

FAQ: Support Worker (Youth Programs)

Q: Who is a Support Worker?

A: A Support Worker is an individual who supports a youth on a 1:1 level at any youth program (Youth In Action, Youth Retreat) offered by Simcoe Community Services. Simcoe Community Services provides supports at 1:4 or 1:5 ratios at our Youth In Action and Youth Retreat Programs.

Q: Does my son/daughter need a Support Worker?

A: Support Workers are put in place when a youth needs support outside of a 1:4 or 1:5 ratio provided by Simcoe Community Services. We reserve the right to determine 1:1 support needs for a youth participating in programs.

Q: Who is a Support Worker hired by?

A: A Support Worker is hired by the youth's family/guardian to provide 1:1 support to the youth.

Q: What are the Support Worker requirements?

A: In order for a family-employed Support Worker to accompany your youth to an event, that Support Worker must either:

1. Submit a Criminal Reference Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening that has been completed within the last 90 days from the time of submission, OR
2. Must be a screened CHAP Worker

Q: Who is a CHAP Worker?

A: A CHAP Worker is an individual who is a Community Helper for Active Participation and screened through respiteservices.com. For more information on CHAP Workers please contact:

Carolyn Harris
Respite Coordinator
705-726-9082 extension 2259
charris@simcoecommunityservices.ca

Q: Will my son/daughter be able to attend without a Support Worker?

A: If your son/daughter's support needs fall outside of the 1:4 or 1:5 ratios offered by Simcoe Community Services then the family will be required to hire a Support Worker in order for your youth to attend.

Q: If my son/daughter needs a Support Worker but I am unable to find a suitable worker or do not have the requirements in on time will he/she be able to attend?

A: No, any youth who requires a Support Worker must ensure that the Support Worker fulfills the requirements prior to or on the first day of the program.

Q: Will my son/daughter be supported by another youth's Support Worker?

A: No, Support Workers attend only to the youth they are hired to support. All youth who do not attend with a Support Worker will be supported by the hired Simcoe Community Services staff.

Q: Will my son/daughter's Support Worker be supporting any other youth?

A: No, Support Workers hired by families are only supporting the youth they were hired to support.

Q: Who do I contact if I need more information about Support Worker requirements?

A: Please contact one of the Youth Workers for more information:

Sonia Lauzon
Orillia Youth Worker
705-327-5391 extension 3266
slauzon@simcoecommunityservices.ca

Rebecca Pilgrim
Barrie Youth Worker
705-726-9082 extension 2911
rpilgrim@simcoecommunityservices.ca