



Volunteer Opportunity

The Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario (MTSSO) is seeking volunteers to welcome seafarers and host them at the Seafarer's Centre in Hamilton.

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: Host

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| Position Risk Level: Medium |
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Nature of the Position

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

Outline of Responsibilities

- Host and welcome seafarers to our Seafarers' Centre
- Offer telephone and internet facilities
- Respond to emergency calls for assistance
- Offer practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers
- As the face of the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario, the host is responsible for making the drop-in centre feel like a "home away from home" for seafarers.
- Make coffee and cookies available, manage the tuck counter, assist seafarers find resources such as churches, stores, theatre, etc.
- Engage in conversation with and be a friendly ear to people far from home and family
- Journal visits
- 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
- Assist with events
- Attend volunteer meetings and training events as required

Skills & Experience

- 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

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.

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

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

Participation Group

- Seafarers, Volunteers and Staff

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 community service 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