



Gay Men's Online Outreach Volunteer Role Description

Program Gay Men's Online Outreach

Supervisor Gay Men's Online Strategy and Resource Coordinator

ACT's Mission Statement The AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) develops and delivers innovative programs and services that promote the dignity, health and well-being of individuals and communities living with, affected by and at risk for HIV/AIDS.

Purpose As social networking increasingly takes place in online environments, so does sexual networking. Gay Men's Online Outreach Volunteers work to maintain an online presence on sexual networking sites and offer confidential, non-judgemental sexual health and harm reduction information and resources to gay, bi and queer men, including trans men, and other men who have sex with men. Volunteers in this role also offer peer support to men who may not be accessing support offline.

Benefits

- Play a role in preventing the spread of HIV and other STIs in your own community
- Give back to the community from the comfort of your own home
- Use your knowledge and experience to impact others in positive ways
- Engage in an ongoing educational process on sexual health issues affecting gay/bi/queer men.
- Feel empowered through opportunities to affect personal, social and community change
- Receive ongoing support and supervision, letters of reference, opportunities for knowledge transfer and invitations to volunteer appreciation events.

Time Commitment 2 hours per week
for 12 months

Details:

Be present and available on several sites for 1 shift each week, from any location

Duties **The Volunteer will:**

- Engage in virtual outreach by interacting online with men through discussions about sexual health, substance use and sexuality; providing information on HIV and other STIs and providing appropriate

referrals.

- Engage in on-going educational opportunities provided by ACT to remain on top of HIV, STI sexual health and harm reduction issues affecting gay/bi/queer men.
- Offer non-judgemental information and affirming support through active listening in online environments.
- Complete Session Reports to submit to Gay Men's Online Strategy and Resource Coordinator
- Maintain ongoing communication with the Gay Men's Online Strategy and Resource Coordinator
- Complete all shifts as assigned.

Personal Qualities and Skills **Required Qualities & Skills:**

- Ability to remain neutral and supportive of dialogue, even during difficult or controversial conversations.
- Comfort and familiarity with online language and chatroom etiquette.
- Comfort with sexuality, sex and public sex discussions.
- Understanding of and comfort with a diversity of sexual identities and behaviours.
- Ability to calmly communicate with individuals in crisis.
- Ability to set and maintain healthy boundaries.
- Ability to work independently, removed from supervision.
- Excellent online communication skills.
- Willing to perform shifts on evenings and/or weekends.
- Fluency in languages other than English an asset.

NOTE: As this outreach happens in spaces for gay/bi/queer men, this volunteer opportunity is open only to gay/bi/queer identified men, including trans men.

Training Requirements Volunteer Core Skills Training, Program-Specific Training, On-the-job Training with Supervisor and/or other Volunteers