Volunteer and Intern Application

SFWAR seeks people committed to:

* ***Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault***
* ***Challenging All Forms of Oppression that Contribute to Sexual Violence***
* ***Developing Valuable Counseling, Facilitation, and Leadership Skills.***

Based on studies of interpersonal violence, there are five communities that are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence. These communities often face multiple barriers in accessing services. This is due to discrimination and lack of culturally and linguistically competent programs. As a part of our process of breaking down some of those barriers, SFWAR encourages the participation of members of these communities (listed below) to become members and leaders within SFWAR as volunteers, staff and board members. *It would be helpful for us to know if you identify as a member of the communities listed below. Please check all that apply for you.*

Marginally housed or homeless women[[1]](#footnote-1)

Latina immigrant women

Formerly incarcerated women

Young women (20 & under)

Trans and queer (LBQI) women of color

I’m interested in becoming a counselor.[[2]](#footnote-2)

Direct services: Hotline, Medical Accompaniments, Peer Counseling

I’m interested in volunteering with SFWAR events and/or administrative tasks.

Non-direct services: Event Organizing, Fundraising, Office Work

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| Name: |  | | |
| Email Address: |  | Date: |  |
| Day Phone: |  | Gender: |  |
| Evening Phone: |  | Age: |  |
| Address: |  | | |

Peer Mentee Info Form

*(Please answer all questions, some repeat)*

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| Name: | |
| Email address: | |
| Main phone number: | |
| Preferred contact method: | |
| Don’t call before: | Don’t call after: |

***Tell us about yourself:*** What motivates you to do the social justice work you do? Tell us about an important mentor in your life. What makes their mentorship so valuable?

***Goals:*** Please share at least three concrete goals that you would like to accomplish while working with a peer mentor.

***Personal Information:*** Please answer these questions as you are comfortable.

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| Ethnicity: |
| Gender: |
| Socio-economic class: |
| Sexuality: |
| Disabilities: |
| Age: |
| Languages spoken/preferred: |
| Other important things about your identities/life situation? |

1. How did you hear about us (please be specific)?

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1. Why do you want to volunteer and/or intern with us?

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1. Please list any groups or organizations you are currently involved with:

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1. ***Volunteers interested in providing direct services:*** Please mark all programs below that sound interesting to you. Certified volunteers make a 32 hours/month commitment for 1 year.

***Counseling Program*** *[\*certified volunteers only]*

Hotline: Hotline counselors staff our 24-hour hotline from their home and provide crisis intervention and information to survivors and the community. Counselors cover two 8 hour shifts a month.

Medial Advocacy: Medical Advocates accompany survivors to SF General Hospital for a medical exam. Counselors cover two 8 hour shifts a month.

Peer Counseling: In-person counselors provide one-on-one counseling for sexual assault survivors, their family and friends.

***Community Initiatives Program*** *[\*certified volunteers only]*

Community Outreach: Community outreach volunteers do grassroots outreach in San Francisco through tabling and street outreach.

Community Education: Provide presentations to youth in SF schools.

***Development Program***

Fundraising: Fundraising/Administrative volunteers work on a variety of fundraising projects, including organizing events, helping with mailings, and office work.

Please check at least one fundraiser/event you would like to be involved with:

Raising Change: benefit house party campaign (year round)

Walk Against Rape: yearly (April)

She Who Laughs…Lasts: biannual comedy event (October)

Artists Against Rape: biannual event (October)

1. Please check all boxes that apply to your experience/skills:

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| I am a mandated reporter | Tabling |
| Event organizing | Marketing/promotion |
| Phone banking | Working with youth or elderly |
| Door-to-door canvassing | Other: |
| Computer software (please specify, i.e. Excel, Word, Outlook) | |
| Artistic expression (please specify, i.e. creative writing, painting, dance) | |
| Research (please specify, i.e. marketing, social science, environmental studies) | |

***SFWAR is committed to “building leadership from the bottom up.” We want our community to include the voices and experiences of individuals who are impacted by sexual violence, especially those who face a variety of challenges imposed by society.***

1. Can you tell us a bit about your background and life experiences (your age, gender, economic background, races, ethnicities, sexual orientation, etc.), and what kinds of perspectives you would bring to SFWAR?

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1. Have you done work like this before (peer counseling, facilitating, volunteer or internship work at a nonprofit organization, etc.)?

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1. Do you have any specific knowledge about sexual assault (for example, from reading, friends/family, personal experiences, etc.)?

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1. *[Optional question]* If you identify as a survivor of sexual violence, what has been helpful for you in your own healing process? How do you think this intensive training will impact you?

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***SFWAR believes that in order to end sexual assault, we have to challenge all forms of oppression and human rights violations. We need to challenge both our own internalized oppressions as well as structural and historical forms of racism, transphobia, sexism, homophobia, classism, and ageism. We strive to create a respectful community that challenges prejudice and discrimination.***

1. Do you have experience challenging your own oppressive attitudes and behaviors (please describe)?

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1. In what ways are you willing to work against prejudice and discrimination both personally and in your volunteer and/or internship work?

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1. Below is a scenario, please identify what issues may be affecting the survivor and avenues of support that may be viable for the survivor.

*A female sex-worker was assaulted last night and is very confused and upset. She is not quite sure what went wrong with her client, but she is now blaming herself. She agreed to have vaginal sex, but her client proceeded to force anal sex upon her. She knows that what he did was wrong but is nervous that the cops won’t believe her because she is a sex worker and have harassed her in the past. She wants him to go to jail for what he did, but is nervous about the criminal justice process because she is afraid she will get blamed.*

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1. Doing work against sexual violence can be difficult and stressful. What kind of support will you have while you are volunteering and/ or interning with SFWAR?

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1. Are you a native speaker of a language other than English? If so, what language(s)?

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1. For volunteers who are native speakers of needed languages other than English: SFWAR offers training on providing multilingual services. Are you interested in attending this training and providing services in a language other than English?[[3]](#footnote-3)

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| *Yes* | *No* |

1. SFWAR does not accept people who are currently perpetrators of sexual, relationship or dating violence as volunteers. If you have questions, please feel free to ask questions or discuss this with the Director of Recruitment and Training. Please sign here to show that that you are aware of this policy.

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| *Applicant Signature* |  | *Date* |

1. Volunteer training is an intensive 6-7 week process. Training generally takes place on two weekday evenings 5:30pm-9pm and Saturdays 9:30am-5:30pm. Will you be able to attend the entire training during these days and times?

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| *Yes* | *No* |

1. There are 4 trainings per year. Which ones are you interested in attending? We accept applications year round.

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| *Spring* | *Summer* | *Fall* | *Winter* |

1. Please check if you would like to be added to our:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| *Monthly email newsletter* | *Mailing list* | *Volunteer e-list for events* |

1. If we are not able to accommodate you in our training, you can select a DV agency below and we can pass your application along.

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| *Asian Women’s Shelter* | *Riley Center* | *Women Inc.* | *STAND* |

***Thank you for applying to volunteer or intern with San Francisco Women Against Rape!***

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| *Please mail to:* | SFWAR |
|  | Attn: Director of Recruitment and Training |
|  | 3543 18th Street #7 |
|  | San Francisco, CA 94110 |
| *Email to:* | [application@volunteers.sfwar.org](mailto:application@volunteers.sfwar.org) |
| *Fax to:* | 415-861-2092; Attn: Director of Recruitment and Training |
| *Call directly at:* | 415-861-2024 x309 |

1. SFWAR’s understanding of “woman/women” is based on self-identification. SFWAR supports and prioritizes the leadership of transgender, gender variant, intersex and gender non-conforming people. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. After successfully completing our training, volunteers are rape crisis counselors when working with SFWAR. SFWAR requires a 1-year commitment of 32 hours/month and one form of fundraising. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. A stipend of $100 is available to our MLAM volunteers upon completion of training, MLAM training and a successful Test Call. An additional $50 is available upon providing in-person services (accompaniment or in-person counseling) for one client. We pay our MLAM volunteers $18 per hour for all MLAM services provided. Please refer to Director of Volunteers and Hotline for any questions. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)