

Social Group Co-Facilitator for Autistic Adults

Position Title: Co-Facilitator **Reports To:** Director of Programs

Position Type: Contract (as applicable) Required Weekend Availability

Location: In-Person – Colorado Springs **Compensation:** \$20-\$25 an hour

Position Summary

The Co-Facilitator for the Autistic Adults (Ages 18+) plays a key role in fostering a welcoming, inclusive, and engaging environment where autistic adults can connect, build friendships, and develop social confidence. In collaboration with the Lead Facilitator, you will support group discussions, plan and implement social activities, and ensure that the space remains supportive and respectful for all participants. This position is ideal for someone passionate about empowering autistic people, with experience in group facilitation, social skill development, or peer support.

Key Responsibilities

• Group Facilitation and Support:

- Assist in leading regular social group meetings, ensuring they are engaging and inclusive.
- Support discussions and activities that encourage positive social interactions and friendships.
- Encourage participation while respecting diverse communication styles and comfort levels.
- Work alongside the Lead Facilitator to create a structured yet flexible environment where members feel valued.
- Work with organizational leadership to align group initiatives with broader organizational goals.

Program Planning and Coordination:

- Collaborate with the Lead Facilitator to design social activities tailored to the interests and needs of the group.
- Plan and coordinate with the Director of Programs and Lead Facilitator.
- Ensure accessibility considerations are met to accommodate all participants.

• Community Building:

- Foster a welcoming atmosphere that promotes friendship, self-expression, and belonging.
- Help participants navigate social interactions in a way that aligns with their groups and individual preferences and needs.
- Promote mutual respect, understanding, and positive communication among group members.

Administration, Reporting, and Communication:

- Assist in tracking attendance, session topics, and participant feedback. Report any feedback and improvements.
- Communicate with the Lead Facilitator and Director of Programs regarding group dynamics and any concerns.
- Support outreach efforts to encourage participation and engagement.

Key Competencies

- **Empathy and Understanding:** Ability to connect with autistic adults in a supportive and encouraging manner.
- **Active Listening:** Creates space for participants to express themselves in a way that feels comfortable for them.
- Adaptability: Able to adjust facilitation style to meet the needs of different participants.
- **Social Coaching:** Capable of gently guiding participants through social interactions when needed.
- Collaboration: Works effectively with the Lead Facilitator, organizational staff, and participants.
- Conflict Resolution: Handles challenges in a respectful and constructive manner.
- Creativity: Brings fresh ideas for activities and discussions to keep sessions engaging.
- **Cultural Competence:** Respects and values diverse backgrounds, identities, and communication styles.

Requirements and Qualifications

Education and Experience:

- Experience working with adults in a social, educational, or therapeutic setting.
- Background in education, social work, psychology, programming, or a related field (preferred but not required).
- Experience facilitating group discussions or activities (preferred).
- Knowledge of autism and neurodiversity, either through lived experience or professional work.

Skills and Attributes:

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Patience, empathy, and the ability to foster a supportive group dynamic.
- Comfortable guiding both structured and unstructured social interactions.
- A commitment to creating inclusive and empowering spaces for autistic individuals in social settings while working independently and with a team.

Technical Requirements:

Access to a reliable computer, internet connection, and video conferencing tools (e.g., Zoom).

Preferred Experience (Not Required)

- Planning social group outings or programming.
- Experience working with or supporting neurodiverse communities.
- Knowledge of accessibility best practices in meetings and events.

Time Commitment

- Expected hours of 4–6 hours per month, including meeting time, preparation, and social meetings.
- Mandatory ASC meetings and optional events (annual fundraisers, community or sponsored events)

Application Process

Interested candidates should submit a brief cover letter outlining their qualifications and interest in the role and resume to program@autismcolorado.org. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.