

VSSL COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

WHERE: VANCOUVER, BC

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

The Vancouver Street Soccer League is a volunteer run organization, which reaches out to individuals who have been homeless, are currently homeless, or are at risk of homelessness, as well as individuals who feel marginalized within their communities, or are recovering from drug and alcohol addictions. We address the issue of homelessness, marginalization, and addiction through inclusivity and soccer - believing we can enhance all of our lives through the principles of Fair Play, Community Building, Supportive Partnerships, and Health and Safety.

The VSSL believes in using sport to create community in the Downtown Eastside (DTES). Systematic studies of street soccer teams from Denmark, Australia, and the USA have demonstrated that players are able to find better housing, reduce substance use, make friends, find employment, gain confidence, show improvements in physical and mental health, increase contact with community medical supports, and decrease contacts with police by simply coming to practices and being connected to the street soccer community.

The core service offering for street soccer is the weekly practices. These practices are open to all community members. The VSSL has a strong indigenous player community and also supports many new immigrants. We also have special practice sessions that are designed for female and LGBTQ+ players. Every Sunday of the year (rain or shine) we have practice from 10 am to 12 noon, followed by lunch.

DELIVERABLES/DUTIES:

Community volunteers are core to program delivery and play a role in bringing equipment to practice, supervising and participating in games and drills and organizing lunch for players following practice.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Good listening and communication skills
- Patient and respectful of people impacted by homelessness and addictions
- Basic English language skills
- Positive attitude
- An understanding of the basics of soccer and an interest in the sport
- No soccer-skill(s) required!

ROLE IS SUITABLE FOR:

13 - 18

Adult

Senior

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / VALUE TO VOLUNTEER:

- Build friendships and develop a sense of community
- Engage in homelessness issues in a real and authentic way

- Increased self-confidence and leadership skills
- Development of new coaching skills
- Meaningful and rewarding experience that changes lives

Screening and placement include initial interview on the phone with a VSSL coach and invitation to join a practice. Placement is based on your skills, abilities, interests and availability.

Minimum Age: 16 years

Minimum Commitment: four hours per month (two weekend practices a month) for 6 months.

HOW TO APPLY:

Send an email of interest along with your resume to comms.vssl@gmail.com

CONTACT PERSON:

Amy

CONTACT E-MAIL:

comms.vssl@gmail.com