for Volunteers – General, which is available online at www.alternativestoviolence.org. You will then meet with the Victims Advocate Coordinator for an interview to discuss your interests and the position. A background and reference check will be done. Before beginning work, volunteers will attend a brief training session with the Child-Adolescent Therapist and the Victims Advocate Coordinator to learn the policies and procedures of the agency, including mandated reporting, and to understand the special issues that the children may face as a result of living with domestic violence in their homes and how to work effectively with children who have been subject to, or witnessed abuse. Childcare volunteers are also encouraged to attend bi-annual training sessions to learn more about working with victims of violent crime. Any crime against a person may disqualify one from the process.

Time Commitment:

Childcare Volunteers are asked to make a six month commitment, or until the support group is completed. Support groups range from involving a 12-16 week curriculum to being on-going year-round. Support group times will be unique to the specific group, but groups generally run once a week for approximately an hour and a half. Childcare volunteers working in the Safehouse must commit to 2-3 hours per week.

Initial Impact:

Childcare Volunteers play and do activities, help with homework, and provide other support to children while their parent participates in group counseling or needs respite. Childcare Volunteers create a positive and safe place to play and learn.

Sustainable Outcome:

Childcare Volunteers act as healthy adult role models to children from abusive homes. Through play, attention, age-appropriate learning, and emotional support, childcare volunteers have a large positive impact on children. They are an essential part of our team!