



What is a Volunteer?

- Understands and supports our mission and helps us reach our goals.
- Is aware of participants' well-being while at the retreat.
- Demonstrates he/she has allowed time for own healing if a cancer survivor. Does not personalize own cancer experiences during the retreat at anytime.
- Refers any issues to the Retreat Coordinator or Team Captains for their evaluation and follow-through.
- Provides positive atmosphere and empathizes with participants without sharing personal experiences or giving a diagnosis or "expert opinion".
- Works with participants in all situations while remaining empathetic and non-judgmental.
- Provides ongoing positive support to all participants and fellow volunteers; including sensitivity to cultural, gender, age, religious, ethnic and socio-economic differences.
- Enjoys the outdoors and believes participants benefit from nature and the environment.
- Demonstrates clear active-listening communication skills and strong interpersonal/communication skills.
- Recognizes and ensures the safety of everyone at all times.
- Wears nametag at all times and maintains a neat and friendly appearance.
- Is prompt, dependable and reliable.
- Is available at all times during a retreat to assist with retreat activities.
- Does not depart from designated retreat facilities without direct approval of Retreat Coordinator.
- Leaves his/her ego at home.
- Understands that participants' comfort and expectations are essential to a positive retreat experience.
- Understands the importance of confidentiality and respect the needs and privacy of everyone.
- Understands each participant's cancer diagnosis and course of treatment is unique. Does not recommend specific procedures, treatments or physicians. Knows his/her role is to provide support and, when appropriate, education.
- Understands many people live with cancer and, in increasing numbers, survive their cancer experiences. While cancer is a frightening disease, it also is known to provoke individuals to take stock of their lives and their priorities, and thus attribute positive value to their cancer experience. This acceptance comes to different people at different times. Volunteers accept participants wherever they are at on this journey.
- Is respectful and conducts self in a professional manner with all participants, volunteers, lodge staff, lodge visitors, fishermen and anyone using the river.
- Participates in/initiates activities with participants or other volunteers.
- Maintains boundaries and understanding of the volunteer role.
- Shares smiles and laughter.
- Has fun.