

Seeking Volunteers for our Peer Support HelpLine!

LGBT YouthLine is looking for 2SLGBTQ+ youth (16-29 years old) to join our remote HelpLine as anonymous Peer Support Volunteers. In this role, volunteers will support other 2SLGBTQ+ youth (12-29 years old) across Ontario by text, online chat, and email.

What we offer

- A 12-week online training program focused on providing an Anti-Oppression, Anti-Racism, and active listening approach to peer support, at the end of which you will become a peer support volunteer on our HelpLine
- Virtual spaces to meet and collaborate with other 2SLGBTQ+ youth across Ontario and join our community at YouthLine
- Continuous learning and opportunities such as skill shares, socials, mentorship, and secondary training to become a virtual phone volunteer!

Requirements

- Be between **16 – 29** years old
- Identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, Two Spirit, non-binary, queer, asexual, questioning, or another identity that falls within the queer and/or trans umbrellas
- Reside within Ontario, Canada
- Able to complete all independent e-learning modules and **attend all group training sessions**
- Access to a private space to volunteer remotely, where you're able to maintain service user confidentiality
- Commit to volunteering **3 hours per week**, attending a monthly volunteer meeting, and volunteering for at least 1 year.

LGBT YouthLine has an anti-oppressive and anti-racist mandate, and strives to recruit volunteers with a wide variety of lived experiences. **We highly encourage applications from those who identify as:**

- Black, Indigenous, mixed race, people of colour, and/or non-white
- Trans – especially trans women and transfeminine folks
- Disabled
- Working class or poor
- High-school age, and/or
- Living in Northern or rural Ontario

Training and Application Details

- Training dates: **June 14 – September 1, 2022.**
- If selected to train for the Peer Support Volunteer program, individuals must complete a mandatory 12-week online training process, running from **June 14th – September 1, 2022.**
- Chosen candidates are also expected to attend an hour-long orientation session to introduce this training system, to be held on **June 7 and June 9.**
- All successful applicants will be placed into one of two cohorts to ensure full trainee participation – one will attend zoom sessions on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays.
- **To apply, please submit the following application form by Monday, May 23 at 11:59 pm:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/youthline2022>
- Successful applicants will be invited to a group interview on a rolling basis so get your applications in as soon as you can! Interviews will begin taking place on May 18, and end on May 27, 2022.

About our Training

For the first time ever, we are piloting a new **Online Learning Platform** for the first half of this training cycle! This means trainees will complete independent e-learning modules and attend group zoom sessions. The time commitment is as follows:

- **Weeks 1-5 (June 14-July 21):** 30 minutes of independent e-learning + 1.5 hours of zoom group each week
- **Weeks 6- 12 (July 26-September 1):** 3-hour zoom facilitation including scenario practice

Themes covered during training include: gender, sexuality, anti-racism & anti-oppression, settler colonialism, trans healthcare, harm reduction, and disability justice.

All successful applicants will be placed into one of two cohorts to ensure ease of participation – one cohort will attend their zoom sessions on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays.

Training Schedule

(Remember you will only be attending one of each set of dates, either Tuesday or Thursday)

- **Tuesday, June 7 or Thursday, June 9 – 6 –7 pm (Orientation)**

Zoom Scenario Practice (Online Learning Platform work done independently)

- **Tuesday, June 14 or Thursday, June 16 – 6 –7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, June 21 or Thursday, June 23 – 6 –7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, June 28 or Thursday, June 30 – 6 –7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, July 5 or Thursday, July 7 – 6 –7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, July 12 or Thursday, July 14 – 6 –7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, July 19 or Thursday, July 21 – 6 –7:30 pm**

Zoom Facilitation & Scenarios (no Online Learning Platform)

- **Tuesday, July 26 or Thursday, July 28 – 6 –9 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 2 or Thursday, August 4 – 6 –9 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 9 or Thursday, August 11 – 6 –9 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 16 or Thursday, August 18 – 6 –9 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 23 or Thursday, August 25 – 6 –9 pm**
- **Tuesday, August 30 or Thursday, September 1 – 6 –9 pm**

Access Note

YouthLine has an accessibility fund to support those who may need additional support (e.g. headphones) to be able to take chats/texts/calls remotely.

For more information on volunteering at YouthLine, please contact us at helpline@youthline.ca. All information submitted on this application will be kept confidential and accessed only by YouthLine staff. Please note that unless otherwise notified, **email will be used as the primary mode of communication.**