



VOLUNTEERING: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

What do we look for in a Restore Volunteer Leader?

- A Christian who has a mature, consistent walk with Jesus Christ. Also, someone who is regularly involved in a local church fellowship
- Must understand the Gospel message and be able to explain it to clients
- Must be in full agreement with our Statement of Faith and Principle and willing to serve in accordance with our Core Values
- Feel a definite sense of God's calling to the position and confirmation of that calling by trusted friends/leaders
- If you haven't experience abortion yourself, it is necessary to have experienced healing in a grief issue in your life
- Must be comfortable with displays of strong emotions
- Must be responsible, compassionate, and adhere to confidentiality.
- Have a flexible and harmonious spirit
- Filled with courage and perseverance
- Nonjudgmental towards those who are post-abortive, regardless of quantity of abortions and type of circumstances
- A basic ability in helping/listening skills
- Must be willing to be transparent and vulnerable
- Have a teachable spirit
- Follow specified curriculum

What is the process to becoming a Restore Volunteer Leader?

1. Schedule and attend a 30-minute volunteer interest meeting with Restore Director, either in-person or on Zoom.
2. Fill out a Restore volunteer application. Must agree with our Statement of Faith, Statement of Principle, and Core Values.
3. Restore Director will inform you of the upcoming training schedule.
4. Complete a 14-hour training which is accomplished in 4 segments through a combination of self-guided and in-person or virtual sessions.
5. Complete Mandated Reporting training via DCFS (approx. 45 minutes online) and submit the completed certificate. Certify once every 3 years.
6. Submit to and pass a Criminal Background Check via IL State Police.
7. Submit character references (3) so Restore Director can reach out directly to them.
8. Schedule and attend a one-hour post training interview with Restore Director.
9. If post abortive, complete the Restore program as a client (10-14 sessions are recommended).
10. If pass all of the requirements and our Restore volunteering program is the right fit, start with being a co-leader in a client group. After at least two successful co-leading experiences and, if interested, begin 1:1 leading.
11. Attend yearly in-services which will provide additional training opportunities.

Once trained, what is the time commitment to volunteer?

Weekly time commitment: 2 hours, depending upon group or 1:1 format
Length of commitment: 3-6 months, depending upon client situation

How am I matched with client opportunities?

The Restore Director will notify you of each client opportunity. You decide which opportunity you want to take based upon your own availability and preferences.

Once matched up with a client opportunity, what are the responsibilities?

- Prior to the start of the first day of client sessions, meet with Restore Director and co-leader, if necessary, to pick-up session materials and discuss pertinent client information/session details.
- Attend every scheduled client session, arriving 5-10 minutes early. Also, if co-leading, stay 5-10 minutes after group session ends to talk with leader to plan next session and share observations.
- If meeting clients in-person, prepare the meeting room ahead of time to provide a safe, comfortable environment. Be responsible to leave the room the way you found it.
- Maintain strict confidentiality of client's personal and session information
- Facilitate a safe and accepting environment with clients and maintain healthy boundaries
- Keep Restore Director updated with progress of the clients.
- Write weekly client session notes and submit to Restore Director within specified guidelines.
- If clients desire, help them plan a memorial service at the conclusion of the program.
- Be a team player. Develop and maintain good relationships with other Restore leaders.
- After all of the client sessions are over, be willing to follow-up with clients within 3 months.
- Adhere to all center and program policies and guidelines.

Where do client meetings take place?

Volunteers meet with clients in Restore offices in northern Illinois or on Zoom.