



# YMCA Volunteer Opportunity and Job Description

## EarlyON - Program Assistant

**Locations:** multiple locations in St. Catharines and Thorold

An EarlyON Centre is a drop in centre for children 0-6 years of age and their parents/caregivers. The program's core services focus on interactive play, early literacy, pre and post-natal support, parent support and education.

**Purpose:**

To provide assistance to staff, children and their caregivers as they engage together in an EarlyON setting. Volunteers are an important asset who can help children and their families grow, consistent with the YMCA's mission, vision and values.

**Expectations:**

- To appreciate and support the YMCA values, mission and vision.
- To demonstrate energy, dedication and enthusiasm.
- To appreciate and desire to generously serve all.
- To thrive in an atmosphere of change and ambiguity.
- To work as a member of a team.
- To achieve planned results through personal initiative.
- To model commitment to service excellence and quality.

**Responsibilities:**

- To assist staff with preparing and maintaining a welcoming, clean, play based environment for children, parents and caregivers.
- To build positive relationships with children and their caregivers.
- To follow YMCA dress code.
- To follow all YMCA policies including the Child, Youth and Vulnerable Person Protection Policy and Procedures.

**Qualifications:**

- Previous experience or knowledge of child development and supporting families is an asset, however training will be provided.
- Patient and caring attitude, as well as strong communication skills.
- 18 years of age or older.
- A clear and satisfactory criminal record check inclusive of the vulnerable sector search (CRC VSS) issued for the YMCA of Niagara required if over age 18.
- Interview and 3 references will be required.

**Training and Support:**

- Volunteer orientation inclusive of relevant YMCA Policies and Procedures.
- Training, supervision and support from EarlyON Supervisor & Coordinator.

**Time Commitment:**

- Minimum 2hrs per week for a minimum of 10 weeks.

**To Apply:**

Complete an online volunteer application form or print the application and drop it off at your local Health, Fitness and Aquatics Centre or email it to [volunteer@niagara.ymca.ca](mailto:volunteer@niagara.ymca.ca)

Accessibility accommodations and materials in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities can be arranged upon request.

For more information for this and other opportunities at the YMCA of Niagara please visit our website: [www.ymcaofniagara.org](http://www.ymcaofniagara.org)

## YMCA of Niagara

The YMCA is a charity dedicated to building healthy communities.

The YMCA of Niagara delivers programs in Health & Fitness, Community Outreach, Child Care, Day Camp and Employment & Newcomer Services throughout Ontario's Niagara Region.

We are committed to nurturing the potential of children, youth and families, promoting healthy living and fostering social responsibility within the community.

Operating from 112 sites across Niagara, and supported by 1,500 employees and 840 volunteers annually, the YMCA has a positive impact on the health of over 92,000 individuals annually.

Our focus on inclusiveness and accessibility means we serve people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities through all stages of life. Through the YMCA Strong Kid campaign, the YMCA is accessible to all.

Building healthy  
communities