



## **VOLUNTEER – SPECIAL FRIEND**

North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services is dedicated to working together for the well-being and safety of children, youth and families through responsive programs and services that are innovative, evidence-based, and designed to meet the unique needs of those we serve. Our volunteers play an important role and contribute to the overall care and well-being of children, youth and families right here in our community.

## **SEEKING SPECIAL FRIEND VOLUNTEERS**

**Hearst, Kapuskasing, Moonbeam, Smooth Rock Falls, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls, Matheson, Timmins, Kirkland Lake, Englehart, New Liskeard, North Cobalt**

A Special Friend is a Volunteer who develops a one-to-one relationship with a child or youth receiving services from NEOFACS. This volunteer is a positive role model who encourages personal growth, increased resiliency and self-esteem through shared interest activities. This program involves a regular commitment, ideally once a week and is open to individuals and couples.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Offer support and can relate to the client on a one-to-one basis;
- Provide assistance with budgeting, homemaking, shopping, and other related life skills;
- Participate in activities that the child/youth enjoys and is willing to discover new activities with the child/youth;
- Familiarize clients with available community resources; and,
- Establish a caring, non-professional relationship with the family.

### **Qualifications:**

- Mature and responsible;
- Confident, non-judgmental and patient;
- Enjoys the company of children/youth;
- Ability to engage with the worker, parent or foster parent as well as the child;
- Good writing skills;
- Neat and personable;
- Willingness to listen; and,
- Respects confidentiality.

In some cases, a valid driver's license, clear driver's abstract and proof of adequate insurance are required. Volunteers are compensated for local drives.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Complete an [application](#) or send a resume and cover letter outlining your interest to [volunteer@neofacs.org](mailto:volunteer@neofacs.org). A Volunteer Coordinator will contact you to begin the application and screening process.

For more information about Volunteering with NEOFACS visit [www.neofacs.org](http://www.neofacs.org).