



Trained volunteers accompany survivors to legal and/or medical appointments, meetings, and proceedings. While accompanying and advocating for a survivor, you will assist survivors in accessing and understanding the services they may require after experiencing sexual violence. In addition, volunteers can provide emotional support, information, and advocacy.

What does this entail?

The Volunteer Coordinator will connect with trained volunteers regarding a specific date and time for an accompaniment. Survivors and volunteers will travel separately to any legal and/or medical appointments and volunteers will provide in person advocacy and support.

What skills to I need?

Those with an interest in empowering survivors of sexual violence using a feminist and trauma-informed mindset will excel in this role. Individuals with an understanding of sexual violence, an interest in face-to-face support, and finally, have an interest in the legal and/or medical process would be best suited for this role.

What skills will I gain?

Volunteers will be trained on how to support survivors during a court proceeding, an accompaniment to the Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Unit at the Kingston General Hospital, and how to support survivors when they are reporting to police. Professionals from Victim and Witness Assistance Program, the SA/DV Unit, and Victim Services train volunteers on how to best support survivors.

What's the time commitment?

Volunteers are required to commit to the Centre for a minimum of 6 months. Since these opportunities are not scheduled, there is no monthly hour minimum.

What's the application process?

- 1. Submit an inquiry to the Volunteer Coordinator.
- 2. The Volunteer Coordinator will email you with dates and times for an interview.
- 3. Complete and interview and receive next steps.
- 4. Submit your Vulnerable Sector Police Clearance and Responding to Disclosures Certificate. The certificate takes approximately 2 hours to complete and can be done on your own time.
- 5. Attend a 6 hour in-person training session covering trauma responses, coping skills, local resources in the Kingston area, and how to respond to disclosures using a trauma sensitive framework.
- 6. Attend all 2 hour training sessions for the three main accompaniment types.
- 7. Start volunteering!

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