
Intergenerational Volunteer Program at Island Health

The Intergenerational Volunteer Program at Island Health is a fulfilling and enriching opportunity designed to encourage social relationships between multiple generations of people. These relationships can improve the quality of life for the residents of Long-Term Care Homes and help children build compassion and understanding of other generations.

The program is centered around the child and, along with a responsible adult, they volunteer together at an Island Health owned and operated Long-Term Care Homes, interacting and building relationships with the residents in the home.

- In this program 'child' is defined as an individual under the age of 15.
- A responsible adult may be the parent, legal guardian, or other approved adult (such as a grandparent) who participates in the volunteer program alongside the child.

How the program works:

Children and their responsible adult spend time individually or in small group settings with residents of local Long-Term Care Homes. The responsible adult remains with the child, participating in the volunteer activities. The adult is always able to both hear and see the child while volunteering.

Activities are usually selected to suit the child and the resident(s) they will be visiting. Most common activities include chatting while playing board or card games, reading together, or helping with a small group activity. To ensure a great experience for everyone involved, the facility staff carefully select residents for the program, ensuring they are a good match for the child and the child's interests and abilities.

Scheduling:

Most volunteers schedule 1-2 hours per week, or every other week, at a set time. We work with our volunteers to find a schedule that meets the needs of everyone involved.

We are here to support:

Volunteer Resources & Engagement staff are here to help along the way. Our application process helps to ensure the safety of everyone involved. Please reach out with any questions or concerns. A great experience for everyone involved is our priority.

How to apply:

The adult who plans to volunteer with the child applies through our easy online application. You will find a link for your community on our [public webpages](#).

If we can help answer questions please feel free to contact us at Volunteer@islandhealth.ca.