

Childcare Volunteer Opportunity

Be the change – volunteer with WRRC!

We are seeking Childcare Superheroes who love playing with kids while empowering their moms.

Who we are

For 30 years, the Women's Rural Resource Centre of Strathroy and Area has provided emergency crisis response services, such as a 24-hour helpline, emergency shelter, risk assessment, and safety planning. We also offer advocacy, system navigation, counselling, and community development to support women and their families hurt by violence and abuse in rural Middlesex.

We are a tribe of fabulous feminists dedicated to life-long learning, holistic healing, and female empowerment. We come alongside one woman, one family at a time, to support their healing and, ultimately, work towards restoring the broader health of our community. Our vision is a vibrant, connected community where women and children can thrive in healthy relationships.

Your impact

Two hours of childminding could make it possible for a woman to go to a job interview that could put her on the path of stability and independence.

By sharing your gifts of time, resources, and talent, you directly support a woman's healing journey when she needs it most. This healing fosters growth and connection at all levels, changing the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

At WRRC, we believe that everyone is a leader. We welcome your creativity and resourcefulness and will be there to support you in your personal and professional growth and leadership.

What you will be doing

You will be supporting families who access our services or reside in the shelter by offering childcare when moms need time to explore vocational and healing opportunities on or off-site. You will be supervising children aged 0-12 years old and engaging them in fun, enjoyable child-centered activities appropriate to the age of children.

We have a variety of seasonal and ongoing childcare projects based on the specific needs of our clients. You can choose a role that fits best with your interests and availability.

Out of school support during Summer, Holiday Season, and March Break:

- Indoor and outdoor activities such as arts and crafts, a trail walk, reading, baking
- Walk or transport kids to and from day camp (driving is optional)

Support during school months September to June:

- Walk or transport kids to and from school (driving is optional)
- Support with homework
- Indoor and outdoor after-school programming

Other projects:

- Assisting Children's Advocates during children's programs
- Childminding support during women's programs and appointments
- On-call childminding to cover emergencies, such as last-minute appointments

Your additional responsibilities may include:

- Disinfecting toys
- Sorting toys, games, etc.
- Compiling kits for various activities/seasons/occasions (e.g., rainy days, holidays, birthdays)

Location

- On-site activities will take place at our agency at 145 Beech Street, Strathroy, ON. We have a dedicated space for indoor activities and a playground in our backyard for outdoor activities.
- Off-site activities, such as taking children for a walk, are acceptable within Strathroy and nearby conservation areas.

Hours

The hours for this position are very flexible. For example, childcare for appointments at the agency are usually 1-2 hours. We will work together to develop a volunteering schedule that fits best with your life's priorities.

Recruitment process and qualifications

Because of the sensitive nature of our work, we have a recruitment and selection process for volunteers. It includes:

- Completing a Volunteer Application Form at <https://wrrcsa.org/get-involved/>
- An interview with our team
- A Vulnerable Sector Police Check
- Reference check

What we are looking for

- Must be a mature individual, able to work independently with children of diverse backgrounds.
- Flexible and able to work in a fast-paced and ever-changing environment.
- Non-judgmental attitude and maturity when engaged with children who may exhibit challenging behaviour because of their experiences of violence in the home.
- Passionate about women's issues and able to work within the framework of a feminist perspective.
- Reliable and punctual.
- Previous childcare experience would be an asset.
- Current First Aid and CPR would be an asset.
- Optional: clean driving record. If you choose to accept driving responsibility, a 3-year driver abstract will be required.

Our commitment

- At WRRRC, we foster Co-active ways of working, which means we intentionally design an alliance with you to encourage open and honest communication and creative collaboration.
- We value our volunteers as our partners: your feedback and input are always welcome here!
- You will receive on-the-job orientation and training on Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence Sector, Trauma-Informed Practice, and Boundaries. We can share many other helpful learning resources with you – the sky is the limit!
- You can count on the coaching and support of our Volunteer Coordinator and our friendly team of Women and Family Services Advocates, Children's Advocates, and Counsellors. We will develop a supervision model that suits your needs most.

- We will take time to celebrate your impact and envision opportunities for our continued growth together.

How to apply

If this call excites your spirit, respond today!

1. Download and complete the application form from our website <https://wrrcsa.org/get-involved/>.
2. Email application including two references to volunteerapplications@wrrcsa.org.
3. Please indicate the volunteer position you are applying for in the email subject.
4. With any questions, reach out to volunteerapplications@wrrcsa.org.

We can't wait to meet you.

<https://wrrcsa.org>