

North Hamilton Community Health Centre – Pathways to Education Pathways to Education Volunteer

Pathways to Education is a community based program designed to reduce poverty and its effects by increasing the graduation rate among high school students from economically disadvantaged communities. The program offers academic, social, financial, and advocacy support to youth in order to increase their opportunity for success in high school and beyond.

Role Description

Volunteers at Pathways to Education work directly with youth participants supporting them on academic and social activities. Academic supports include working with program participants on homework activities, school assignments and alternative learning activities while social supports include working with groups of youth to coach students and support their learning and development during skills modules and group workshops. Using the skills and knowledge learned during Orientation and Training, all Pathways volunteers engage in supporting youth academically and/or socially throughout their time as volunteers.

Skills and Responsibilities

- To participate consistently in program sessions
- Build and maintain positive rapport with Pathways to Education youth participants
- To maintain a positive and upbeat demeanor with all youth
- Display care, compassion, patience and understanding
- To endeavour to understand and address the challenges faced by youth participants in achieving success in high school and beyond
- To take part in the set-up and clean up of program sessions

Academic tutoring support entails

- General skills in at least one common high school subject area (math, science, English, social science, humanities, French, technology, etc...)
- To work both one-to-one and in small groups assisting students with academic tasks/homework
- To engage students in alternative academic and social learning activities provided by the program or developed by the volunteer

Social mentoring support entails

- Support the facilitation of small groups of participants alongside Pathways staff members to learn and participate in skill modules (eg. resume writing, leadership, self awareness, time management etc...)
- Aid participants in gaining social skills, new competencies, and personal growth during skill modules
- Where desired, to assist with the planning and facilitation of skills modules and other special events

Pathways to Education volunteers are asked to commit 1 evening per week, Monday to Thursday, during our program times 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm

To learn more about becoming a Pathways to Education Volunteer, please contact Diana Desimone, NHCHC Volunteer Coordinator at 905-523-6611 x3008 or desimone@nhchc.ca.