



Allies – Sirius Program

Volunteer Position: Allies – Sirius Girls Program

Reports to: Program Facilitator

Are you passionate about inspiring and supporting girls to become confident young women? Want to be an ally? Sirius Girls, presented by **carya**, is a program for high school girls that blends Social & Emotional Learning and Service Learning – two complementary ways to promote positive youth development. Sirius supports girls in developing essential life skills (Social & Emotional Learning) and, with the support of volunteer women allies, provides them opportunities to practice these skills through the development and implementation of community service projects. These projects are created by the girls based on areas of interest or importance to them (Service Learning). Sirius supports girls to achieve greater levels of confidence, and to develop skills to become leaders and change-makers in their families, schools and communities. Our ultimate goal is for them to complete high school and successfully launch into adulthood.

Coming into the program, I expected to be a mentor – to share my time and some of the lessons I’ve learned in life so far. I truly didn’t expect to learn so much myself! Being a part of Sirius, I have learned to be a better listener, the joy of empowering and inspiring leadership in others, to reflect on topics I might not have otherwise have spent time contemplating, and about the current and very real issues that face our youth today... The greatest gift you can give is your undivided attention to truly hear and understand what our youth have to say. You don’t have to have all the answers and you don’t have to solve all the problems. Be a caring and interested sounding board.” Barbara, Ally

Qualifications:

- Must be a self aware, energetic, enthusiastic and committed individual who enjoys working with teens
- A willingness to drop your own agenda , share power, work in collaboration and build strong meaningful relationships with young women
- An attitude of curiosity, to be determined yet flexible and have a willingness to be on this journey together
- A comfort and openness to working with girls across differences of all sorts including life experiences, culture, beliefs and values
- Creativity, patience and empathy is required
- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- A desire to be involved in service-learning projects

*“If we can intervene early in the lives of girls here and in other parts of the world,
you can begin to change the prospects of the future” Jane Fonda*

Duties:

- Act as an ally to support girls in a group setting; partnering, listening, providing perspective, encouraging critical thinking and connecting the girls to opportunities, information, people and resources. (This is not your traditional 1-1 mentoring).
- Support and participate in planned program activities where the group will focus on service learning projects which will be unique ideas from the girls’ perspectives of something they want to change or influence in their world, at school or in their community.
- Contribute to a safe and respectful place for the girls to belong
- Active participation in supervision and focus groups to evaluate program
- Participation in occasional team building activities with girls and/or other allies throughout the year

Training:

- Orientation to the policies and procedures of **carya** and Sirius Girls will be provided including program model, philosophy, values, volunteer code of ethics, rights & responsibilities, and the ally role.
- We will provide ongoing support and training on positive youth development, effective youth adult partnerships and important topics and themes related to supporting and empowering vulnerable girls.

Time commitment:

- Volunteer screening, orientation and training:
 - 4-8 hours total (1-3 session over the course of the school year)
- Direct volunteering:
 - 8 month commitment/4-6 hours per month – volunteers need to be able to attend 75% of all sessions
 - This will include 2 to 3 -2 hour Service Learning sessions every month with the group (dependent on school schedule)
 - Sessions will run Tuesdays in Forest Lawn and Thursdays in James Fowler afterschool from approximately 3:30-5:30pm
 - Volunteers will be selected for one location. A monthly schedule will be determined in advance
 - There will also be a planned retreat, special events and family events that we hope volunteers will take part in of which may require some additional time
 - We will continue programming through the summer, there may be opportunities if volunteers like to stay connected and be involved in the program during this time

Benefits:

- Being a change maker as part of an innovative project uncovering strengths together so that girls and women may take risks, seize opportunities and contribute their gifts to our community.
- The opportunity to have a meaningful, purpose driven experience that will leverage your skills, experience and passion by providing an important safe space and relationship for young women during a key transition time in her development.
- Networking with other women and building relationships with other allies.

Screening Requirements:

- All persons interested in volunteering must complete an application form
- All persons applying for volunteer positions will be interviewed by the Program Facilitator, or her designate.
- Acceptance as a volunteer is not automatic. The purpose of the interview is to determine if there is a mutual fit between the needs and values of the agency and the needs and values of the volunteers.
- As part of the volunteer screening the following background checks will be completed: Children's Service's Intervention Record Check, Police Check and reference checks

If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity please contact the Sirius Girls Program Facilitator at 587-891-9726 or email HR@caryacalgary.ca Please Visit www.caryacalgary.ca for more information



**Sirius Girls Program
Volunteer Application**
Confidential Upon Completion

Personal Information

Last Name		First/Given Name(s)		
Home Phone Number	Other Phone Number	Email Address		
Address		City	Province	Postal Code
Carya may contact me by email regarding other volunteer opportunities: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				

General Information

How did you find out about this volunteer opportunity with Carya?

<input type="checkbox"/> Current Carya Employee/Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Family/Friend	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Carya Webpage	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Alumni	

Have you ever been employed by or volunteered for Carya previously Calgary Family Services?
 No Yes Date: _____
 Position: _____

Please indicate any other languages, other than English

Languages Spoken: _____ Languages Written: _____

Do you have any health issues or physical restrictions that would prevent you from performing any type of volunteer assignments or duties?

Experience

Work Experience

Position Title	Organization	Duties/Responsibilities	Dates

Volunteer Experience

Position Title	Organization	Duties/Responsibilities	Dates

Do you have any previous experience working, volunteering or interacting with youth (not a requirement)?
 Yes No



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Education and Training		
School Name and Location	Name of Certificate/Degree/Diploma Received	Completion Date (Month/Year)

Availability
<p>Can you commit to the following time requirements for the ally volunteer position?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-8 hrs total for Volunteer Orientation and Trainings (1 initial and 1-2 subsequent) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Comments: _____ • Direct Volunteering 6-8 hrs per month of program (One 2 hour session per week each month-dependent on the school's schedule) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Comments: _____

Please check off which time you would be available to volunteer (check all that apply):

Tuesdays, 4-6PM at Forest Lawn High School

Thursdays, 4-6PM at James Fowler High School

Please check off the times you would be available to do the volunteer orientation and training in:

Time of Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lunch Hour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All Day	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Interests/Hobbies
<p>Please list any interests and hobbies that you have:</p>

Skills
<p>What strengths and skills could you bring to the role of an ally that would support girls to identify, develop and implement community service projects?</p>



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Other

Why are you interested in volunteering for the Sirius Girls program?

What do you hope to learn/gain from your experience with volunteering for the Sirius Girls program?

References

I hereby authorize the Community Connector to contact persons or organizations listed below for the purpose of obtaining reference information including information contained in my personnel file(s).

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Name:

Name:

Phone Number:

Phone Number:

Phone Number:

Relationship:

Relationship:

Relationship:

Applicant's Declaration

Before signing, please be sure your application is filled out completely and that you have read and understood the following Declaration:

I hereby certify:

1. That all statements made in this application are true and I understand that any false statements may cause termination of my volunteer position with Carya.
2. That I will make known to the Community Connector at Carya, the details of any past or present Criminal Record. Crimes for which official pardons have been granted pursuant to the Criminal Records Act, R.S.C. 1985 C-47 need not be disclosed.
3. I understand that my application to become a volunteer with Carya also includes the submission of a Criminal Record Check and a Child Intervention Check, if necessary for the position.

Applicant's Signature:

Date:

Please be advised that the personnel information you have provided herein may be used for the purpose of volunteering only, and conforms to Section 32 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Thank you for completing this volunteer application.

Please email completed applications to hr@caryacalgary.ca or fax to 403-205-5281