

Benefits to You:

- ◆ Gain practical experience working with youth at risk.
- ◆ Gain experience relevant to the areas of: Corrections, Social Work, Law Enforcement, Youth Care, Counselling, Education, Justice and Law, Community Development and many other human/social service areas.
- ◆ Gain skills and enhance your resumé.
- ◆ Develop interpersonal, organizational and leadership skills.
- ◆ Develop skills in working with youth and an understanding of the issues which affect them.
- ◆ Access youth specific training and workshops.
- ◆ Access employment opportunities within MYS and develop important networking contacts.
- ◆ Boost your career options.
- ◆ Make a difference in your community.

Without the involvement of volunteer Mentors Positive Alternatives for Youth would be unable to provide the amount and quality of service that it currently does.

A past mentor/staff had this to say about the experience of volunteering in PAY:

"The best thing about volunteering at MYS is that I have the opportunity to build a relationship with the youth in the program, to a point where they feel comfortable to talk to me about whatever they are going through."

For more information or to apply contact our HR Recruiter

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Visit our website: www.mys.ca

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Mentor Training and Support (MTS) Project

A project of
Positive Alternatives for Youth
at Macdonald Youth Services

- ◆ Want to be a positive role model and Mentor for youth at risk?
- ◆ Want to give back to your community?
- ◆ Looking to gain practical experience and skills in the human/social services field?
- ◆ Want to have access to training and potential employment opportunities?

If you answered Yes to any of these questions then read on!

What is a Volunteer Mentor?

- ◆ Volunteers play an integral role in the delivery and quality of services provided in Positive Alternatives for Youth
- ◆ Mentors work alongside youth role modeling and supporting them as they work to achieve their goals, develop their skills and stay positively involved in programming.
- ◆ The fact that Mentors are volunteering their time sends a powerful message to youth about the benefits of volunteering and being positively involved in the community.

Overview of Role

Positive Alternatives for Youth utilizes numerous youth friendly work centres to support youth achieving their goals and to contribute to their community.

Mentors and staff accompany groups of youth to these work centres/activities and provide support, role-modeling, motivation and encourage the skill development of all youth.

Volunteer Mentors work with youth from all four PAY projects. These Projects are detailed below:

1. Community Service and Support Program (CSSP)

Youth between the ages of 12-18 who have court ordered community service and are at risk of not completing or have previously been unsuccessful at completing hours.

2. Support Towards Education or Employment Participation (STEP)

Youth who are not in school and are unemployed or underemployed and would like to develop their skills, build confidence and receive support to return to school, find employment or transition to another program.

3. Youth Positively Involved in the Community (YPIC)

Youth who are volunteering their time in the community in order to stay positively involved and to avoid engaging in criminal activity

4. Vehicle for Change (VFC)

Youth who have early involvement in auto related offences participate in educational workshops, recreational activities and have access to aboriginal cultural programming.

Volunteer Mentor Criteria

- ◆ Adults, 18 and over, who are looking to gain experience working with and supporting youth on various group based community/volunteer projects.
- ◆ Volunteer Mentors are asked to commit to volunteering for a weekly 4-5 hour shift/activity and are required to attend three training sessions (14 hours). The topics covered in the trainings will aid mentors in working with youth.
- ◆ Most programming for youth runs Monday to Fridays, days and evenings.

Training and Support

Volunteer Mentors are supported in the Project by the Mentor Team Liaison who will help to orient and train new Mentors as well as provide ongoing feedback and support. Volunteer Mentors will also be supported by all other members of the PAY team on an ongoing basis.