

Shift Outreach Worker

Supervisor: Shift Program Team Lead and Education and Support Worker

Level: Shift Outreach is ranked as a **Tier 3 position** (See brochures for details on Tiers)

Position Description: The volunteer will support the Education and Support Worker with outreach activities directed towards sex workers, as well as assist with preparation for groups or events led by the Shift program.

Objective: The Shift program utilizes a harm reduction and rights based approach to assist adult sex workers to improve their quality of life and reach individualized goals.

Time Commitment:

- Volunteers must be available for 2 hour periods, twice a month.
- Shifts have some flexibility, but normally occur in the afternoons and evenings, no later than 11:00pm. A schedule will be arranged between the volunteer and the volunteer supervisor(s).

Responsibilities:

- Assist in the preparation and distribution of awareness materials and condom packs.
- Educate those involved in both indoor and outdoor sex work about the transmission and prevention of all sexually transmitted infections.
- Act as a resource for sex workers by providing information on street survival and other basic needs.
- Accompany the Education and Support Worker at drop-in centres, massage parlours, escort agencies, homeless shelters, on strolls, and other locations where sex workers may access social services or support. May be asked to assist in the planning and set up of Shift evening group for exited sex workers.
- Participate in supervision meetings with the Education and Support Worker and the Coordinator of Volunteer Engagement.
- Respect AIDS Calgary Awareness Association's confidentiality policy and represent AIDS Calgary in a professional and respectful manner while working with the community

Qualifications:

- Must be over 18 years old. Experience in this field is an asset.
- Volunteer should feel comfortable talking about sexuality, HIV/AIDS and sexually related issues in a wide range of settings, such as locations where there are people experiencing homelessness, addictions, and other social issues.
- Volunteer should be familiar with the harm reduction philosophy and be respectful of people working in the sex trade.
- Candidate will have excellent listening and communication skills
- Must be comfortable speaking to groups/approaching strangers on the street

Training:

All volunteers will complete Core Training which includes the following courses:

- Challenging Stereotypes
- Safer Sex & HIV/AIDS (must be done annually)
- Living with HIV/AIDS

Shift volunteers will also complete:

- Shift Program Training – ‘Shifting Perspectives’

Benefits:

- Volunteer hours and participation will be tracked and can be provided by the Coordinator of Volunteer Engagement for various purposes required by the volunteer, such as post-secondary applications or work references (after completing 30 hours of volunteering)
- Opportunity to develop public speaking skills
- Opportunity to be involved with Special Projects within the program involving research and program development, etc.
- The volunteer will benefit from current information about harm reduction, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS
- Invitations to volunteer appreciation events, special agency events or workshops, and community celebrations
- Receive the AIDS Calgary and Volunteer newsletter
- Volunteer can participate in the Annual General Meeting

Application Requirements:

- Submit a volunteer application
- Interview with the Coordinator of Volunteer Engagement and/or the Education and Support Worker
- AIDS Calgary will conduct a Police Background Check
- Two telephone reference checks will be completed
- Read and sign a Volunteer Contract and Oath of Confidentiality

** All volunteers will participate in a 3 month evaluation with the Shift Case Manager and an annual evaluation with the Coordinator of Volunteer Engagement.

Questions? Interested in being an AIDS Calgary Volunteer?

Contact us:

volunteer@aidscalgary.org

(403) 508-2500

Or download the application form from our website

<http://www.aidscalgary.org/getInvolved/volunteer.shtml>