

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM REPORT

April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021

The object of the Purpose Volunteer Program is to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities that enhance the mission of the society.

“The Purpose Society aims to enhance personal well-being, strengthen family functioning and increase personal responsibility, confidence and healthy decision making”.

Staff and volunteers work together to create healthy environments and positive experiences for clients.

Purpose Society volunteers and practicum students donated 5,705.25 hours in the Purpose School, Family Programs, Youth Hub, Health Van, Stride Program and the Childcare Centres during April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. Down 25.25 hours from the previous year.

Every year a survey is given to volunteers to learn what we are doing right and what needs to be improved. Purpose’s goals are to provide volunteers with meaningful positions, to be appreciated and be a part of the team. The surveys help to achieve our goals. This year, 15 surveys were sent out to current volunteers, 9 were returned completed.

100% of the volunteers feel welcome, 100% feel like they are making a difference, 100% feel that they are given enough direction and support from staff. This survey shows that we need to improve on the volunteer’s sense of belonging at Purpose.

With the recent challenges revolving Covid-19, we have significantly limited the number of volunteer opportunities available at Purpose.

It has been a challenge to organize a volunteer appreciation event due to the provincial restrictions related to gathering. We will aim to organize a way to show our appreciation for volunteers that are within the provincial guidelines.

The 2020 Christmas Hamper Program ran smoothly with staff working alongside volunteers. 39 volunteers contributed 114.0 hours to help receive, move, organize and deliver over 180 hampers.

A Few Volunteer Moments from Staff

From the Rent Bank:

We have had three volunteers working with the Purpose Rent Bank Program this year. All three volunteers have shown commitment to their time commitments with the Purpose Rent Banks. All three have presented positive attitudes when here and have been open to doing whatever work we needed assistance with from filing, and data entry, document organization to helping with technology use.

The volunteers have helped the Purpose Rent Bank Program to keep our physical files organized and our data records up to date.

All of our volunteers have been wonderful!

From our Administrative Team:

I must say that all of the volunteers that come by my window are very friendly! While I do not work with the volunteers, I know they all contribute in a big way. I have had more interaction with Kristyn and Kai and I cannot say enough about their going above and beyond whatever is asked of them.

I would love to point out that Kai and Kristyn are both amazing and go above and beyond every day and always with a positive attitude and a smile. A joy to be around! 😊

From our ECD Team:

During the fall and winter months we had two students from Douglas College's Nursing Program complete their practicum placements with Family Program's 'Family Circle'. Our in-person program was suspended and programming continued via Zoom. The ECD Facilitators would lead a fun, boisterous circle-time with the children aged 0- 5 years. Jennifer and Jaqueline would then present a parent workshop on pertinent parenting topics to the moms and dads. Both students were exceptional, weaving in parental concerns and issues during the pandemic and connecting with the parents and children.

Some of the workshops included;

- Nutrition
- Sleep time
- Screen time during a Pandemic
- Masks Matter and kids

- Coping for Kids during a Pandemic
- Family Literacy Week (We had book donation and Jennifer volunteered to deliver the books to the families in New Westminster and Burnaby)



(Jenn's children and she used their images for the presentation on 'Mask Matter')

It was a pleasure having Jennifer and Jacqueline complete their Nursing Placements in Purpose's Family Programs; they had such great energy and enthusiasm for the information they were presenting and connections being made with the families.

Purpose Volunteers are the best!