

IS TRAINING PROVIDED?

YES. An in-depth orientation and training program is designed to educate volunteers to become functioning members of the OAR team. After a personal interview with the Volunteer Coordinator, volunteers attend an intensive orientation that includes detailed information about:

- ◆ OAR's Programs including:
 - *interacting with offenders,*
 - *facilitating classes,*
 - *providing family outreach, etc.*
- ◆ Community Resources
- ◆ Substance Abuse Issues
- ◆ Mental Health Issues
- ◆ Court Procedures
- ◆ Communication Skills

Professional speakers present each topic in an informal workshop atmosphere with role-playing and audience participation. Additional specialized training sessions for specific volunteer positions are provided as needed. Ongoing in-service trainings take place at volunteer meetings where volunteers can network and problem solve. Speakers are invited to discuss topics suggested by the volunteers with the goal of building upon the initial training and enhancing the skills needed for effective performance.

WHO VOLUNTEERS FOR OAR?

The Fairfax County Adult Detention Center has a very diverse population. For this reason OAR fosters a multi-cultural volunteer staff. Both men and women of all backgrounds, 18 years and older, find rewarding volunteer opportunities at OAR. Bilingual individuals are encouraged to volunteer.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING?

- ◆ Personal satisfaction in helping to break the cycle of crime
- ◆ Expanded awareness of the criminal justice system
- ◆ Opportunities for training and skill development
- ◆ Community involvement
- ◆ Free newsletter subscription
- ◆ References and experience for resume enhancement
- ◆ Annual recognition events and certificates
- ◆ A rewarding life experience

WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

To sign up for an interview, or for more information about OAR...

CALL:
(703) 246-3033

E-MAIL:
volunteer@oarfairfax.org

WEBSITE:
www.oarfairfax.org



Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources
"Rebuilding Lives and Breaking the Cycle of Crime"

Volunteer Opportunities

*"Reaching Out, Giving Time,
Changing Lives"*

OAR of Fairfax County, Inc.

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Monday-Friday, except holidays

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MISSION

The mission of OAR of Fairfax County, Inc. is to rebuild lives and break the cycle of crime with Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources for offenders and their families to create a safer community.

What is OAR?

Opportunities, Alternatives & Resources (OAR) of Fairfax County, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization committed to helping offenders who are, or have been, incarcerated and wish to assume productive roles

in the community. Families of offenders are also assisted in various ways as they cope with the crisis of arrest and incarceration.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteers are a critical component of OAR and they work closely with OAR staff to make possible the many services offered in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center (ADC) and Alternative Incarceration Branch (AIB). Volunteers work in a variety of capacities to assist inmates, those formerly incarcerated, and their family members. Volunteers also provide services in the Loudoun County Work Release Center and at the Alexandria Day Reporting Program.

✓ **BOARD of DIRECTORS** volunteers serve on the OAR Board of Directors or as non-board members on board committees, which include the executive and finance committees and ad hoc committees. Board members meet quarterly. *Time commitment: approximately 15 hours annually.*

✓ **VOLUNTEER TEACHERS AND FACILITATORS** provide leadership for inmate support groups and classes sponsored by OAR. Fairfax Adult Detention Center classes include Life Skills, Employability Skills, Grief and Loss, Parenting, Keyboarding, Computer Skills, Work Place Skills, Anger Management, Fatherhood, and Financial Planning. Each session runs for six weeks for 1-1/2 hours per class. The volunteer instructors also teach the Impact of Crime Class and a Violence Intervention Program. Additionally volunteer instructors teach classes in the Loudoun County Work Release Center on Monday evenings. All of OAR's classes provide the crucial support needed for clients to improve their lives. *Time commitment: two hours per week.*

✓ **FAMILY OUTREACH VOLUNTEERS** staff an OAR information desk during visiting hours in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center lobby to answer questions about rules and procedures, to provide information about OAR and other resources, and to be an empathetic listener for family members and friends of those incarcerated. *Time commitment: minimum two hours per month.*

To attend
Volunteer
Training
call
(703)
246-3033

✓ **SERVICES COORDINATOR ASSISTANTS** gather relevant and pertinent client information, render initial services, answer phone inquiries, and make client appointments. This front line, fast-paced position provides a window to all OAR services and programs and is vital to OAR's ability to render professional and efficient assistance. *Time commitment: flexible.*

✓ **ONE-TO-ONE VOLUNTEERS** serve as mentors to inmates. In weekly one-to-one sessions, mentors help inmates set realistic goals, foster exploration of possible solutions to problems, and encourage inmates to become productive, contributing members of the community. *Time commitment: two hours per week.*

✓ **VOLUNTEER INTERVIEWERS** screen inmates for OAR's mentoring program. Volunteer Interviewers assist OAR to determine if an inmate is appropriate for the mentoring program. *Time commitment: on call as needed-usually two hours per month, or less.*

Help
someone
reach their
potential.
Become a
mentor.