

Caregiver Support

Purpose: provide support and encouragement directly to a caregiver receiving service.

Volunteers will;

- Enhance child safety in the home
- Strengthen the well-being of the family
- Enhance permanency for children and youth in the home
- Enhance life skills with caregiver

Position Summary: a volunteer is assigned to a caregiver, receiving service from The CAS of Toronto, to provide support according to their needs.

Activities include;

- Supporting and befriending a caregiver
- Enhancing connections to community supports and resources
- Enhancing life- and social- skills by role modeling and practicing
- Providing an extra set of hands, alongside the parent, to care for children if required
- Working with caregiver to create a safer environment
- Attending appointments and supporting caregiver in the community
- Peer-to-peer settlement related activities
- Completes monthly progress reports to Volunteer Coordinator

Parent Aids are an integral link to bring continuity of service, support and communication between the parent and the service team as well as building a safer community and stronger families.

Competencies:

- Able to attend weekly visits of 2-3 hours each at a mutually agreed to time with caregiver
- Basic knowledge of child welfare, abuse, neglect, systematic impact of poverty, racism and family dynamics, reflexivity, mediation/clinical skills, child development and attachment, cooking and nutrition, mental health challenges, addictions, developmental challenges, ESL and settlement issues
- Strong belief in the value of families and supporting them according to their family values
- Strong belief in creating stability and permanency for children and youth within families
- Have integrity, a positive attitude, flexibility and are reliable
- Ability to locate, access, use community resources and plan activities
- Ability to work with a range of stakeholders and professionals
- Have customer-service skills, social skills, independent work skills, communication skills and problem-solving skills, personal resiliency, life stability, emotional maturity, non-judgmental approach, healthy/active lifestyle
- Participate in meetings, supervision and evaluation relating to role at branch locations
- Asset: fluent verbally in another language, knowledge of other cultures, first aid, child car safety, access to a car