VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT QUEENS COLLEGE PSYCHOLOGICAL CENTER

The Queens College Psychological Center (QCPC) is a “safety net” clinic dedicated to providing low- and no-cost mental health care to children, adolescents and adults. The clinic offers psychological evaluations, individual, group, family and couples psychotherapy, counseling services, and a variety of group-based interventions including social skills training for children. Each Semester, QCPC selects a few energetic, creative, and mature undergraduate students interested in mental health and public psychology to volunteer at the clinic.

Responsibilities include: Creating psychoeducational programs and enrichment activities for children, developing and implementing promotional activities, participating in community awareness efforts, helping patients fill out forms and measures, creating patient educational handouts, assisting with identifying resources for patients, reading to and playing with children awaiting appointments, engaging children in artistic activities in the waiting room, assisting doctoral students and faculty as needed, and helping with other daily tasks (xerographing, answering phones, filing) at the clinic.

Opportunities: As QCPC Clinic Volunteers, undergraduates may have the opportunity to observe clinic meetings (e.g. case conferences), engage in mental health/psychology activities and as appropriate shadow psychologists and doctoral students in their everyday clinical work. This is an excellent opportunity for students who are interested in psychology/mental health professions to experience a behavioral health environment and gain a greater understanding of clinical work.

The most rewarding reasons to volunteer cannot be measured. Volunteers get to help other people and see the impact it has on them. Volunteering can help you gain valuable experience, get out of your comfort zone, learn new skills, and meet others who share the same values and interests. Other benefits include building leadership skills, learning about your potential, exploring new interests, and developing contacts in the mental health field.

Qualifications: Students’ qualifications for acceptance as a volunteer are based on the criteria below:

- Students are required to be a Psychology major with at least 12 credits completed in psychology. Due to the limited number of positions, preference will be given to juniors and seniors. Freshmen and sophomores are welcome to apply and may be awarded a position if available.
- Students are required to have an overall GPA of 3.0.
- Students would have to be able to commit to at least 4 hour per week (during the hours of 8 to 6 weekdays).
- Students are required to meet with the director for an interview to discuss their interest in volunteering.

Application Procedure: To apply for a volunteer position at QCPC, please complete and email the “QCPC Application for Volunteer Position” and a letter of reference to Dr. Caro at yvette.caro@qc.cuny.edu

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