

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga Family Advocate: Volunteer Position

Volunteer Service Description: The family advocate, as a member of the Family Support committee, is committed to carrying out the stated purpose of the committee and Habitat for Humanity. The position's primary importance is to support the homeowner family (referred to as partner families) by empowering them through home ownership. The family advocate recognizes the family as part of God's creation and relates to them holistically, respecting the values and individuality of each family member.

Training:

- Each volunteer family advocate will attend an initial half-day training session.
- You will also attend specified partner family classes with your assigned family.
- Advocates will attend a once-a-month support meeting that will include ongoing training as needed.

Responsibilities:

- Meet with the family within two weeks after matched.
- Build a rapport with the family you have been assigned.
- Serve as the primary liaison between the family and Habitat to ensure that the family understands the requirements of becoming a Habitat homeowner.
- Monitor family's progress on sweat equity requirements weekly.
- Communicate with the Family Support Committee on family progress/concerns/needs.
- Mediate in times of conflict.

Volunteer Impact: The volunteer will play a direct role in creating well rounded homeowners by giving support and information that is not provided in homeowner education classes.

Age Requirements: Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.

Skill Qualifications: Social Work or Counseling background is preferred. Good interpersonal skills are a must. Previous homeowner education or experience is desired.

Time Commitment: Responsibilities begin when you are matched with a family (usually at time of acceptance into the habitat program) and continue until one year after the family moves into their home. Expect a commitment period of approximately 2 years.

Training & Supervision: Provided by the Family Support Committee

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