



## **Volunteer Opportunities**

There are two types of Quality First volunteer opportunities available:

- Working collaboratively and in consultation with A Quality First consultant or centre staff and supervisor through the use of an evaluation tool
- Conducting professional development training for centre staff and/or supervisors

### **1. Collaboration with programs**

#### ***What will I be doing?***

- Attend a training event to learn about the use of the tool
- Administer the tool in a participating program room
- Prepare a report
- Share the report with the centre supervisor and participating educator
- Attend meetings to connect with other volunteers and establish ongoing inter-rater reliability between volunteers

#### ***How much time will I need to invest?***

The amount of time will depend on the tool you are administering.

In general, the time ranges from approximately 4 - 8 hours per tool, in addition to the meeting time. These meetings are held quarterly and are approximately 1.5 hours in length.

Volunteers decide which tool and how often they are able to administer the tool in any given time period.

#### ***Tools used in the Quality First models:***

Early childhood Environment Rating Scale  
Infant-Toddler Environment Rating Scale  
School-age Care Environment Rating Scale  
Inclusion Quality Scale  
Caregiver Interaction Scale

### ***What skills and attitudes do I need for collaborating with programs?***

- Commitment to quality child care for the early childhood community
- Relationship building
- Ability to communicate sensitive information respectfully and with care
- Ability to work collaboratively with others
- Non-judgmental
- Knowledge of best practices in early childhood care and learning settings
- Observation skills
- Experience working in child care settings
- Confidentiality
- Respecting the expertise of the individuals in the organization

## **2. Conducting professional development events**

Quality First provides a variety of professional development activities for its participating programs. These activities are designed to provide participants with information to build knowledge and skills, promote further thinking about quality, and support the connection of participants to each other.

### ***What will I be doing?***

There are a number of information sessions and workshops to deliver to Quality First participants. You are able to choose which type of event fits with your interests and knowledge.

For example:

- Partners in Quality session
- The Quality Inclusive Education Checklist session
- The Caregiver Interaction Scale session
- Lead Coaching Network sessions for Supervisors

### ***How much time will I need to invest?***

Each session that you deliver will have the following time commitments:

- Attendance at a “train-the-trainer” session
- Preparation time
- Delivery time

### ***What skills and attitudes do I need?***

- Commitment to quality child care for the early childhood community
- Knowledge and skill in organizing information
- Awareness of adult learning needs
- Skills in facilitating adult learning

*It is preferable that the volunteer has taken “Presentations 101”, a 5-session series offered by Halton Region Children’s Services Program Support Services Team. Call 905-825-6000 ext.2539 for more information.*

***What skills and attitudes do I need?***

- Commitment to quality child care for the early childhood community
- Ability to work cooperatively and respectfully with others in a committee format
- Willingness to share ideas, listen to other perspectives and problem-solve through differences

*Please contact the Quality First Volunteer Coordinator for more information about how you can be involved as a volunteer.*



Quality First is a program of The Halton Resource Connection