



Job Description for SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR

The Sexual Violence Alliance (SeVA) provides counselling and support services for men and women survivors of sexual and domestic violence past and present. Working in a confidential setting, SeVA volunteer Facilitators provide education and support in a group setting to people who are, or have been, in abusive relationships. Within the group, the facilitators play a central role in making the sessions safe, supportive and inclusive. They assist the participants during and after the group sessions to maintain group cohesion, respect and stability.

Typical Work Activities

1. To promote the principles of empowerment and self-help within the group and to ensure that the group works as a constructive and cohesive unit.
2. To create a warm, accepting and informal atmosphere which provides support, trust, and safety;
3. To involve all individuals in the group process, thus creating an environment of inclusion and equal participation;
4. To create an empowering environment within the group setting, enabling participants to increase their assertiveness and self-esteem, and thus take better control of their lives;
5. To help the participants understand the dynamics and processes of the group;
6. To help participants to recognise what they are feeling, and why;
7. To promote and monitor individual and group growth and change;
8. To help the participants to explore the meanings behind certain behaviours and issues pertaining to domestic and sexual abuse;
9. To provide necessary information for group members, and be a source of knowledge and information about sexual and domestic violence;
10. To promote the understanding that domestic violence is unacceptable and a violation of human rights;
11. To describe and refer to other services in addition to, or in place of, the support group if necessary;
12. To provide one-to-one support for the group members if needed;
13. To let the group do most of the work: it is important to stress that the facilitator does not always need to take the initiative, nor does she know all the answers.