

MEN'S HEALTH VOLUNTEER

OUR MISSION

The Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention (ASAAP) is committed to providing health promotion, care, and support for self-identifying South Asians living with, at risk of, or affected by HIV/AIDS. To learn more about ASAAP, please visit our website at www.asaap.ca

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

We are seeking dynamic and passionate volunteers to join our Men's Health Program. The men's health program aims to educate and empower South Asian men through:

- Peer Counseling
- Social and Support Spaces (Dosti, Lassi, Snehithan, Cardamom Kitchen)
- Outreach (South Asian Bathhouse Night, Pride Toronto, Clubs, Community Events)
- Online outreach through social media and mobile apps
- Workshop facilitation
- Campaign resource development

Men's Health Volunteers affirm gay/bi/queer men's sexuality, provide HIV/STI and sexual health information and referral services, offer peer support through active listening, and distribute safer sex materials including: a variety of condoms, water-based lubricant, dental dams, and gloves. Volunteers represent ASAAP to the patrons, staff and management at the community venues where outreach is performed. Volunteers engage in an on-going educational process to remain on top of relevant community sexual health issues.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

We are looking for volunteers who self-identify as South Asian gay/bi/queer men, including trans men and who possess one or more of the following qualifications and skills:

- Excellent verbal communication skills
- Can provide peer support through active listening and provision of referral services
- Knowledge of HIV and other STIs, and an ability to place that knowledge within a risk reduction framework.
- Warm, friendly, open personality
- Professional, responsible and reliable
- Comfort with queer men's sexuality, sex and public sex environments
- Understanding of, and comfort with, a diversity of sexual identities and behaviours
- Ability to set and maintain healthy boundaries
- Works well in structured environment.
- Ability to perform shifts on evenings and/or weekends.
- Knowledge of South Asian languages is an asset

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Pro-actively engage men in discussions about sexual health, providing information on HIV and other STIs and providing appropriate referrals.
- Engage in on-going educational opportunities provided by ASAAP to remain up to date on sexual health issues affecting gay/bi/queer men.
- Provide feedback and input to ASAAP's Men's Health Program based on experience gained during outreach and through community involvement.
- Respond to outreach communications in a timely manner.
- Abide by the ASAAP Volunteer Code of Conduct, Oath of Confidentiality, and Conflict of Interest Policy as well as any program specific protocols and procedures.
- Speak with gay/bi/queer men about sexuality, safer sex, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
- Provide referrals on STI/HIV testing, support and other services.
- Gain access to knowledge on relevant community sexual health issues.
- Play a role in reducing the spread of HIV and other STIs and making a positive difference in the lives of the men we serve.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

1. Volunteer Core Skills Training
2. Men's Health Outreach Training
3. On-the-job training with Supervisor and other volunteers

BENEFITS

Volunteers will receive ongoing support and supervision, letters of reference, opportunities for knowledge transfer, invitations to volunteer appreciation events, occasional complimentary event tickets, and awards. Volunteers will also receive more than 20 hours of training on sexual health issues affecting gay/queer/trans/lgbtq men, and skills used in working with these men to promote health and reduce the risk of HIV and STI transmission. TTC Tokens are also provided to volunteers.

TIME COMMITMENT

Minimum of 2 shifts (3hrs each) per month for 1 year.

"South Asian" is a broad term loosely referring to people who have migrated from, or have ancestry from, countries in the region of Southern Asia including but not limited to: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. We encourage and welcome applications representing the vast diversity in our collective communities through language, immigration status, HIV status, gender identity, sexual orientation, diaspora, class, ability and lived experiences. We are committed to accommodating people with varying needs.

Apply by sending a résumé and cover letter to:

Ramraajh Sharvendiran

Men's Sexual Health Coordinator, ASAAP

menshealth@asaap.ca

(416) 599-2727 ext. 227