

Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center Volunteer Advocate

(53 hours of training required)

Position Title: Volunteer Advocate

Purpose of Job: The purpose of a trained volunteer advocate is to support and advocate for the rights and self-defined needs of survivors of sexual violence and their friends, families, and other concerned persons on the Central MN Sexual Assault Center's (CMSAC) 24-hour crisis phone line and in person at area hospitals, law enforcement centers, and other community locations.

Requirements:

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Successfully complete the Minnesota-mandated 40-hour volunteer advocate training, including CMSAC's pre-and post-interviews.
- Commit to taking a minimum of two crisis line shifts per month. Volunteer advocates use their own personal cell phones and work from home during shifts. Volunteer shifts are either 16 or 24 hours long during the evening and on weekends.
- Commit to volunteering as an advocate with CMSAC for a minimum of 9-12 months.
- Attend monthly advocate meetings and other specified trainings as advised by the Client Services Coordinator for the purposes of continuing education and case consultation.

Responsibilities: The Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center volunteer advocate, under the supervision of, will be asked to:

- Serve as a first responder for CMSAC's 24-hour crisis phone line.
- Provide crisis intervention, support, and sexual violence education to victims and their friends, families, and other concerned persons.
- Provide victims with accurate information about their medical, law enforcement, and legal options.
- Accompany victims to local hospitals and law enforcement centers when seeking medical care and criminal justice assistance. Support survivors during these proceedings.
- Help victims assert their rights and advocate for the responsive and trauma-informed treatment of all victims of sexual violence and their friends and families.
- Work as a team with multidisciplinary professionals, such as law enforcement, medical, and legal personnel, to provide the best care and services possible for victims of sexual violence and their friends and families.
- Provide resources and referrals, as needed, to survivors of sexual violence, their friends, families, and other concerned persons.
- Notify the SVAC of all crisis line activity, complete appropriate paperwork, and follow other policies and procedures as discussed during training.
- Assist in other volunteer duties as needed.

Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center

Volunteer Application

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Are you 18 or older? _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____

E-mail _____ Cell Phone _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Educational Background _____

Do you have transportation or access to transportation? _____

Are you able to make a 12-month commitment to CMSAC? _____

Did you take the Advocacy Class at SCSU? _____

How did you hear about this volunteer opportunity? _____

Discuss your reasons for wanting to volunteer with the CMSAC. _____

What do you hope to gain from this volunteer experience? _____

What experience or background do you have that may aid you in your volunteer work?

What kind of activities do you do to relax and take care of yourself? _____

Please answer if you feel comfortable: Have you been a victim of sexual assault?
_____ If yes, please explain what type and how you are dealing with or have dealt with
the victimization? _____

It is important to have a support system for yourself. Please explain yours. _____

Advocates are required to attend monthly advocate meetings. The meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Will you be able to attend these?

The CMSAC has many volunteer opportunities other than the crisis line; please put a check beside each item listed below that you may be interested in.

- _____ CMSAC Representative at Resource and Health Fairs
- _____ Public Speaking and Community Education
- _____ Take Back the Night Planning Committee
- _____ Other/Misc. Opportunities
- _____ Other Ideas. Please list _____

Please return to:
Central MN Sexual Assault Center
15 Riverside Drive Northeast
Saint Cloud, MN 56304-0435
Phone: 320-251-4357
1-800-237-5090
Fax: 320-251-4670
cmsac@cmsac.org
www.cmsac.org

Do not write below this line

CSC Comments: _____

Will this applicant be attending training? _____ If not, why _____

Any conflicts with training dates or advocate responsibilities: _____