



438 King Street West  
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Oshawa, Ontario  
L1J 8L8  
F: 905 444 9277  
Email: [info@drcc.ca](mailto:info@drcc.ca)  
Website: [www.drcc.ca](http://www.drcc.ca)

# Volunteer Application

The Durham Rape Crisis Centre, otherwise known as DRCC, is a not-for-profit, charitable organization. We provide many services for survivors of sexual violence within the community of Durham Region. Our counselling services are all FREE and confidential. These services include a 24-hour crisis/support line, with select hours for chat service, supportive counselling and groups for women who are survivors of sexual violence, both historic and recent, advocacy and accompaniments to court and when reporting to police, promoting the concerns of GBV in public and political forums, public education workshops, fundraising events, and community development initiatives.

The DRCC volunteer training programs will provide you as a volunteer with valuable information, experience in a variety of areas including working with survivors of sexual violence on our 24-hour crisis/support line, as well as an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience in fundraising, non-profit writing, event planning and much more.

## DRCC Mission Statement

The Durham Rape Crisis Centre is a feminist organization that believes in the equality of all people regardless of race, class, sexual orientation or gender. We are committed to taking an active role in our community to end all forms of violence against women and children. As a Rape Crisis Centre/Sexual Assault Centre we work with and provide support services to recent as well as historical or childhood survivors of sexual assault, sexual harassment, and childhood sexual abuse and their families.

## DRCC Herstory

The Durham Rape Crisis Centre was established in 1974 by a group of women who recognized the need for support, counselling, and education in the area of Sexual Violence. At that time the existing services did not adequately meet the needs of those who had been assaulted. Initially the Centre was run and funded by a group of women who volunteered their time. They believed so strongly in the power of sharing one's experiences that they used their own baby bonus money to support a crisis line that to this day continues to support the community of Durham Region.

Since 1974, the Centre has been providing services to thousands of individuals within the Durham Region. In 1979, the Durham Rape Crisis Centre was moved to the Oshawa area. In 1990 the Ministry of the Attorney General became our core funding source. Due to this core funding, the Centre was able to respond to the needs of women 16 years of age and older who were affected by Sexual Violence.

We are presently an incorporated, non-profit, registered charitable Rape Crisis Centre. We are a member of the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres and thus, receive support and education from across the province of Ontario.

Charitable Organization #107804825RR0001



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## Intake Interview

Once you have completed and submitted the application within this document as well as your resume, you will be contacted to set up a date/time for your volunteer intake interview. This typically takes less than 1 hour and is hosted over zoom/remotely.

## DRCC Volunteer Training Programs

Once you have completed the volunteer intake interview the next step is to be invited to the appropriate training program. (It is possible to defer to a future session depending on your availability). The Crisis Line volunteers training program is typically offered 3 times throughout the year and is a required part of the volunteer intake process. It consists of 6 weekly module sessions (typically on a weeknight from 6pm – 9pm). After training is completed a brief final interview/self-assessment is conducted remotely to ensure that volunteers are ready to begin their volunteer efforts.

All volunteers must commit to the completion of the applicable DRCC Volunteer Training Program or Workshop for their volunteering role.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are invaluable to the DRCC and have been the backbone of our organization since its inception in 1974. We recognize that our volunteers want to contribute to our cause and feel that their work is appreciated. Volunteering is an empowering and individual decision. It is a choice that includes giving your time, effort, and skills to support a cause that you believe in. Through volunteering with the DRCC you will be contributing to your community by aiding those who are in need and advocating for greater community awareness around sexual violence and Gender-Based Violence issues. You will gain new skills, work experience, and build self-confidence. Your contribution to the DRCC will benefit you, your community, and the individuals you're supporting. As a volunteer you will be continuing the efforts of a legacy of volunteers before you who have provided services through the DRCC 24/7 crisis and support line, as a Director on our Board, or as a special events volunteer.

**For Crisis Line Volunteers we expect them to make a one-year commitment and schedule a minimum of 24 hours or 8 shifts per month. Each front-line shift is 3 hours each and conducted remotely.**

**Volunteers are welcome to book shifts consecutively (ex. volunteer for 6 hours at a time).** *The DRCC crisis line is staffed by volunteers who are women and non-binary/gender fluid individuals. Like roles within our counseling team, this is considered a bona fide job requirement and is therefore an exception under Subsection 24(1)(a) of the Code. More information can be found on the Ontario Human Rights Commission website.*

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors are vitally important to the success, leadership and direction of DRCC. We are looking for candidates who understand the importance of the work we do and service we provide to the community; candidates who are open to innovation and progress, who have local knowledge, and skills in law, business, growth and development. Board members are elected for a 3 year term, with a maximum of a 3 consecutive terms. There is an expectation that: board members are present for monthly board meetings, they attend the Annual General Meeting, all signature fundraising events (typically 2 a year), and other opportunities as they arise.



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healing can begin.*

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## Volunteer Qualifications

The DRCC requires that our volunteers meet specific qualifications. Please check off which qualifications apply to you:

- 18 or over years of age
- Access to a computer and a phone
- Ability to be level headed in crisis
- Understanding of sexual violence (this will be built upon through volunteer training)
- Ability to follow policies and procedures
- Excellent command of English language (spoken and written)
- Good listening and communication skills
- If you have been a client with the DRCC, you must have finished counseling services for at least 1 year before your a eligible to volunteer for the crisis line.

## Volunteer Opportunities

As a DRCC Volunteer, you will be able to assist with a variety of activities. Please check off which roles interested you:

- 24-hour crisis and support line volunteer (women and non-binary folks eligible)
- Board of Directors and subcommittees
- Fundraising
- Bingo Fundraising Volunteer
- Contribute to the DRCC monthly newsletter or to support DRCC social media plan.
- Public Education/Community Awareness events (Volunteer Fairs)
- (Future) Program for Men Allies and Peer support (men eligible)

## Volunteer Benefits

- Variety of individual volunteer opportunities and opportunities to build skills
- Remote opportunities and flexible scheduling
- Career and personal development through experience and training
- Sense of empowerment and personal achievement
- Providing community support and helping individuals in time of need
- Making a positive change in the world by supporting the advocacy for survivors of violence



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## Contact Information

Full Name		Pronouns	DOB(YYYY-MM-DD)
Street Address		City	Postal Code
Home Phone	Cell Phone		Work Phone
Email Address			

## Work | Education

Where do you work? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Full Time ☐ Part Time

What is your occupation/title? \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you go to school \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Full Time Student ☐ Part Time Student

What are you studying? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you: ☐ Retired ☐ Other



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**1. How did you become aware of the Durham Rape Crisis Centre?**

Examples: friend, Information table, public education event, fundraising event, school or other (please specify)

**2. Why are you interested in volunteering with the Durham Rape Crisis Centre?**

**3. Please tell us about your skills and abilities and how you would like to contribute to our organization? What makes you a great candidate?**

**4. Which language(s) are you comfortable communicating in fluently?**

**5. What do you expect to gain from volunteering with the DRCC?**



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## References

Please provide 2 references that are community members. (e.g. supervisors, teachers, colleagues, friends, significant other {only one of each kind}). References are only contacted on an as needed basis.

Name	Relationship	Phone Number	Email
Name	Relationship	Phone Number	Email

## Emergency Contacts

Name	Relationship	Phone Number
Name	Relationship	Phone Number



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## Criminal Record Check

In accordance with the DRCC policy, a criminal reference check (Police Records Check) with Vulnerable Sector Search must be provided by every new volunteer. Are you willing to provide the DRCC with an original copy of your criminal reference check?

☐ Yes, I consent to obtaining and submitting a criminal record check

☐ No, I do not consent to completing a record check

## DRCC Policy

If accepted as a volunteer, I agree to adhere to the agency policies in the volunteer manual/training and to honor expectations outlined in the volunteer opportunities description.

I understand I will be required to sign the DRCC Confidentiality Agreement.

I understand that as a volunteer I may be asked to sign media release, which is optional, in case of being photographed during the course of volunteer activities and that these photos may be used in promotional materials or on our website or other social media to showcase DRCC.

I understand and accept that it is the Durham Rape Crisis Centre's policy to not provide feedback if my application is unsuccessful.

I hereby attest that the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature

Date

NOTE: A criminal reference check will not necessarily preclude a volunteer person from their role at the Durham Rape Crisis Centre. Decisions will be made on an individual basis. All information will be confidential.

Selection is without discrimination and conditional upon suitability of volunteers.

All information on this form will be kept confidential unless harm to self or others is disclosed. Information collected will only be used for the purposes of the DRCC volunteer program. No personal information is shared outside of the DRCC.