



## **V102 – Children’s Relief Nursery Volunteer**

**Program:** Children’s Relief Nursery

**Location:** 8425 N. Lombard, Portland, OR 97203

**Purpose:** To engage in the therapeutic classroom principles to help children overcome obstacles that keep them from reaching the developmental level appropriate for their age.

**Position Description:** Under the supervision of the Early Childhood Specialist and Staff Classroom Assistant, the volunteer will provide a safe and nurturing learning environment for the children. The volunteer will assist children during transitions, sit with children during play, participate in music and art activities, and model language throughout the day. Volunteers will also help staff maintain a safe, clean and uncluttered space for the children.

**Impact:** The time you spend with the children offers them attention and support they may not be receiving from their primary caretaker. Your interactions with the kids show them appropriate behavior and language. These are important points when overcoming developmental delays. Your time in the classroom also ensures the lowest possible student to adult ratio, which means the highest quality care for the children.

**Duties:** • Meet the children at the bus at approximately 8:50 (Note: volunteers do not ride on the bus) • Join the children at the table for meals, engage in conversation, and teach proper mealtime etiquette • Assist with hand washing before and after meals; wipe down the table and chairs after meals • Assist children during transitions between meals and activities • Participate fully in music, art, and sensory table activities • Read and sing with the children during circle time • Alert staff if/when issues arise • Walk children to the bus at the end of the day.

**Qualification, Requirements, and Trainings:** Ability to move rapidly and lift up to 30lbs • Willingness to interact with children and have fun! • Flexible and willing to adapt to changing needs in the classroom • Be comfortable getting messy (e.g., paint, sand, water play, and sensory activities) • Volunteers will never be alone with the children and do not change diapers • Attend Orientation and Therapeutic Principles Training at CRN (e.g., learning classroom language).

**Time Commitment:** Shifts are from 8:50-12:15 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and/or Thursdays • A commitment of six months, or more is necessary to provide our kids with the stability they need

**Position Benefits:** • Opportunity to have joyful personal interactions with young children who appreciate attention from caring adults • Exercise – almost constant motion! • Exposure to Spanish language • Valuable early-childhood experiences that may be helpful professionally • Understanding of culture and goals when working with children that are developmentally delayed • Lots of laughs and great fun playing with children, participating in art projects, music class and outdoor activities.

**Support:** Your classroom's teachers are your main support.