

Sacramento County Department of Health & Human Services Senior and Adult Services Division

Volunteer Services Program



The Volunteer Services Program of the Senior and Adult Services Division, Sacramento County Department of Health & Human Services, provides complementary services to approximately 20,000 clients each year, to:

1. Help maintain the health and safety of County Adult Protective Services (APS) clients -- seniors, ages 64 or older, and dependent adults who are victims of abuse or are at high risk of institutionalization because of neglect, self-neglect, or serious health or mental health disorders associated with aging; and
2. Provide supportive services to help In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) clients – eligible aged, blind, permanently disabled persons, and disabled children, with extraordinary care needs -- remain safely in their homes or residences of their choosing.

Program activities are based on the Division's Vision, Mission and Values principles:

Vision

To promote, protect and preserve the dignity of all seniors and dependent individuals so they live with respect in caring, healthy and safe environments.

Mission

We provide protective and supportive services for senior and dependent individuals to ensure their highest quality of life possible.

Values

- Compassion:** Demonstrating heartfelt consideration of others with the desire to help.
- Collaboration:** Using teamwork and community partnership to bring about positive change.
- Integrity:** Doing what is right and honorable.
- Service:** Ensuring competent, respectful and responsive assistance to all.
- Quality:** Striving toward excellence.

Background

DHHS Volunteer and Student Intern Office recruits, interviews, orients, and matches volunteers with requests from SAS social workers, public health nurses, and other staff.

What Would I Expect As an SAS Volunteer?

- ✓ Professional, friendly, supportive office environment and staff
- ✓ Matched activity according to your interests, experience, skills, training and education; and as a Home Visitor, with appropriate clients who have varied needs and who represent diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds
- ✓ Preparation to assist SAS in direct service programs such as Adult Protective Services and In-Home Supportive Services
- ✓ On-going training and support
- ✓ Volunteer opportunities Monday – Friday during 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ✓ Flexible hours
- ✓ Must be 18 years of age and older, and
- ✓ Pass a criminal background check

SAS Volunteer Programs

Home Visitors

- ✓ Receive a \$3.00 per day stipend (depends on funding availability)
- ✓ Serve as an extra set of “eyes and ears” for social workers and public health nurses
- ✓ Make weekly visits of 1-4 hours with each client
- ✓ Check on client’s well-being
- ✓ Provide companionship
- ✓ Assist client with appointments, recreation, community resources, review mail, watch DVDs
- ✓ Offer transportation to needed medical, dental or mental health appointments, lab tests, pharmacies, and perhaps shopping
- ✓ Assist with light household chores such as putting away groceries, folding laundry, and watering plants, when requested
- ✓ Make a 6-month commitment to the program and the client
- ✓ Client matches are available throughout Sacramento County

Staff /Clerical Assistants

- ✓ Assist staff with short and long-term projects
- ✓ Assist with community outreach
- ✓ Maintain statistics
- ✓ Assist social workers with filing turn-around documents
- ✓ Type, enter data, photocopy
- ✓ Assist with special events and special projects

For more information, contact:

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For other volunteer opportunities in Department of Health and Human Services, visit our web site:
www.sacdhs.com