

COMMUNITY LINKS

Position Description

Position Title: Friendly Visiting

Purpose: Volunteers are matched, based on similar interests, with a senior to provide companionship through social and supportive visits at the senior's home or in the community

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To abide by Community Links Code of Conduct and Statement of Confidentiality.
- To treat clients, other volunteers and staff with respect and dignity.
- To report volunteer hours on assigned forms, and to turn in these forms at the end of each month.
- To inform supervisor in a timely to the Coordinator of Volunteer Services at the end of each month.
- To perform only those requests authorized by Community Links.
- To be prompt in keeping appointments and adhering to agreed upon schedules.
- To report as soon as possible any problems or concerns regarding a specific client or event.
- To visit the senior and identify common interests such as playing cards, writing letters, sharing stories, baking, going for walks, etc.
- To be compassion and kind with a sensitivity to individual needs
- To establish rapport and develop a friendly, supportive relationship
- To enjoy working with seniors and their families
- To exhibit positive role-modeling behavior
- To follow safety and working alone procedures
- The duties and responsibilities outlined above are representative, but not all-inclusive

Time Requirements:

- A minimum of 1 hour per, with flexibility concerning illness, weather conditions and vacations.

Orientation and Training:

- Orientation to Community Links
- Direction and support from the Community Support Worker and Coordinator of Volunteer Services

Benefits:

- Be part of your community and meet a new friend
- Develop and strengthen problem solving and communications skills
- Opportunity to become aware of social issues and gain new experiences – learn, share, grow
- Enjoy the status of making a difference in the life of a senior
- Free personal development training opportunities
- Gain experience in the human services field by giving back to your community
- Volunteer recognition
- Flexible schedule

Skills, Qualifications and Eligibility Requirements:

- Volunteers must possess good interpersonal and role modeling skills that demonstrate sensitivity, compassion and kindness
- Volunteers must be able to relate to seniors – compassionate, respectful, patient, empathetic, sensitive, good listening and communication skills
- Volunteers must enjoy working one-on-one in an unsupervised environment
- Volunteers must provide 2 references and complete an RCMP criminal record check every 3 years
- Volunteers must possess good judgment and excellent personal boundaries including the ability to say 'No.'
- Volunteers must understand the limitations experienced by some seniors, such as mobility and hearing/vision loss