

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

Position Title: Volunteer – Vancouver Apartments

Purpose: To provide a support network for mentally challenged adults currently living at Vancouver Apartments. Modeling pro-social behavior and engaging clients in activities that promote skill development and growth.

Time Commitment: This position requires a commitment previously agreed upon by the volunteer and the supervisor in relation to activity. A six month probation period is observed. Letters of reference will be provided upon request after the probation period is successfully completed.

Supervision: Vancouver Apartments Volunteers are supervised and accountable to the Manager of Vancouver Apartments while on site. They are also accountable to the Manager of Community Services for all Human Resources needs.

Responsibilities: The Vancouver Apartments Volunteer will:

- Provide information, encouragement and support where necessary;
- Assist clients to identify problems and facilitate creative, effective, responsible problem-solving;
- Help clients access community resources (Eg: libraries, programs);
- Model behavior that respects the dignity of each person and creates positive and beneficial relationships;
- Maintain strict confidentiality;
- Engage clients in activities that facilitate skills development, such as goal setting, and acquisition, at both VA and in the community;
- Work in partnership with clients to maintain the house, in such areas as gardening, decorating and painting.

Qualifications: Volunteers must:

- Understand and agree with the Mission Statement and Core Values of the John Howard Society and undergo a criminal record check;
- Have strong communication and listening skills;
- Believe in the concept of rehabilitation and equal opportunity for persons with disabilities, while recognizing individual limitations;
- Be non-judgmental, assertive in setting boundaries, self-confident, patient, friendly and empathetic;
- Be reliable, flexible and organized.