



Pathways to Freedom Ministries

Volunteering Information Overview

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers for Pathways to Freedom Ministries (PTFM) are recruited from the Christian community primarily through church presentations, one-on-one contacts and referrals from other volunteers.

- Volunteers must submit a “Mentor Application” and be interviewed by PTFM.
- Volunteers must agree to a criminal records check during the application process.
- There is an application process for each institution in which we volunteer.
- We ensure our volunteers are prepared to meet with their matched friends; we are here to support the transition into this new relationship. The first meeting between mentor and friend is attended by a PTFM Coordinator.
- Volunteers are asked to participate in a one-to-one orientation session
- Volunteers will complete a complete training session with other mentors. These training sessions will be held a minimum of once per year and are mandatory each year to maintain volunteer status with PTFM.
- The purpose of the training sessions is to provide:
 - General information about the PTFM program ;
 - The prison system within which you will be volunteering;
 - It will also give you the opportunity to explore and discuss your personal involvement;
 - Asking questions and meeting with other volunteers builds unity, harmony and sense of purpose;
 - As this organization grows and we have more mentors, we believe that training will become peer to peer.
- Additional meetings and training sessions will be held periodically throughout the year to train volunteers on specific topics and as an inspirational sharing experience.

OUR CLIENTS

Our clients can come from any provincial facility in NS or federal institution in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick

- Clients who are matched with a volunteer must want to be in the program.;
- They must have shown an interest in our Christ based faith; and
- They must submit an application to us signed by the chaplain.

The selection process is obviously limited, so it is always hoped that the volunteer’s love and grace toward the client will help overcome differences that will arise.

Our volunteers make a commitment in terms of personal concern, time and involvement.

Many people in prison have no one else on the outside that cares and so the volunteer may be the only friend that the prisoner has from the community. The person may have a few other friends or relations that may or may not visit. Either way, your commitment to friendship is a considerable responsibility which should not be entered into without careful thought and prayer. Our volunteers may be the only model of what a Christian disciple looks like.

OTHER VOLUNTEERS:

Volunteers are needed in other areas of this ministry, if interested please don’t hesitate to inquire.