

Peer Support Volunteer

POSITION REPORTS TO:

Coordinator- Client Services & Education

PURPOSE:

- To provide support to persons with Parkinson's, members of their families, and/or their caregivers in dealing with the challenges of living with the condition using their own experience and the resources available in the Regional Office. To refer those needing medical advice to the appropriate medical professionals.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Sensitivity and compassion
- Ability to be open minded in a variety of situations
- Ability to make decisions in crisis situations
- Ability to model respect for diversity
- Comfort and ability to discuss issues regarding Parkinson's
- Active listening and communication skills
- Ability to discern personal boundaries and limitations so as to maximize client empowerment
- Openness to guidance as an opportunity for self-growth

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To complete the volunteer training program and continue to pursue further learning & education regarding issues relevant to Parkinson's throughout volunteer experience
- To uphold the client's right to dignity and self-determination
- To inform Coordinator- Client Services & Education in a timely manner if unable to fulfill duties
- To adhere to the PSCNO Policies and Procedures
- To maintain a clear vision of the volunteer role with clients
- To sign a Volunteer Service Agreement and attend an evaluation on an annual basis

DUTIES:

- Take initial peer support training and any refresher training provided by the PSCNO
- Contact persons being provided support by telephone, as referred by the Staff Program Manager, to discuss their needs
- Follow up as required after the initial call and/or meeting
- Keep the Coordinator- Client Services & Education informed regarding peer support calls and meetings
- Keep required records of calls and meetings
- Participate in experience-sharing meetings with other Peer Support Volunteers and Coordinator- Client Services & Education for continuous improvement of the service
- Follow the guidelines for Peer Support Volunteers
- Submit monthly time sheets to the Coordinator of Volunteers
- Be an ambassador for the PSCNO

SUPPORTS FOR SUCCESS:

- Volunteer training program, meetings, community workshops, and support from PSCNO staff.

TIME COMMITMENT:

- 2-4 hours per week for a minimum of one year.