



## Safe Passage, INC.

P.O. Box 621 DeKalb, IL 60115

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### RESPITE CARE

### VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

**Reports to:** Director of Counseling Services

**Summary:**

Facilitate the weekly children's session during individual adult counseling sessions. You will work with children ranging in age from infant to teen. This role is vital in allowing all survivors access to counseling. It also enables our shelter clients to leave the shelter to apply for jobs, housing, attending appointments, etc. Volunteers also serve as a positive role model for the children as they teach safe touches, healthy boundaries, safe spaces and healthy coping mechanisms when dealing with anger.

**Responsibilities:**

- Maintain confidentiality and respect
- Work with the children to resolve conflict and return to goals of a situation occurs
- Create and maintain a safe environment where children are treated with respect
- Demonstrate professionalism through reliability, punctuality, personal integrity and a respectful attitude when dealing with the children and adult clients

**How this opportunity benefits you:**

You will be able to gain first-hand experience on facilitating children's individual sessions on topics such as self-esteem, healthy relationships, bullying, domestic violence education, and communication. Volunteers will obtain an increased understanding of domestic violence and sexual assault, and will expand his or her knowledge of diverse cultures and socio-economic backgrounds. Most importantly, volunteers will be a proactive agent in preventing domestic abuse and sexual assault in DeKalb County.

**Attendance:**

We require a 6 month commitment from our volunteers and interns. Safe Passage values the time and talents that the volunteers provide to our clients and organization. We require that volunteers provide a 2-week advance notice if they will be unavailable to attend their shift. We are a client based agency, in which we require all staff and volunteers to be on-time in order to best serve our clients.

**Training Required:**

Volunteers at Safe Passage who are interested in working directly with our clients are required to complete our 65+ hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault training. During our training, you'll gain extensive knowledge on issues like cultural competency, diversity, legal issues, women's complex issues, privilege and oppression, self-care, activism and more as they relate to domestic violence and sexual assault.

**Additional Requirements:**

At Safe Passage we require all staff, volunteers and interns to have an understanding of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Respite Care volunteer must enjoy working with kids ranging from infant to teen. When dealing with the children, we require: reliability, appropriate behavior when interacting with kids, ability to work without supervision and the ability to handle challenging situations with calmness, adaptability and professionalism.

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