



Volunteer Opportunities

As we prepare for the arrival of Syrian Newcomers in Prince Albert we have received an outpouring of support from our wonderful community. In response to those who would like to volunteer their time we have created a list of volunteer roles and descriptions.

While certain roles are not currently part of our programming, but we have added them to this list because we see these as being roles that will fill the gaps and as ways to greatly assist this resettlement efforts of The YWCA Prince Albert.

When filling out your registration form, please specify which role(s) you are interested in.

Newcomer Support and Services

Purpose: These volunteer opportunities provide assistance to newcomer clients of YWCA Prince Albert in a number of areas where newcomers often find they need a little extra support.

Time Commitment: Varies

1. Community Mentor

This role is based on a program formerly known as HOST, which was established to assist newcomer individuals or families to become familiar with their community and establish supportive social networks. The aim of such a program is to help newcomers become thriving members of their community. Meeting new people and learning about the community makes it easier to "feel at home". Volunteers are matched with a newcomer and participate in activities together (such as going on community tours, meeting for coffee, being assisted with grocery shopping, attending sporting or seasonal events/activities and attending community or cultural events). The volunteer's friendship and support provides the newcomer with invaluable assistance with settling into their new community, learning conversation English, experiencing less stress and adapting more easily to life in Prince Albert and Canada.

Time Commitment:

- Volunteers will commit to regular meetings (about 1-2 hours per week) with the newcomer during a minimum 6 month period (a commitment of a year is ideal), during evenings or weekends.
- The day and time would be something that is mutually convenient, further the newcomer & volunteer decide on the nature of the activities, and when, where and how frequently to meet.
- This role can be done individually, as a couple or as a family

2. Translator / Interpreter

This volunteer provides quality interpretation and /or translation services to newcomers and those who serve them to assist in the resettlement process. Translation services are also frequently sought by community organizations to equip them in serving newcomers.

Time Commitment: varies

3. Volunteer Driver (transportation of clients)

Volunteer drivers would assist newcomer clients in getting to appointments and other important engagements in order to support their access to the services needed to help them integrate successfully.

Time Commitment: varies

Logistics

Purpose: These volunteers' help newcomers establish themselves in the community through assisting them to prepare their new home by transporting the household items they will need. Most large furniture items will be delivered by the store they are purchased at. But household and smaller furniture items may need to be delivered from the donation location or thrift shops.

Time Commitment: Varies, usually 1-3 hours on a move-in day or 2-3 hours a week (sorting donations)

1. Mover without a vehicle

Those with strong backs & arms join a team of movers to relocate the household items to the newcomer's home.

Time Commitment: Varies. Usually 1-3 hours on a move-in day.

2. Driver/ Mover with a vehicle

The "mover with a vehicle" helps by providing transportation (truck, trailer, van) to assist a team of movers to relocate the household items to the newcomer's home. He or she may also help with the moving of items when possible.

Time Commitment: Varies. Usually 1-3 hours on a move-in day.

3. Donations Organizer

The YWCA Prince Albert has acquired space to house items being donated to the Syrian Resettlement Effort. This space is at As Good As New thrift shop (we have access to a large room in the basement). Donations can be dropped off at this location, but we need the assistance of the volunteers to sort and organize the room. This will make it possible for clients to access and acquire the belongings they need to help transform their new house into a home.

Time Commitment: Varies. Usually 2-3 hours a week (as donation sorting is needed)