

## POSITION DESCRIPTION: SUPPORT WORKER I (Level 2)

### Nature and scope:

A Support Worker I will work directly with an individual with an intellectual disability to maintain and enhance their presence and participation in community life, by applying the principle of Social Role Valorization\*. The support worker will also carry out necessary personal care routines and maintain the person's health and safety. The support worker will develop a supportive, respectful relationship with the individual, his/her family and/or support circle.

In addition, Level 2 status is characterized by at least one, but most often two, of the following enhanced support circumstances:

- Person requires enhanced medical support (E.g. tube feeding, suctioning, catheterization etc.)
- Person requires significant personal care (E.g. dressing, bathing, toileting, mobility, feeding etc.)
- Person has demonstrated at least moderate struggles expressing their frustration/feelings which affect their behaviour on a consistent basis
- Extenuating family circumstances exist which significantly increase level of support required
- Worker has enhanced responsibilities/duties (assist with manage of personal finances, medical appointments, support is for someone living on their own etc.)

*\*Social Role Valorization (SRV) is a social science theory developed by Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger, Syracuse University. It aims to address social devaluation by promoting the acquisition and/or maintenance of valued social roles, which will allow devalued people access to the "good things of life". BDACI uses SRV as a framework for its efforts on behalf of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.*

### Qualifications:

Preferably a college or university degree in a related field or equivalent work experience and training. Good communication and problem solving skills; ability to work with minimal supervision. Willingness to study and apply Social Role Valorization. The ability to work a flexible work week is necessary. A Criminal Reference Check and First Aid/CPR training is required. A car is required.

### Reporting:

Will report to the Family Support Coordinator, in conjunction with the individual and his/her family.

### Responsibilities and Duties:

The Worker will:

- A) Assist the person to gain and/or develop valued social roles within their community.
- B) Assist the person to develop and/or enhance skills and abilities.
- C) Assist the person to maintain and strengthen current relationships, as well as develop new ones.
- D) Support the person to make everyday decisions.
- E) Provide any personal care support that is required. This could include performing health-related routines that have been outlined by a professional and are directed by the family.
- F) Assist the person to maintain or enhance a positive image.
- G) Assist people in the community to accept, appreciate, include and welcome the individual.
- H) Be punctual and maintain interactions and appearances which reflect positively on the person being supported.
- I) Show good judgment and initiative.
- J) Complete bi-weekly Support Worker reports and 6 month plans
- K) Maintain confidentiality regarding any information relating to the person being supported, their family and the Association.

**A detailed description of specific expectations, routines and other personal information is provided on the back of this form.**

Approved by the Board of Directors May 11, 2009

