

Volunteer Position Description: Children's Group Facilitator

Title: Children's Group Facilitator

Purpose/Objective: Facilitate curriculum-based support groups for children of all ages.

Description: Children's Group Facilitators (CGFs) lead age-specific, evidence-based support groups for children -- some of whom are shelter residents, some of whom are "community-based" -- whose parents are participating in InterAct's domestic and sexual violence support groups. With the guidance and supervision of InterAct staff who are present throughout groups, CGFs help children improve their mental and emotional wellbeing, offer tools to maintain that wellbeing, and provide a sense of community and safety. CGFs provide crucial support to young people and families, thereby helping InterAct fulfill its mission of saving lives, rebuilding lives, and securing safer futures.

Skills/Qualifications:

- ❖ Must be at least 18 years old.
- ❖ Must have reliable transportation. However, during COVID-19, volunteer shifts are remote and *transportation is not needed at this time*.
- ❖ Must be able to use active listening skills to gain a better understanding of children's needs, both spoken and unspoken.
- ❖ Must be able to communicate clearly, compassionately, and in a nonjudgmental and age-appropriate manner with children.
- ❖ Must have a grasp on the complexities of domestic and sexual violence and how these forms of violence affect young people at various life stages.
- ❖ Must be able to refrain from any victim-blaming or shaming to which survivors are already vulnerable.
- ❖ Must be able to understand and address the specific needs of marginalized communities – that is, be able to understand how various identities and intersections affect a person's experience, and respond appropriately.

Key Responsibilities:

- ❖ Must be able to commit to the role for at least 12 months.
- ❖ Must commit to at least 2 of the 4 eight-week group cycles that occur per year.
- ❖ Provide empowerment-centered support and advocacy.
- ❖ Collaborate with staff to provide appropriate support to children at all times.
- ❖ Handle crises calmly and maturely.
- ❖ Be a team player with staff, interns, and fellow volunteers.
- ❖ Alert your supervisors when assistance or additional training is needed.

Training & Support:

- ❖ Twenty-hour core training covering many in-depth topics: Domestic Violence 101, Sexual Violence 101, Legal Topics, Crisis Counseling, and more.
- ❖ Quarterly volunteer meetings to discuss best practices, legislative updates, case scenarios, etc.
- ❖ Per a mandate from the NC Council for Women, CGFs proactively engage in 20 hours of continuing education each fiscal year (July 1-June 30).
- ❖ Ongoing supervision from staff, as needed or desired.

Location and Hours: Typically, volunteer shifts occur on-site. However, during COVID-19, *training and volunteer shifts are fully remote.*

Supervisory Staff:

- ❖ Claudia Czap, Children's Program Coordinator/MOVE Coordinator
- ❖ Tara Corbett, FJC Volunteer Coordinator & Clinical Supervisor