

Detailed Job Description

Peer Advocate Counselor Educator

When a client first comes to the center, it is the PACE Counselor who supervises the pregnancy test, gets to know the client and her situation, and assesses how we might be able to help. The volunteer will listen, ask questions and then be ready to offer information, suggest alternatives and give encouragement. The volunteer will generally ask the client about her spiritual beliefs, be prepared to bring God into the discussion, encourage the client to look to God for guidance and strength, and offer to pray with and for the client.

If the client interprets the pregnancy test as positive and states that she is abortion-minded or vulnerable, the PACE Counselor will continue to follow-up with the client as much as possible. If she is planning to carry, the volunteer will inform her about the Learn Earn And Plan program. The PACE Counselor will follow-up as needed, maintaining a personal relationship throughout the pregnancy if possible.

If the pregnancy test is negative, the PACE Counselor is prepared to encourage single clients to consider abstinence, and to make use of the introductory tools of the Sexual Integrity Program. Those clients who are interested in pursuing continuing support in that area can be referred to another volunteer more thoroughly trained with the Sexual Integrity program.

Qualities of a PTPC

- **Responsible** - able to take home follow-up's while maintaining confidentiality.
- **Dependable** - able to be there for scheduled shifts or arrange for replacement.
- **Attentive** - good listener.
- **Open to the Spirit** - teachable, always trying to learn more, willing to use quiet time to keep up your knowledge.
- **Personable** - someone that is quick to warm up to new acquaintances.
- **Able to handle stress** - ability to separate the client's problems with your own.
- **Faithful** - knowing that you can do what you can and leave the rest to God.
- **Not necessarily female** - male Peer Counselors make awesome PACE Volunteers also!

Responsibilities of a PTPC

- Be willing to follow all the policies and procedures of the center.
- Keep records as needed – intake form and log books.
- Accurately describe our purpose, our services and our referrals.
- Be willing to ask questions, get help from staff or make calls to find resources.
- Be present for your shift – every week or every other week, day or evening. Preferably every week for daytime volunteers.
- Occasionally follow-up at home.

Note: Training is flexible but usually requires 24 hours overall to go through training. You will learn mostly from training classes, reading, and videos.