



The Gravenhurst Against Poverty YAC Program

Volunteer as an Ally or on our Committee

to support Young People in Muskoka



Ally al·ly (allied; allying)

Definition

Noun: one that is associated with another as a helper:

a person or group that provides assistance and support in an ongoing effort, activity or struggle

Verb: *to unite or form a connection or relation between*

More about this opportunity ...

A Volunteer program is being developed and offered under the guidance of MiND-AID in partnership with G.A.P. (Gravenhurst Against Poverty), for the purpose of creating a strong supportive presence for young people in Gravenhurst. Opportunities, such as virtual and community-based programming, as well as a new Young Adult Centre (YAC), are in various stages of development.

The Young Adult Centre will be a space designed by young people for young people, which will grow to build its own culture, through its inclusive and open nature. Programming and hours of drop-in operation will gear up gradually to meet the expressed needs of the users. Young people between the ages of 12 and 29 will be invited into the space and programs.

Allies will be present at the Young Adult Centre to provide safe friendship and skilled guidance toward services or resources, while hosting online, in-person and community-based activities for local young people.

Committee Members will create and steer the development of a facility and all programs.

Volunteer hours will be organized into small evening and weekend shifts of 3-4 hours and will be scheduled in advance to accommodate the availability of our Allies.



Who are we looking for? ...

Volunteer Allies and Committee Members must have an understanding of youth-related issues and perspectives, and as such, must be on the younger end of the age scale (at least at heart). Past experiences working in youth leadership is an asset, while a natural ease with others and an interest in providing an invested and positive influence in the lives of young people is a must.

Training will be provided free of charge, both the self-directed online type and some in-person as well. Topics covered may include: Crisis Response, Suicide Intervention, Cultural Sensitivity, Inclusivity & Accessibility, Addictions Awareness, Online Safety, Resiliency, Principles & Ethics of Helping, Communications Skills, Partner Abuse, Safety Planning, Sexual Assault, Bullying, Human Trafficking, Online Luring & Sexual Exploitation, Stalking & Harassment, and Self-Care.

What is involved before the Young Adult Centre is up and running? ...

Volunteer Committee members and Allies will be expected to complete all required training and attend monthly meetings (which will likely be virtual for the next few months). Online activities and possibly some in-person outdoor activities for youth will continue to be developed and delivered.

- Next steps ...**
- 1. Submit this application page for either the Committee or the Allyship to: info@mymindaid.com**
 - 2. Attend a discussion about the role
~ we will contact you to set this up**

Once accepted, 3. Acquire a clear current OPP Vulnerable Sector Police Check

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Volunteer Role(s) of Interest: _____ YAC Committee Member _____ YAC Ally

Reason for wanting to be a Volunteer: _____

Relevant Experience: _____
