



Volunteer Opportunity

The Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario (MTSSO) is seeking volunteers as ship visitors.

Ship visitors board ships docked in the Port of Hamilton and welcome them to Hamilton, engage in conversation with and be a friendly ear to seafarers who are far from home and family, invite seafarers to the Seaman's Centre, offer rides to the Centre or local mall, etc.

The Centre is a seafarer's home away from home providing a safe and welcoming space that offers friendship, spiritual support, a hot meal and a cold drink, a place to call family and friends, connect through internet access, unwind with a movie or shoot a game of pool.

See the full job description is listed below.

For more information or to apply as volunteer, contact:

The Reverend Deacon Jann Maloney-Brooks
MTSSO Volunteer Coordinator
905-510-2710 or by email: jann.brooks@hotmail.com

Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario
Volunteer Job Description
Position: Ship Visitor

Position Risk Level:

Medium

Nature of the Position

This position offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to Seafarers.

Outline of Responsibilities

- Welcome seafarers to the Port of Hamilton
- Respond to emergency calls for assistance
- Offer practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers
- Engage in conversation with and be a friendly ear to people far from home and family
- Journal visits
- Bring a “presence and welcome” to ship-bound seafarers
- Provide practical support to crews
- Provide early intervention in critical incidents, stress management and trauma counselling by trained chaplains
- Work with industry and local government to ensure seafarers are not forgotten
- Require CSA rated safety boots/shoes, provided by volunteer
- Proper personal protective wear provided by Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario
- Assist with events
- Attend volunteer meetings and training events as required

Skills & Experience

- Eligible for Port of Hamilton security pass
- Ability to listen actively
- Good sense of humour
- Ability to interact with those from diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Ability to operate both independently and collaboratively
- Willingness to “pitch in” at all levels and in all activities
- Compassion and desire to help others
- Knowledge of Greater Hamilton Area
- Knowledge of Skype, Facetime, WiFi, telephone cards
- Working knowledge of International Christian Maritime Association’s Ship Visitor App

Boundaries & Limitations

- Will comply with the policies and guidelines of the Anglican Diocese of Niagara. This position demands a high degree of confidentiality and as such, a Confidentiality and Privacy Statement must be signed by the volunteer
- Adheres to the Diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy: Sexual Harassment, Exploitation and Assault
- Adheres to the Diocesan Guidelines for Working with Vulnerable People
- Accountable to the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario Chaplains
- Appropriate confidentiality around conversations with staff, volunteers, seafarers
- Maintain a safe environment for themselves and for the person(s) to whom they are ministering
- Adheres to the Seafarers’ Ministry Covenant for Value and Conduct in the Port of Hamilton.

Participation Group

- Seafarers, Volunteers and Staff

Support, Supervision & Training

- Under the direct supervision of the Chaplains to the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario
- Orientation training
- Support from the Diocese of Niagara through the Anglican Chaplain and Deacon
- A minimum of monthly meetings with volunteer coordinator
- Completion of safety training
- Completion of ship visitor training

Risk Assessment Review

Risk	Description	Rating
Participant	Adults	Low
Setting	Centre	Medium
Activity	Hospitality	Medium
Supervision	Typically in Groups, Possibly one-on-one	Medium
Nature of Relationship	Extends over time	Medium
Degree of Authority	Little authority	Medium
Physical Safety	Some physical risks	Medium
Financial	Some financial involvement	Low
Privileged Information	Some possession of privileged information	Low
Overall Risk to Person	Potential risk of damaged reputation, stress, safety	High
Overall Risk to MTSSO	Potential risk of damaged reputation, legal claims, loss of insurability	High

Consensus of Risk Assessment = Medium

Screening Requirements

- Two references
- Police Records Check
- Signed Seafarers' Ministry Covenant for Values and Conduct in the Port of Hamilton

Length of Term

- As desired by volunteer and/or subject to the chaplain and/or deacon of the Mission to Seafarers South Ontario for the Port of Hamilton's approval

Benefits to the Volunteer

- Satisfaction of fulfilling the needs of others
- Personal enrichment and growth
- Assisting the Diocese of Niagara to further develop outstanding leadership for ministry
- Earn intern/preceptorship hours
- Meet people from around the world
- Practice foreign languages
- Gain Canadian experience
- Get the "inside view" of the Port of Hamilton and get "up close" with sea going vessels
- Experience fellowship with other volunteers, staff and seafarers
- Be an ambassador for the Greater Hamilton Area
- Help a stranger in a foreign land
- Further career experience in ministry, counselling, social work, nursing, etc.

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