

Becoming a Parent Volunteer with the Parent and Family Drug Support (PFDS) Volunteer Support Network

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Parent and Family Drug Support.

PFDS was established in 1996 as a state wide telephone information, counselling and referral service for parents and family members affected by alcohol and other drug use. In 2000, the service expanded and developed the Parent Support Network and we are currently recruiting new Parent Peer Volunteers to join this dynamic and friendly team.

If you have been supporting your son or daughter affected by problematic drug and/or alcohol use and have reached a point in your life where you feel emotionally and practically ready to use your personal experience to help other parents then perhaps this role is right for you.

Parent Peer Volunteers provide at least one 5hr shift per week from the comfort of their own home on the roster providing telephone support to parent callers. Shifts range from 8am-1pm; 1pm – 6pm or 6pm to 10pm. Confidentiality is maintained at all times and your number never given out to callers, as calls are transferred through to your home phone via the Alcohol Drug Support Service. Shifts may not be busy and you may not receive any calls within your allotted shift at times but it is so important that we have volunteers available to answer calls when parents need support the most. Both volunteer and caller find when a call is transferred through, that it is an invaluable and mutually beneficial exchange.

Other opportunities for volunteers may include providing face to face support in Perth's Drug Court and/or facilitating parent peer support groups. Full induction training is provided and volunteers are provided opportunities for ongoing training and support.

You would be joining a well-established service with over 18 years of experience of volunteer management and of providing peer support to distressed parents. We are a supportive team who look after each other and who also like to have a belly laugh from time to time. Volunteers often report feeling as though they receive far more than they give with the role being very rewarding.

At this stage we are likely to hold our next round of training in June 2019 so please call/email us if you would like an application form clearly articulating that you are a PARENT who has supported a child with alcohol or drug use issues. Due to the large volume of interest we receive, we may not be able to respond to your expression of interest if you do not specify you have the required lived experience.

If you are interested in becoming a PFDS parent peer volunteer, please complete the confidential application form and email it to parentdrugsupport@mhc.wa.gov.au. You will then be contacted for an interview appointment if your application is suitable.

Once again, thank you for your interest.
Yours sincerely,



Charlotte McConnell
Coordinator Parent and Family Drug Support

**PARENT &
FAMILY DRUG
SUPPORT LINE**

(08) 65530239

For **anyone** concerned about a loved one's alcohol or drug use

Confidential. Anonymous. Professional. 24 Hours.
Professional & Peer Support