



Become a volunteer advocate!

You can make a difference in the life of a sexual assault survivor

The Nord Center's Sexual Assault Services (SAS) is currently accepting applications for volunteer advocates. Volunteers enable SAS to provide essential services to survivors of sexual assault and to those who support them on a 24-hour basis, at absolutely no cost. No prior training or experience is needed – just a desire to help those in crisis.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Outreach Advocate:** Provides support to the survivor during the nurse's interview and exam. Acts as liaison for the survivor between the nurse and law enforcement, as well as providing support to accompanying family and friends.
- **Hotline Advocate:** When an after-hours phone call is received from a survivor by our 24-hour Emergency/Crisis Hotline, the advocate returns the call to the survivor—helping them through their crisis and supporting them over the phone.
- **Community Outreach:** Participates in health and wellness fairs throughout the year, and may also present SAS presentations to businesses, schools and universities.
- **Staff Support:** Helps the SAS staff with administrative duties, special events, fundraisers, surveys and assistance with the preparation and organization of survivor materials.

Bilingual / Spanish-speaking volunteers are also needed to assist in outreach and advocacy to the Hispanic population.

Volunteer training cycles occur in the spring and fall



The Nord Center
Sexual Assault Services

6140 S. Broadway, Lorain OH 44053
440.233.7232 Crisis Line: 1.800.888.6161
www.nordcenter.org

For more information, contact Rebekkah Whelan, at 440.204.4319 or email rwhelan@nordcenter.org

Volunteer Training & Requirements

Before serving, prospective volunteers need to complete a 40-hour specialized training program. Trained volunteers are “on call” a few shifts a month, and may rely on seasoned staff members for consultation or assistance as needed.

Volunteer Requirements:

- Must be 18 years or older
- Attend a pre-volunteer screening interview
- Complete a criminal background check, drug test and fingerprinting
- Successfully complete our 40-hour training program
- A commitment to one or more shifts a month
- Hotline Volunteers need access to a phone during their shift
- Outreach Volunteers are required to have transportation during their shift
- Mandatory attendance at training meetings & quarterly reviews
- Maturity, dependability, sensitivity and a desire to help others
- Adherence to the policies and procedures of The Nord Center

Volunteer Training Includes:

- History of Sexual Assault & Abuse Services
- Statistics
- Definitions
- Confidentiality
- Hotline Procedures
- Crisis Intervention
- Communication Skills
- Working With Law Enforcement
- Legal Issues Pertinent to Sexual Assault
- Cultural Competency
- Sexual Assault in Special Populations
- Vicarious Trauma & Self Care



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