Overview of Sound Mental Health Programs for Volunteers
Emerald House

Emerald House (EH) is a clubhouse providing a therapeutic community for adult mental health consumers (clients) dealing with long-term psychiatric disabilities (mood disorders, schizophrenia, etc.). Some consumers/members may also have a physical disability. Emerald House’s foremost priority is to provide a safe, comfortable environment for its members to feel accepted. Members participate in the planning, design, and implementation of the clubhouse’s programs. The Fountain House model is employed through work units. Staff and members work collegially in work units, teaching job skills, advocacy and resource development. Services provided through EH include vocationally focused day treatment and case management. Clubhouse program hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Attendance at staff meetings and consultations is highly recommended.

Vocational Services

Vocational Services provides comprehensive vocational services to adults with disabilities (including mental illness and developmental disabilities), as well as those in recovery from substance abuse, head injuries, physical abuse and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The degree and extent of the diagnosis has impaired their functioning in the labor market. Vocational Services provides job training and development, allowing each client to maximize his or her potential in the work force. Staff is encouraged to be creative in accessing the labor market and doing job development on behalf of their clients.

Community Networks Program

Community Networks Program (CNP) provides comprehensive mental health services to adults with a dual diagnosis (mental illness and a developmental disability). This is a traditionally under-served and unacknowledged population. Among the diagnoses seen most often are autism, cerebral palsy and mental retardation. Primary goals of CNP are to successfully stabilize clients in the community, advocate for them and enhance their quality of life through individual, family and group therapies and case management services.