



Crisis Center

Volunteer Opportunities

“There are two ways of spreading light - to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.” ~ Edith Wharton

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the Crisis Center. We offer a variety of direct (working directly with our clients) and indirect service volunteer opportunities. Each and every volunteer with the Crisis Center spreads light in this world by reflecting the work that we do to end violence in the lives of all people. Volunteers are an essential part of the Crisis Center service delivery and contribute greatly to our success.

We ask that volunteers complete a Volunteer Application (go to www.thecrisiscenter.org for the application), attend Volunteer Orientation, sign a confidentiality statement for the protection and safety of our clients, and complete our online training program. Direct Service volunteers are required to attend additional training (up to 25 hours of training) that is conducted by Crisis Center staff. **All volunteers will pay for and complete state and national criminal background checks, human services child abuse checks and fingerprinting as required.**

Indirect Volunteer Opportunities:

Community Outreach volunteers contribute their time and talents to further develop human, material and financial resources for the Crisis Center. Opportunities include: distributing information at community events and health fairs; helping with food and supply drives; and marketing and networking assistance.

Special Events volunteers also contribute their time and talents to further develop human, material and financial resources of the Crisis Center. Opportunities include: chairing or working on an event committee for one of our two annual fundraising events; assisting with set up, management and clean up of special events; collecting silent auction donation items; and special holiday projects.

Operations/Administrative volunteers support the administrative assistant by answering the door and telephones, performing light clerical and other duties as assigned. They may assist with sorting, moving and stacking of donations, and light housekeeping as needed.

Special Project volunteers are individuals and groups who volunteer for hands-on projects such as landscaping and maintenance, organizing the donation room, cleaning toys, wrapping presents, etc. They also may assist with technical support.

Direct Service Volunteer Opportunities:

Child Care volunteers provide childcare to infants, toddlers, preschool & school age children. These volunteers supervise structured activities and offer assistance during special events, and assist with light paperwork. Child Care Assistants must be at least 18 years old.

Client Support volunteers assist with grocery shopping, transporting clients to appointments and other duties at shelter as assigned. Client support volunteers must be at least 18 years old.

Crisis Line Volunteers answer our 24-hour crisis hotline during normal business hours and after hours/weekends in an on-call capacity. Staff and volunteers provide information to callers, crisis counseling to battered individuals and their children, and screening for admission to shelter. Instruction and training (15 – 40 hours) conducted by the Crisis Center staff is required. Crisis Line Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.

Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) On-call Volunteers answer the LAP cell phone after normal business hours and on weekends. The LAP is a collaborative service with local law enforcement in which officers that are investigating a domestic violence situation contact the LAP advocate when a victim is assessed as being in a highly lethal relationship.

LAP advocates speak briefly with the victim offering shelter options, and other services as well as short-term safety planning. LAP volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and sign up for at least two shifts per month.

Legal Interns & Advocates assist our legal advocate, who works in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office and Law Enforcement Victim Advocates, to support adult victims involved in the criminal justice and civil court systems by providing legal information and referrals. Instruction and training (15 – 40 hours) conducted by the Crisis Center staff is required. All Legal Interns & Advocates must be at least 18 years old.

**We ask that our direct service volunteers commit to one year of service, attend required trainings and support/education meetings, be at least 18 years of age, and pass all background checks.

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

Pro Bono Attorneys provide free legal assistance in civil protective order hearings, and custody and divorce cases. Pro bono attorneys are needed throughout all jurisdictions in Douglas and Elbert County. Participants are requested to represent at least one client per year.

Board of Directors are individuals that apply for board membership and are vetted and selected by the sitting board of directors. The Volunteer Board has a strong foundation in leadership, hard work, collaboration and respect. The Board's job is to provide high level governance, long term strategic planning and implementation, donor engagement, financial giving as well as support and direction for the executive director. If interested, please contact the executive director for more information.