



# New Horizons Volunteer Opportunities

## For the youth-Support Opportunities-all ages

**Clothes Sorter:** New Horizons receives a large number of clothing donations throughout the year. Some of those donations are good items, and some are not very suitable for youth. Clothes sorters help to maintain the Self Care Center in the drop-in center by cleaning up and re-hanging items, putting out new items, and re-filling hygiene products. They also work in our storage room sorting donations we can use from those that should be passed on to adult service providers. Clothes Sorters are asked to make a regular commitment (from once a month to once a week) for an extended period of time.

**Donation Drive:** New Horizons sees about 1,500 different youth in a given year. In order to properly serve them we need to have a lot of clothing, blankets, and hygiene products on hand. Organizing a donation drive is a great way to get a school or church involved without having to make a long-term commitment. You can talk with our staff to find out current needs, and to have a staff member come out and speak to the group that you are hoping to motivate to donate.

**Community Advocacy Volunteer:** Serve as a champion for New Horizons by connecting your faith community to the mission of New Horizons Ministries. You would be the connection between your church community and the serving and giving opportunities that New Horizons offers. A minimum of a one year commitment and participation in 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday All Staff Meetings from 6-8PM is expected.

## Educating the youth-Instructor and Mentor Opportunities-all ages (DOE)

**Life Discovery Instructor:** Life Discovery offers another step in our continuum of services by creating space for the young people to feel safe in self-discovery and in trying new things. Our hope is for youth to discover an interest or skill that helps them to dream about the future, for them to experience contributing something positive to their environment and empowering them in leadership. One time, short term, and ongoing opportunities exist to instruct youth in a skill or hobby that you are gifted in. Our Life Discovery Coordinator will support you in creating a curriculum and outline for the class.

**Volunteering with the Mentorship Program:** The mentorship program lasts for eight continuous weeks and consists of three weekly commitments: 1) Two hours of adaptive life skills workshops, including topics on Discovering Your Dreams, Nutrition, Finances, Relationships, Anger and Stress Management, Communication, and Job Search and Interviews. 2) Two hours of one-on-one mentoring with NHM staff members. 3) Two hours of "The Bridge," a program that introduces youth to adults in the community who share about their jobs and the journey that brought them where they are. Opportunities to volunteer with our mentorship are limited to working with The Bridge. Hosting a job-site visit, or sharing your work experiences and listening to their experiences may be a small time commitment, but can have a major impact!

## **With the youth-Direct Service Opportunities-20 and 21years+**

**Self Care Center Staff:** Work two shifts (mornings or evenings) each month, maintaining and running the hygiene section of our drop-in center. This includes monitoring the clothing room, laundry area, and showers, and distributing hygiene items. Self Care Staff attend a monthly meeting and make a one-year commitment. They are encouraged to form relationships with the youth and to participate in follow-up activities with the youth's primary staff person.

**Morning Outreach Staff:** Morning Outreach Volunteers make a one year commitment to work one morning per week or a combination of four shifts per month. These shifts last about four hours and include doing paperwork, setting up and supervising drop-in times, and cleaning up the drop-in center at the close of each morning. Along with setting up and staffing the drop-in center, Morning Outreach Volunteers also support the Life Discovery Program by staffing at least 1 activity per month. They also attend a bi-weekly staff meeting and participate in follow-up activities with the youth, such as jail and hospital visitation, taking the youth to church, making referrals on case management issues, or getting together for coffee or a movie.

**Evening Outreach Staff:** Evening Outreach Volunteers make a one year commitment to work one night per week or a combination of four shifts per month. These shifts last about five hours and include going on outreach, doing paperwork, setting up and supervising drop-in times, and cleaning up the drop-in center at the close of each evening. Outreach Volunteers also attend a bi-weekly staff meeting and participate in follow-up activities with the youth, such as jail and hospital visitation, taking the youth to church, making referrals on case management issues, or getting together for coffee or a movie.

## **With the young women and men-Direct Service Opportunity-21+**

**Late Night Outreach Staff:** New Horizons has been doing outreach on the streets of Seattle for the last 30 years. During that time we realized that many of the youth we serve were involved in different forms of prostitution. As an extension of our programs with youth we began doing outreach late on Friday night to young women involved in prostitution. As the program has grown it has simply become known as our Late Night Outreach Program. Late Night Outreach (LNO) Volunteers make a one year commitment to work three Friday or Saturday nights per month. These shifts last about five hours and include prayer, going on mobile outreach, doing paperwork, and setting up and supervising the outreach table. LNO Volunteers also attend bi-weekly staff meetings. Volunteers are also expected to participate in follow-up activities with the women. Follow-up with the women may include activities such as jail and hospital visitation, taking a woman to church, making referrals on case management issues, or getting together for coffee. A job description for working with the men is available from Sheila Houston (sheilah@nhmin.org or 206-374-0866 x127).

**To learn more about any of these opportunities, please contact Carina Schubert at [carinas@nhmin.org](mailto:carinas@nhmin.org) or 206-374-0866 x103.**