



Dear Prospective Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Women's Health (The Boulder Valley Women's Health Center).

This brochure includes information about our most often requested volunteer opportunity- the position of volunteer clinic assistant AND information about periodic opportunities to become involved with our organization.

☞ **Clinic assistants** participate in a wide variety of activities from patient oriented care to clerical assistance. The training required for this position also provides a strong base for work in all areas of the center.

☞ Because the clinic assistant position requires a longer commitment and extensive training, we also offer **short-term service opportunities**. These events provide a chance to meet other interested volunteers, "check-out" the clinic and our mission, and help keep the center going.

☞ Occasionally, the center also has other positions available. These range from medical volunteer and administrative assistant to work with fundraising. For those looking for an **internship placement**, we do offer a limited number of positions. We can design an internship with you to meet your particular needs.

☞ For those with less time but a desire to contribute, we also host event-based volunteer opportunities several times a year.

Let me know what your interests are and I will help place you in the most appropriate position to assure that your experience with us is a fulfilling one. Once I have received your application, I will be in touch with you to schedule an appointment for you to visit the clinic and have an interview. *Volunteering at Women's Health is a challenging and rewarding experience. I look forward to hearing from you!*

Sincerely,

Kelly Pollard
Volunteer Coordinator
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A little about us...

Women's Health is a private not for profit agency which provides a high standard of reproductive health care for all women regardless of income. Our mission is to promote self-sufficiency by educating women and their partners to:

- regain or maintain basic health
- plan or prevent a pregnancy
- identify and treat causes of reproductive health problems
- avoid or treat sexually transmitted infections through medical treatment and safer sex practices

Women's Health was founded in 1973, the year the Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion. While the center opened to provide abortion services, by 1975 our services expanded to include a broader range of gynecological care. In the early 1980s, government funding allowed Women's Health to offer subsidized family planning health care. Our services have continued to expand. We currently offer community education, a specialized Teen Clinic and a program and translator specifically serving the Latina population.

Women's Health is also the only non-profit abortion provider in the area. The center provides women with safe and confidential first trimester abortions. While the center does maintain a separate Reproductive Equality Fund to provide women in need with financial assistance for an abortion, none of the family planning subsidies are used to subsidize abortion services in any way.

Our Mission Statement, Vision & Core Values:

MISSION:

The Mission of Women's Health (Boulder Valley Women's Health Center) is to provide accessible, confidential and comprehensive gynecological and reproductive healthcare, including sexual health services and education.

VISION:

Women's Health envisions a healthy community of people empowered to make informed choices about their sexual health and well-being.

CORE VALUES:

Women's Health will meet its mission:

- By providing quality healthcare and services regardless of a client's insured status or economic circumstances;
- With respect for the dignity of our clients;
- With compassion and caring;
- By remaining committed to reproductive freedom;
- By actively including those who experience unique barriers to healthcare access including monolingual Spanish speakers, youth, GLBTQI*, racial/ethnic/cultural communities and people with disabilities;
- By providing medically accurate, comprehensive and respectful education;
- By utilizing resources in a way that provides healthcare within our scope of practice and consistent with the standard of care to as many clients as possible; and
- By providing a work environment for all employees that is affirming and respectful of them as individuals and empowers and encourages success.

About our volunteers...

Volunteers have been an essential part of Women's Health since its opening. Many of the clinic's founders donated their services and a volunteer board of directors runs the center. Many of our staff began their careers at Women's Health as volunteers- coming first to explore a chosen field or to contribute to a meaningful cause and staying because of the gratifying nature of their work.

Our staff and volunteers mirror the population we serve. Women's Health does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ability or sexual orientation. **Both males and females are encouraged to volunteer.**

Service opportunities

The need for general maintenance and upkeep at our center changes with the seasons. Service groups are coordinated to help with gardening, painting, cleaning and maintenance. There are also events to help keep up with the need for clerical duties such as updating and refilling patient handouts and making charts for new patients.

Our service opportunities do not require the extensive training that the clinic assistant positions do and are an excellent way to learn about our center, or become involved before the next training session starts. If you are interested in helping our clinic on an “on-call” basis, please fill out an application and include your e-mail. You will be placed on our notification list and notified as needs arise.

We ask that you...

- are pro-choice
- support the mission of our center

Volunteer Clinic Assistants: What do volunteer clinic assistants do?

- Receive training in reproductive health
- Work with clinic staff to answer patient phone calls, provide information, schedule appointments and make referrals
- Perform pregnancy testing and counseling about test results and options
- Assist in a variety of other tasks (including both medical and administrative duties) as interest and need dictate

We ask that you...

- are pro-choice
- support the mission of our center
- attend all training sessions
- make a 6-9 month commitment to a weekly shift
- come to one Volunteer Staff meeting a month.
- want a challenging and meaningful volunteer experience.

About the training sessions...

We recognize that making the commitment to volunteer is important and want you to have a meaningful experience. For supporting you in this, training is an important part of the volunteer experience. It is designed not only to provide you with a foundation of skills necessary to serve as a volunteer clinic assistant, but also to provide you with a vehicle of self exploration, support you in making a meaningful commitment to the agency and to foster community between volunteers and staff.

During training we explore such topics and skills as:

- reproductive health issues including birth control and sexually transmitted infections;
- abortion services and alternatives;
- issues with serving a diverse population;
- how to support a patient through an unplanned pregnancy; and
- how to get the most out of your volunteer experience.

Volunteers should come to training expecting to learn a lot, work hard and have fun! All sessions are interactive and held in a casual atmosphere at the center.

Training sessions are held two or three times yearly.