

# Seattle Police Department Volunteer Position Description

## **Title: Domestic Violence Victim Support Team Volunteer**

### **Purpose:**

To provide crisis intervention to domestic violence victims and their children in the time immediately following police response to a 911 call.

### **Activities:**

#### Victim Support Team (VST) volunteers:

- Work in teams of two and are supervised by a VST On-Call Supervisor.
- Are dispatched by police radio and respond immediately to assist patrol officers at secured crime scenes.
- Are equipped with an unmarked police car, police radio, pager, cell phone and resource bag.
- Provide emotional support and domestic violence counseling.
- Assist with safety planning.
- Provide information about the criminal justice system and community support services.
- Help locate emergency resources such as clothing, food and shelter. Volunteers have access to a limited supply of resources through the VST program, possibly including non-perishable food and baby food, diapers, toys, clothing, women's hygiene products, bus vouchers and the ability to place victims in an emergency confidential hotel shelter program.

### **Requirements:**

- Must have a valid Washington State Driver's License.
- Must pass a Seattle Police Department background check.
- Must be 21 years of age or older.

### **Desired Qualifications:**

- Commitment to volunteerism and the Victim Support Team program.
- Strong listening and problem solving skills.
- Ability to work with people from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
- Knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence or related crisis intervention issues (chemical dependency, sexual assault, mental health, working with children, etc.).
- Suggested: one year of relevant volunteer, work or personal experience which prepares the volunteer to assist domestic violence victims in crisis.