

PEER SUPPORTER TRAINING PROGRAMME

What does the training entail?

WCRC, with the assistance of Nascence Education, the WCRC will provide 10 days theoretical training in disability related matters to interested persons (mobility impaired with preferably at least Grade 10 scholastic qualification). The training will focus on spinal cord injuries and strokes, with lots of practical training regarding wheelchairs, transfers and other health related practical aspects.

The idea is that these learners must have a sufficient knowledge base to advise others and to assess the needs of others in their home environment and where necessary to refer them to appropriate resources. We hope that this will alleviate secondary complications such as pressure sores and other disability related problems. The peer supporter must also be a motivator.

Once the person has completed the 10 days training (free of charge), they will be linked with their local APD branch where they must do 100 hours of practical work. The practicals will be in the form of home visits (they will be assigned 2 clients), or job shadowing the OT or Social worker at APD, and attending other WCRC OPD / APD activities as an observer.

The learner must complete 2 assignments with the assistance of APD within at least 3 months after their theoretical training. This will be assessed by the training provider, Nascence and if found competent, the learner will receive 16 credits for this short course as well as a competency certificate. This short course is useful for any person who must take care of others with a physical disability/ support such a person in their home or in a facility.

Currently there is no employment opportunities linked to this training. Should funding be obtained for such a project, those qualified would receive preference.

The learners, who cannot travel in and out every day, could stay at WCRC for the 10 days although there are limited beds available. This must be arranged beforehand. Learners will be assisted (financially) with transport cost, but as most learners will be referred by APD, transport arrangements can also be discussed with the relevant APD Social Worker.

The learners will not receive any money/ stipends for the training/ practicals.

Requirements for learners?

- Preferably Grade 10, but those with Grade 8 can be assessed
- Persons with physical disabilities (Mobility impairment such as polio, spinal cord affliction, CVA (Training material focuses on these disabilities)
- Learners must have the ability to grasp concepts and participate in written assignments (even via a scribe)

- Certified copy of ID
- Certified copy of highest scholastic qualification / affidavit if report/ certificate has been lost

Benefits for learners?

Learners will complete an accredited course that would mean something to our current qualification framework (SAQA ID: 117501: Promote optimal care and support of a person with a physical disability; 21 credits).

Training dates/ cycles?

Training will commence on the following **in- take dates for 2010** (14 learners per intake and training is for 10 consecutive weekdays):

21 June
5 July
19 July
2 August
16 August
6 September
20 September
4 October
18 October
1 November
15 November

Our Partners in this project:

1. APD : Association for Persons with Physical Disabilities in Western Cape
APD Social workers will assist with referring learners, allocating clients to learners and will mentor learners to complete their practical component.
2. Nascence Education: Accredited Training Provider and also the accredited provider for training this unit standard/ short skills programme. The services of Jacques Lloyd from Motivation Africa will be used for the practical component at WCRC.

Queries?

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