



Volunteer Facilitator Training & Expectation Information

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Annie's Hope and supporting grieving kids and families in our community. Our programs would not exist without the passion and commitment of volunteers who know that kids' grief matters. Annie's Hope programs continue to grow. Therefore, our need for volunteers is increasing. Volunteering within our programs will make a difference in a grieving child's life yet will enrich your life in ways you may not even anticipate at this time.

The volunteer facilitator application process includes:

1. Submitting a Program Volunteer Application.
2. Interviewing in-person with an Annie's Hope staff member.
3. Completing an 8-hour training.
4. Completing a 1-hour meeting with the coordinator of the program in which you are volunteering.

The training is designed to:

- Provide an overview of Annie's Hope.
- Review expectations of volunteers.
- Discuss basic procedures and protocols that volunteers will follow.
- Introduce skills necessary to facilitate peer support groups.
- Introduce the developmental aspects of grief.
- Provide strategies in addressing challenges that may arise in the group setting.
- Provide examples of interactive and expressive tools that can be used in groups.

Due to the nature of grief and loss, the training may be an intense experience. Being aware of triggers in relation to one's personal experience is very important. An increased need for self-care and support may be needed at times.

2024 scheduled Volunteer Trainings:

Saturday, January 13, 9AM – 5PM

Saturday, March 9, 9AM – 5PM

Saturday, July 13, 9AM – 5PM

Saturday, September 14, 9AM – 5PM

Please RSVP if you can attend so we may plan accordingly. You may email Anya Ducan at AnyaD@annieshope.org or call our office at [\(314\)-965-5015](tel:(314)965-5015).

Applicants will be approved to volunteer based on current Annie's Hope volunteer needs within each program and the applicant's availability.

We ask volunteer facilitators to commit to:

- One year minimum of service when volunteering for the Horizons Program (average of 2-4 hours per week).
- A minimum of two school semesters when volunteering for the School Support & Education Program (an average of 4-6 hours per week when school is in session).
- At least two out of five 8-week family support groups in a calendar year (3-4 hours one evening per week for each 8-week session).

We look forward to working with you!

Annie's Hope – The Center for Grieving Kids