



ASTOP Sexual Abuse Center Crisis Line Advocate and Medical Advocate Volunteer Description

Purpose

To help survivors of sexual assault/violence in meeting their emotional and medical needs.

Qualifications

1. 18 years of age or over.
2. Experience working with people or desire to work with people.
3. Sensitivity to issues of sexual violence, including child sexual abuse, sexual assault, and incest.
4. Have respect for and have ability to maintain confidentiality.
5. Commit one's self to the program for at least one year after training completed.

Coverage

Crisis Line – Flexible scheduling, volunteers choose their schedules and sign up for a minimum of 4 shifts or more a month if possible. Weekdays the shifts are – 12a-6a & 4:30p-12a Weekends are split into 4 shifts – 12a-6a, 6a-12p, 12p-6p, & 6p-12a (**Volunteer hours can still be validated if no requests come through during your assigned shift**)

Emergency Room/Police Departments Advocacy – Flexible scheduling, volunteers choose their schedules and sign up for a minimum of 3 shifts a month or more if able. Weekdays the shifts are – 4:30p-7a Weekends have 2 shifts – 7a-7p & 7p-7a (**Volunteer hours can still be validated if no requests come through during your assigned shift**)

Responsible to

ASTOP Sexual Abuse Center Office/Intake/Volunteer Coordinator

Responsibilities

1. Attend training sessions and volunteer meetings (every 3 months).
2. Sign a confidentiality statement.
3. Abide by the policies and procedures of ASTOP.
4. Understand, support, and respect clients with whom you work with.
5. Supply relevant information and support when requested.
6. Provide staff with pertinent client information and forms.

Duties

Crisis Line – Volunteer will respond to calls that are dispatched to them from the answering service to the volunteer's personal phone. Volunteer will offer emotional support to the survivor. This may include any needed information, referrals, and will encourage the caller to seek necessary assistance. Volunteers are required to call in a crisis line report as soon as possible following the format set by ASTOP. Using this information, ASTOP staff can follow-up as necessary.

Emergency Room/Police Department Advocate – Advocate will be involved in supporting the survivor in any phase of the crisis or during the investigative or medical proceedings that may follow. An advocate will provide direction, support, guidance, and nurturing to the person in crisis. An advocate may accompany the survivor to the emergency room and Police Department(s). Advocates are required to complete an ER/PD intake and contact ASTOP office immediately and leave a message on ASTOP's voice mail with the information so Case Management can follow-up.

Special note - *If sexual abuse has been an issue in the past, the volunteer must have worked through those issues successfully at least 2 years before volunteering for ASTOP.*