

Speaker's Network – HIV 201

Supervisor: Community Education Worker

Level: Speakers Network is ranked as a **Tier 3 position** (See brochure for details on Tiers).

Position Description: Volunteers present the HIV 201 (Living with HIV/AIDS) presentation to junior high and high school students and other organizations such as community groups, social service agencies, universities & colleges, churches, new Canadians and workplace environments.

Objective:

- Presentations focus on sharing personal stories, describing how HIV/AIDS has affected the presenter, in areas such as work life, relationships, physical health, social life, etc.
- Volunteers work to build compassionate environments and spread information about prevention, honouring the mission and goals of AIDS Calgary, and striving to reduce fear and discrimination through these processes.

Time Commitment:

- Must have flexible, day-time, weekday availability
- Some weekend shifts may be available for community events
- Presentation times and locations vary from month to month, but volunteers will generally be given 1 to 2 weeks notice for each presentation.
- Each volunteer is required to participate in a minimum of one presentation per month
- Attendance at Speaker's Network meetings (once every two months) is mandatory

Responsibilities:

- Develop and present an HIV 201 (Living with HIV/AIDS) workshop. The volunteer will create a presentation which focuses on sharing their personal story of being affected by HIV. This may include physical, emotional, and psychological effects of HIV/AIDS on them and their loved ones
- The Community Education Worker will assist the volunteer in creating the presentation, building public speaking skills and getting comfortable presenting in front of an audience
- Occasionally may be asked to present the HIV 101 workshop or speak about AIDS Calgary Awareness Association, including its objectives, mission, programs and brief history
- Occasional opportunities to staff the AIDS Calgary booth at events to provide information to the public on AIDS Calgary Awareness Association and HIV/AIDS
- Respect AIDS Calgary Awareness Association's confidentiality policy and represent AIDS Calgary in a professional and respectful manner while working with the community

Qualifications:

- Volunteer is currently living with HIV/AIDS or has been affected by HIV/AIDS due to personal life circumstances
- Must be comfortable sharing personal experiences and issues
- Comfort talking about HIV/AIDS and sexuality in a wide range of settings and cultures
- Interest in public speaking and education
- Willingness to undertake independent learning about HIV/AIDS including medical, social, psychological, and political issues, as well as partake in agency workshops and listen to guest speakers from a range of specialties and backgrounds

- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to travel to locations in Calgary by vehicle or public transit is required
- Open to working with a team of volunteers in a diverse setting
- Ability to communicate in a second language would be an asset (but not required) for presenting to diverse populations

Training:

- One Core Training day, which includes the following workshops: Challenging Stereotypes, Safer Sex & HIV/AIDS and Living with HIV/AIDS.
- Speakers Network program specific training:
 - Attend Speakers Network training workshop
 - Observe two *HIV 201* presentations in a class setting.
 - Take part in two mock presentations with staff and/or experienced volunteers.

Benefits:

- Volunteer hours and participation will be tracked and can be provided by the Volunteer Program Coordinator 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 gain current information about HIV/AIDS
- Invitations to volunteer appreciation events, special agency events or workshops, and community celebrations, including those geared toward People living with HIV and AIDS
- Receive the AIDS Calgary newsletter and Volunteer newsletter
- Volunteer can participate in the Annual General Meeting

Application Requirements:

- Submit a volunteer application
- Interview with the Volunteer Program Coordinator
- 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 volunteer supervisor and an annual evaluation with the Volunteer Program Coordinator.

Questions? Interested in being an AIDS Calgary Volunteer?

Contact us:

volunteer@aidsalgary.org

(403) 508-2500

Or download the application form from our website

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