

Court Companion Volunteer Opportunity

Samaritan House Court Companion Program

This program provides volunteers an opportunity within a community-based setting to assist people who have experienced domestic violence. Volunteers will offer victims of domestic violence emotional support and connect them to community resources during and following court proceedings at the Virginia Beach Juvenile Domestic Relations Court.

Samaritan House volunteers will have the opportunity to:

- Empower people who have experienced violence to regain the control that was taken from them while enduring various forms of abuse
- Acquire hands-on experience working in the community with a vulnerable population
- Acquire skills and knowledge for professional development and career enhancement
- Work with allied professionals in non-profit and public agencies

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing individual crisis intervention, normalizing victims' emotions and providing support in a nonjudgmental and confidential environment
- Assessing victims' safety by completing lethality assessments and creating safety plans
- Providing victims with information about protection orders and the judicial process
- Assessing for trauma symptoms and providing referral to a free counseling resource
- Assessing for basic needs such as clothing, food and shelter and connecting them to resources

Volunteer Eligibility

- Volunteers who have an interest and passion in providing assistance to victims of violence from a trauma-informed approach
- Volunteers who have the time and willingness to complete significant computer-based and agency training
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to interact professionally with diverse communities with cultural competence
- Ability to manage multiple tasks concurrently with excellent time management
- Ability to work independently and with others as a team

HOW TO APPLY: Please visit www.samaritanhouseva.org to download an application. Fax completed form to Katherine Ashford at 757-631-0710 ext. 335 or email to KatherineA@samaritanhouseva.org.