



## **Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS) Victim Advocate**

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

The SAVS Victim Advocate Volunteer assists sexual assault victims by providing 24-hour on-call crisis intervention and support both over the phone and in person. This includes advocacy and supportive accompaniment of victims to hospital emergency rooms, police stations, and safe shelter. The SAVS Victim Advocate is available by cell phone during 24-hour shifts about 4 days per month. Support and supervision is provided by a partner advocate and the SAVS Volunteer Coordinator.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must have ability to provide own transportation in own vehicle with adequate insurance to travel to and from volunteer sites
- Must pass Criminal Background Check

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- We provide 24-hour crisis cell phone coverage to respond to victims of sexual assault and their family and friends. We respond over the phone or by meeting in person (accompanied by a partner advocate).
- We provide survivors of sexual violence, their families and friends with information, referrals to community resources, and help them make a plan to stay safe.
- We utilize active listening skills and maintain non-judgmental attitude while working with clients to ensure they receive the best and most supportive response we can offer.
- In addition to supporting victims we also interact regularly with community partners (law enforcement, medical personnel, etc.).
- We strive to provide a safe and supportive presence for victims who are using our services. We offer them a friendly ear, a hand to hold, and comfy sweats and socks to go home in if needed.

### **TIME COMMITMENT:**

- After training is completed, we ask for a minimum 6 month commitment.
- Volunteer shifts are on-call for 24 hours, and each volunteer is asked to sign up for 4 shifts a month and you choose the days each month you would like to volunteer.
- Attend SAVS in-service trainings as offered

### **BENEFITS:**

- Satisfaction of helping people survive sexual assault
- Increased knowledge of legal and community resources
- Volunteer from own home
- Gain experience and letter of reference for future employment.
- Invitation to annual volunteer recognition event, verification of volunteer involvement for resume