

VOLUNTEER

As a Survivor Advocate

Hospital Response Volunteers

Hospital Response Volunteers respond to local hospitals to support survivors during a sexual assault forensic exam (commonly referred to as a “rape kit”). Volunteers listen, believe, and empower survivors during the exam. Volunteers do not partake in medical procedures, but are educated about the process. In addition to listening and supporting survivors, advocates can provide food, drinks, and blankets to help survivors be more comfortable. Volunteers can also connect survivors to ongoing services with Firefly Children & Family Alliance staff.

Volunteers create their own schedules by signing up for 4 on-call shifts per month. Shifts are scheduled around the clock, every day of the week, so volunteers can choose the time and day of the week that is most convenient for them. When volunteers are on-call, calls are forwarded to their personal cell phones. There is always a staff member from Firefly available for help.

Hospitals We Serve

- St. Francis Hospital - South Campus
- Community Health Network (Community North, East, and South)
- Ascension St. Vincent Hospital - Indianapolis

Support Group Facilitators

Firefly offers free support groups for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Support Groups create a community for survivors to safely share their experiences and learn from others. Survivors discuss the effects of trauma, safety planning, the dynamics of abuse, setting boundaries, and coping skills. Groups are held at various times and locations, including both in-person and virtual groups.

Volunteer Support Group Facilitators empower, educate, and advocate for survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence. The role of the facilitator is to guide the conversation among survivors. Without giving advice or sharing personal experiences, facilitators engage survivors to create a supportive environment. Facilitators follow curriculum and create a space for survivors to lead the conversation. There are always two co-facilitators per group.



No Experience Required

We ask that all interested volunteers are ready to learn, listen, and practice empathy. It is not required that a volunteer advocate be a survivor of domestic and/or sexual violence.

Ready to Get Involved?

1. Contact the Firefly Children & Family Alliance Advocate Volunteer Coordinator for more information and to schedule an interview.
2. Interview
3. Background check and fingerprints (paid for by Firefly)
4. Trainings
5. Volunteer
 - A. Volunteers are asked to commit to six months of service
 - B. Continued education opportunities are provided

For more information on our Survivor Advocacy volunteer opportunities: email bhall@fireflyIN.org or call [317-689-8919](tel:317-689-8919) to speak to the Survivor Advocate Volunteer Coordinator.