

Support Group Facilitator

POSITION REPORTS TO:

Community Development Coordinator

PURPOSE:

To provide education and support at monthly group meetings to persons with Parkinson's, members of their families, and/or their caregivers in dealing with the challenges of living with the condition. To encourage group members to share experiences, ideas and feelings, address challenges, develop supportive friendships and receive current information about Parkinson's disease.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience in facilitation of groups or meetings an asset
- Comfort level in carrying out appropriate group interventions
- Ability to discern personal boundaries and limitations so as to maximize client empowerment
- Ability to seek guidance as appropriate
- Openness to feedback as opportunities for professional and personal growth
- Comfort and ability to discuss issues regarding Parkinson's
- Active listening and communication skills
- Sensitivity and compassion
- Ability to model respect for diversity
- Background in nursing, social work, physiotherapy, speech language pathology, and/or other medical aspect of Parkinson's disease an asset

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To complete Support Group Facilitator training program and continue to pursue further learning & education throughout volunteer experience
- To inform Community Development Coordinator in a timely manner if unable to fulfill duties
- To adhere to the Parkinson Society 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:

- Facilitate monthly support group, including planning, set-up, refreshments and speakers.
- Report on regular basis to Community Development Coordinator.
- Attend district meetings every four months with Community Development Coordinator.

SUPPORTS FOR SUCCESS:

- Volunteer facilitator training program, district meetings, and individual support from program staff.

TIME COMMITMENT:

- 3-5 hours per month, on weekdays (includes two hour meeting and one hour preparation time) for a minimum of one year.