



COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT
PROGRAMS

Helping people live
their greatest lives

Adult Foster Care Service Opportunity

Service Title: AFC Gardening Companion

Supervisor: Volunteer Coordinator, Jaime Gjerdingen, text-able cell: 612-314-9413,
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Objective: Provide one-to-one companionship to a resident of a CIP Adult Foster Care (AFC) home by gardening with them at the AFC. Provide support, guidance, and friendliness to an individual who shares similar interests.

Responsibilities: Meet with an AFC resident one to two evenings a month, to garden at the AFC. An introductory meeting will take place at the resident's house so that the resident may meet the volunteer and decide if they are comfortable to go on an outing with them. With staff assistance, the resident and the volunteer will schedule the outing based on their mutual availability. The volunteer will communicate the schedule with the Volunteer Coordinator and then confirm volunteer time/location within the week after performing the activity. We ask that the volunteer call the resident on the day of the outing to remind/confirm that they are meeting that day. If the volunteer does not receive confirmation of the outing from the resident, they may assume that it is not on for that day.

Qualifications: A caring individual who would like to spend some time with someone who has a mental diagnosis to give them an opportunity to 'take a break' and enjoy an outing in the community. The volunteer will need to pass background/driving record checks and orientation/training which CIP will provide and perform.

Training & Preparation for the job: All volunteers will go through training & orientation at CIP. They will learn the history and current philosophy of CIP. Volunteers will also have Vulnerable Adult, HIPAA, and mental health diagnosis training before performing their activity with the resident. Other training includes a description of the volunteer program, role of the Volunteer Coordinator, volunteer policies and procedures, and information they will need to know about the resident.

Benefits: You will impact a resident's quality of life, self-esteem and confidence, may improve their health, and their sense of feeling needed and valued. You will meet new people, learn new skills, your sense of the importance of community may expand and diverse work experience may take place.

Commitment: We ask that the volunteer give a 4-month commitment for the Gardening Companion position. It is our hope that if a strong relationship develops it may continue beyond that timeframe. However, if it was not a good match, a change may be made.

Evaluation: At the end of the commitment, the volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator will evaluate how the volunteering went. The volunteer will have a chance to evaluate their experience. At this time, the volunteer may decide whether to continue with the current relationship, try a new volunteer experience, or terminate their involvement with CIP.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

CIP staff signature _____

Volunteers shall be recruited without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age and marital status, status with regard to public assistance or membership in the local Human Rights Commission.



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