



Links - North Shore Youth Health Service Volunteer Opportunities

About Links

Links - North Shore Youth Health Service is a non-profit organization that empowers young people to make informed, responsible decisions about their health, well-being, and sexuality.

Links provides health education in the community and schools, medical care and counseling, and support services for sexual minority youth. Confidential services are offered in a safe and caring environment.

Volunteering at Links

Volunteers are the heart of what we do at Links. We work with volunteers in every program, and also have a volunteer Board of Directors. Specific volunteer opportunities are described below. If you're interested, please fill out the volunteer application and send it to us. Or, just give us a call – contact information is given below for each position. Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Links!

Clinic

Volunteers are needed to work directly with clients as support workers, or to handle receptionist and office support needs. Support workers meet individually with clients, providing general support while also helping to educate them about birth control, prevention of sexually transmitted infections, and other sexual health issues. Training is provided and required. Volunteer physicians (OB/GYN or Urologists), certified nurse-midwives, and nurses are also needed.

- Hours:** Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:45pm until finished (usually 9-9:30pm) and some Saturday mornings from 9:00am until about 11:00am. Clinic support workers are asked to commit to working twice a month.
- Requirements:** Must be non-judgmental, comfortable talking about sexual issues, and have a genuine interest in working with youth. Must be 26 years of age or older.
- Contact:** Suzanne Hales, 847.441.6191 x2 or clinic@linksyouth.org

Community Education

Volunteers are needed to present prevention programs to youth in schools, churches, and other community organizations. Topics include puberty and human reproduction, stress management, substance abuse awareness and prevention, building healthy relationships, and the prevention of pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and acquaintance rape. Volunteers are provided with training and often participate in curriculum development.

- Hours:** Flexible, mostly during school hours
- Requirements:** Prior experience teaching or speaking to groups helpful. Must have a genuine interest in working with youth.
- Contact:** Melanie Flynn, 847.441.6191 x4 or outreach@linksyouth.org

Pride Youth Program

Volunteers are needed to serve as mentors and role models for LGBTQ high school students attending our Pride program in Northfield and Palatine. Training is provided and required. Volunteers are asked to commit to two evenings a month and are also invited to participate in curriculum development.

- Hours:** Wednesday nights, 6-9:00pm in Northfield and/or Thursday nights, 6-9:00pm in Palatine
- Requirements:** Must have knowledge of and experience with the gay community, and a genuine interest in working with youth. Must be 25 years of age or older.
- Contact:** Erschel De Leon, 847.441.6191 x3 or prideyouthdir@linksyouth.org

Board of Directors

A volunteer Board provides fiduciary oversight, fundraising, and overall management support for the organization. The Board meets once a month and all Board members are asked to serve on one Board committee.

- Hours:** Board meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm
- Requirements:** Must be passionate about Links' mission and willing to support that mission through fundraising and outreach to the community.
- Contact:** Amy Skalinder, 847.441.6191 x6 or amyskalinder@linksyouth.org
- Note:** If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Amy for more information. The volunteer application form is not required.



Links - North Shore Youth Health Service
Volunteer Application
1779 Maple Street, Northfield, IL 60093
Phone: 847.441.6191 ♦ Fax: 847.441.7027
www.linksyouth.org ♦ www.facebook.com/linksyouthservices

Name: _____ Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

If we need to reach you by phone, which number do you prefer? home cell

How did you hear about Links and its programs? (Please check all that apply.)

through the Internet

through a friend – please tell us who: _____

other: _____

Why do you want to volunteer with Links - North Shore Youth Health Service?

Have you done volunteer work in the past? Yes No

If so, what did it involve?

Have you ever worked with adolescents? Yes No

If so, where and what did it involve?

Have you ever worked or volunteered with a program in which sex and/or sexuality was discussed?

Yes No If so, please describe:

Briefly describe your attitudes towards young people, sexuality, and drug use:

Please describe your educational and/or professional background or, if applicable, future plans:

Current occupation (or school attending): _____

Do you speak a language other than English? Yes No If so, what language? _____

Please check the areas of service in which you are the most interested. (See the *Volunteer Opportunities* sheet for detailed descriptions.)

Confidential Medical Clinic

Are you 26 years old or older? Yes No

Are you a licensed or registered professional (e.g. MD, RN, LCSW, LPC, etc.)? Yes No

If so, please specify: _____

Are you available during the following hours: M/Th evenings Sat mornings

Please check which roles interest you:

support worker

physician

front desk

nurse

Community Education Presenter

Are you available during school hours? Yes No

Have you had experience presenting in front of groups? If so, please describe:

Pride Youth Program Facilitator

Are you 26 years old or older? Yes No

Are you available during the following hours: Wed evenings Thurs evenings

Have you had experience working with LGBT youth? If so, please describe:

Please provide three references who can comment on your commitment to volunteerism and your desire to work with youth.

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Please return this application to:

Volunteer Services, Links - North Shore Youth Health Service, 1779 Maple Street, Northfield, IL 60093

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 847.441.6191.