



glcs
GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR

ABOUT SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATION @ GLCS

GLCS has operated a number of social support groups over our 30-year history. Their role is to provide a supportive, non-threatening, space for same sex attracted (SSA) people to explore their sexuality. For many men and women in our community our groups have provided a crucial “stepping stone” between the early self-acceptance of a SSA and the confidence and comfort to independently explore the GLBTI world. Our groups also provide a social outlet for SSA people who are already “out” but might be looking for an alternative to the “scene”.

The role of the GLCS social group facilitator is multi faceted. Tasks include managing the group according to the GLCS constitution, ethical principles and rules, meeting with potential group members and preparing three-monthly events calendars. Facilitators also play an active role in maintaining a cohesive, safe and fun social environment that allows individual group members to freely explore matters relating to their sexuality. While facilitators are not counsellors they are able, if necessary, to provide referrals for professional support.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

- 26 UP Facilitator (♂)
- Women's equivalent (currently not active)

TRAINING

- GLCS Facilitator Training (2 days)
- Attendance at ongoing GLCS in-service training and peer supervision

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Our ideal social group facilitator:

- Has excellent verbal communication skills, including the ability to build productive working relationships with clients
- Has a strong sense of ethics and can maintain appropriate client-facilitator boundaries
- Has a capacity to work in a team and in one-on-one support roles
- Has the time and willingness to plan events suited to the group members
- Has a strong knowledge and sensitivity to the issues faced by SSA people

A MONTH IN THE LIFE OF...

- Meet with facilitator team to plan next three month schedule of activities
- Prepare and distribute activity calendar
- Attend group events & field phone inquiries (alternating with other facilitators)

TIME COMMITMENT

- 10-15 hours/month attending and organising scheduled social events, fielding enquires and meeting with clients.

SKILLS YOU WILL DEVELOP OR ACQUIRE

Volunteers who work as a social group facilitator will gain experience in:

- Collaborative group work, interpersonal and communication skills
- The management and development of a well respected and dynamic social support group

GLCS groups are also a lot of fun and provide an opportunity to build friendships and other connections in the GLBTI community. Our facilitators also report a great sense of satisfaction in seeing group members develop confidence and comfort around their sexuality as a result of attending our groups.