



Behavioral Health Volunteer Services Program

Background

The volunteer program was established by the Department of Behavioral Health to promote civic and community participation within the department. The Department of Behavioral Health encourages consumers, family members, students, and the community to have an active role in the recovery process.

Who can Volunteer?

- Anyone over the age of 16. If under 18 a valid work permit is required.
- Anyone that wants to make a difference and has a positive attitude.
- Anyone with current or past experience dealing with mental health issues and wants to help others. It can be your own experience or that of a family member or friend.
- Anyone that wants to have or explore career options in Behavioral Health.

Student Volunteers

Through our program high school and vocational/college students have the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and experience by volunteering.

High School students volunteer after school and during the summer. They get exposed to different career options within the Behavioral Health field. Students have to be part of specific programs (e.g. Health Academies) and be recommended by their teacher.

Vocational/college students volunteer at our clinics, medical records office and business office performing a wide range of tasks such as coding, billing and front office duties.

How long can you Volunteer?

A minimum of **120 hours** are required. There is no set length of time to volunteer. We will work around your schedule if necessary.

How to become a Volunteer

To become a volunteer you will need to complete the following items:

- Volunteer Application available online at www.sbcounty.gov/dbh
- Background check
- Fingerprints
- “Two-step” TB test
- Volunteer orientation along with orientation forms
- Confidentiality training
- Volunteer Tracking System Overview
- Picture for Volunteer Badge

Why Should You Volunteer?

When you volunteer you have an opportunity to:

- Obtain hands on training
- Gain valuable work experience and knowledge
- Network
- Make a difference in someone’s life
- Make new friends

For further information contact:

Susan “Sue” Abito, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 909.252.4045 or Susan.Abito@dbh.sbcounty.gov.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Workforce Education & Training at 800.722.9866 (7-1-1 for TTY users) or DBHtraining@dbh.sbcounty.gov