

**JULIE
VALENTINE**
center

Volunteer **OPPORTUNITIES**

Advocate. Empower. Transform Lives.

Together, let's create a safer, stronger community.

Our History

The Julie Valentine Center is the child abuse and sexual assault recovery center providing free confidential services in Greenville, South Carolina. The agency's mission is to stop sexual violence and child abuse and the impact of these crimes through prevention, investigation, collaboration, treatment, and advocacy. Services are provided for children and families through the Center's nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). As South Carolina's first Rape Crisis Center, established in 1974, Julie Valentine Center is recognized as a leader in the field. In 2016, the Center made history by hiring the first Rape Crisis/ CAC Chaplain and creating a nationally recognized model for spiritual care services for survivors and their families. Julie Valentine Center has been working to stop child abuse and sexual assault before it happens, reduce trauma, and re-establish safety for victims and their families for 50 years.



Why Volunteer?

Without volunteers, our services could not exist. Last year, our volunteers spent more than 9,000 hours dedicating their time to work with our clients. To provide the same services through staff would require hiring nearly five additional full-time employees, a luxury many non-profits cannot afford. That's why the services provided by our volunteers are essential!

Who Can Volunteer?

At the Julie Valentine Center, we believe everyone can make a meaningful impact. We offer both direct and indirect volunteer opportunities, including options for businesses, churches, groups, individuals, and families.

Event/Community Engagement

Events and community engagement provides volunteers with a meaningful platform to actively engage, connect, and foster relationships within the broader community, supporting victims and survivors.

REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Be at least 18 years of age or have signed guardian consent
- ✓ Invitation to volunteer with the center

Direct Services

Direct services are when volunteers provide direct support to victims and survivors. Given the sensitive nature of this work and the individuals we assist, direct service volunteers must meet the specific requirements.

REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ Successfully complete the Volunteer Advocacy Training Program
 - ✓ Pass a screening and criminal background check
 - ✓ Be at least 18 years of age
 - ✓ Invitation to volunteer with the center
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Community and Event Engagement

Annual Events

Julie Valentine Luncheon

Support the Julie Valentine Center Luncheon on **February 14th!** Join us as a volunteer for tasks like event set-up, registration, greeting guests, and tear-down. Your contribution on this day will make a real impact in supporting our community.

Great volunteer opportunity for:

- Individuals
- Small Groups

Have a Heart JVC

April is Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and we're inviting volunteers to join us in fundraising through diverse events scheduled throughout the month and in assisting with our Restaurant 'Have a Heart' Campaign.

Great volunteer opportunity for:

- Individuals
- Large Groups
- Small Groups

Run-2-Overcome

Held on the **first Saturday in August**, we host a 5/10K race to raise awareness about sexual violence while supporting the Julie Valentine Center and its clients. Join us for event planning and to lend a hand on race day—assisting with set-up, registration, cheering on the runners as they reach the finish line, and aiding in the smooth tear-down process. This event offers a fantastic opportunity for families and large groups to get involved and make a difference within the community!

Great volunteer opportunity for:

- Individuals
- Small Groups
- Corporate Volunteering
- Families
- Large Groups

Group Projects

Businesses, social groups, or religious organizations have the opportunity to give back to the community through collective project ideas. We've had the pleasure of collaborating with groups that dedicated their efforts to various impactful initiatives such as grounds beautification, interior and exterior painting, crafting gift bags for our clients, engaging in art projects, and organizing yard sales on behalf of JVC. Got an idea? Connect with us to share your suggestions and collaborate on impactful projects!

On-Going Opportunities

Office Assistance

Volunteers can support office operations by aiding in organization, data entry (including volunteer hours, grant details, document updates, and training records), as well as assisting in inventory management, event preparation from our storage unit, and overall office upkeep. Additionally, volunteers can help facilitate phone communication and handle mail dispatches for the center.

Agency Representative

Volunteers will serve as ambassadors for the Julie Valentine Center, representing JVC at health fairs, community events, volunteer fairs, and various other events that occur regularly throughout the year. This role involves engaging directly with community members.

Support for Education Programs

Volunteers are invited to support our education team's collaboration with the Greenville County School system by facilitating the delivery of educational materials to schools before program commencement and ensuring their collection afterward for return to JVC.

This opportunity requires a commitment statement and flexibility in scheduling throughout the Greenville County Academic School Year.

Bar Outreach Program

Volunteers can join our Bar Outreach Program, aimed at educating the community about drug-facilitated sexual assault and providing guidance on assisting those in need. Volunteers will actively promote and engage patrons at various bars and restaurants, fostering awareness and support for those who have been impacted by sexual assault.

Direct Services

Volunteer Victim Advocate Program

Join our Victim Advocacy Volunteer Program, where you'll directly support victims and survivors. Volunteers sign up for shifts to staff our 24/7 hotline and accompany victims to the Emergency Room at various hospitals in the Upstate. As an advocate, you empower victims and survivors of childhood sexual abuse and adult sexual assault, providing crucial support and education. Additionally, Victim Advocate Volunteers will offer comprehensive support and education to secondary victims, such as family members and significant others.

Great volunteer opportunity for:

Individuals

Victim Advocacy: Frequently Asked Questions

How do I become a Victim Advocate Volunteer?

We'll send you an application to complete! Following this, we'll arrange an interview, providing the option for either an in-person or virtual meeting. After the interview, we'll conduct a standard background check. While we wish we could accept all volunteers, sometimes the role might not be the best fit due to the nature of the work. If you are invited to act as a Victim Advocate Volunteer with the Julie Valentine Center, you'll receive information about the next available training session. These sessions occur quarterly, and completion of this training is mandatory before starting work with clients.

What training is required to become a Victim Advocate Volunteer?

As part of our Victim Advocate Program, volunteers must participate in training that equips advocates with the skills and knowledge necessary to support victims and survivors. Covering various topics such as boundaries, reporting, confidentiality, crisis management, and more, this training enables volunteers to fulfill the 15-hour Basic Victim Service Provider (VSP) Requirements accredited by the Office of Victim Services Education and Certification. Additionally, you will have opportunities to participate in online training sessions throughout the year to fulfill an annual 12-hour VSP training requirement.

What does the schedule look like?

Given the limited number of training sessions available annually, we ask Volunteer Victim Advocates to commit to **one year** of volunteer work at the Julie Valentine Center. Additionally, during this initial year, we ask volunteers to dedicate **24 hours** per month, covering on-call shifts of either 6 or 12 hours. Shifts span the weekend, starting on Friday evening and continuing through Sunday night:

- Morning shifts from 6 AM to 12 PM
- Afternoon shifts from 12PM to 6PM
- Evening shifts from 6 PM to 6 AM

We recognize that volunteers may be students, parents, have travel plans, or encounter personal emergencies, making it challenging to meet the hourly requirements. If you're unsure about making the commitment, we're happy to discuss individual cases and how we can work with your schedule.


What if I receive multiple calls or can't assist a client during my shift?

Every week, you'll receive our Newsletter and schedule, which contain the contact information of the Staff on Call (SOC). If you receive multiple calls or are unable to accompany a client to the Emergency Room during your scheduled hours, you can contact the listed SOC for assistance and support.

Do I have to be a resident of Greenville County to volunteer?


Nope! However, since volunteers are called to respond to hospitals within Greenville, we do ask that you live within an hour's travel time of the area.

Who Do I Contact?



To sign up for **event volunteer opportunities** or group projects, please contact Maria Chulkas at (864) 331-0560 ext. 234 or via email at mchulkas@julievalentinecenter.org.

To apply as a **Victim Advocate Volunteer**, please contact Cassie Bell at (864) 331-0560 ext. 244 or via email at cbell@julievalentinecenter.org.



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