

John Howard Society of the Lower Mainland
Volunteer/Practicum Position Description

Position Title: Volunteer – Residential Support Worker

Purpose: Provide a support network and, resources, and advocacy for federally sentenced adult males on conditional release. Assist programs to reflect the philosophies of accountability and pro-social rehabilitation, and aspire to independent living in the community.

Time Commitment: This position requires a commitment previously agreed upon by the volunteer/practicum student and the practicum house manager/coordinator of community services. For volunteers, a six month probation period is observed. Letters of reference will be provided upon request after the probation period is completed.

Supervision: Volunteers/Practicum Students are supervised and accountable to the House Manager and supervising Residence Worker while on site.

Responsibilities: The Residential Support Worker Volunteer will:

- Maintain strict confidentiality;
- Be self-directed in assisting clients to identify problems and facilitate creative, effective, responsible problem-solving;
- Acquire materials and resources useful to clients;
- Demonstrate initiative by filling visible need areas, and developing ways to engage clients in activities that promote successful living;
- Undergo thorough orientation and training;
- Interact with clients one-to-one, or in a group setting.
- Assist clients in developing realistic plans to achieve their goals;
- Provide overall support and encouragement

Qualifications: Residential Support Worker Volunteers must:

- Understand and agree with the Mission Statement and Core Values of the Agency and undergo and Enhances Criminal Record Check;
- Have strong communication and listening skills;
- Be non-judgmental, assertive in setting boundaries, self-confident, patient, friendly, flexible, organized and empathetic;
- Be willing to work with a variety of people and their families, regardless of their offence, background, or values.