



Working Conditions

All Visits will take place on the care centre's property
Consultation and training with the MS Society will occur at the MS Society offices and at the care centre

Benefits of Becoming a Friendly Visitor

- Improved interpersonal skills
- Improved problem solving skills
- Increased knowledge of MS, the MS Society and community resources
- Increased knowledge of continuing care and disability issues
- Personal satisfaction in knowing you are providing support for another individual
- Discovery of personal strengths and increase in self-confidence
- Experience in direct client services

For more information or to register as a Friendly Visiting Volunteer, please contact your local MS Society Office:

Calgary Chapter

100, 2421-37 Avenue NE
Calgary, AB, T2E 6Y7
Phone: 403-250-7090
Email: info@mscalgary.org

Edmonton Chapter

150, 9405-50 Street
Edmonton, AB, T6B 2T4
Phone: 780-471-3034
Email: info.edmonton@mssociety.ca

www.mssociety.ca

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THE FRIENDLY VISITING



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



What is the Friendly Visiting Program?

This program is designed to provide informal support for persons living with multiple sclerosis (MS) that reside within the continuing care continuum – long term care, supportive living, and home environments.

The program provides support, increased awareness of community resources, engaging in shared activities, and in some cases provides a means of respite care for caregivers of persons with MS.

Code of Caring

The Friendly Visiting program does not constitute the development of a professional therapeutic relationship and is not a method of providing personal care. A Code of Caring has been developed and is organized into four fundamental principles:

1. Respect for the dignity and autonomy of individuals.
2. Responsible caring for the best interests of individuals.
3. Integrity in relationships.
4. Responsibility to society as a whole and to the mission of the MS Society of Canada.

Friendly Visiting Volunteer Program Goals

1. To expand and compliment existing Outreach Friendly Visiting services to residents with MS who live within the continuing care continuum (CCC).
2. To provide people with MS opportunities to interact with a member of the community that is outside of the family and health profession.
3. To promote a sense of dignity and worth.
4. To reduce social isolation that a resident “may” be experiencing.
5. To provide support and companionship to residents and offer appropriate activities.
6. To provide information about MS, the MS Society of Canada, and appropriate community resources.
7. To increase the MS Society’s awareness of resident’s needs and/or issues.



Attributes of a Friendly Visitor

Friendly Visitors can be young, old or middle-aged. They can be men or women, employed or unemployed, and have significant, or little, formal education. With appropriate orientation, support and training, volunteers will be able to enhance their visiting skills.

Orientation and Training

Following the completion of a volunteer application, an interview, and proper screening, the volunteer will receive a general volunteer orientation and will then receive a thorough Friendly Visiting orientation. Once orientation is complete, the volunteer will be trained and matched with a person with MS. This Friendly Visiting partnership will then be monitored by the Community Connections Coordinator.