

Make a Lasting Impact: Join Us as an EarlyON Volunteer!

YMCA of Three Rivers | EarlyON Child and Family Centres

Location: Stratford

Time Commitment: Minimum 2 hours/week – Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays

Are you ready to inspire joy, foster connections, and support families in creating lifelong memories while exploring gross motor and risky play? As a YMCA Volunteer in EarlyON, you will be at the heart of a vibrant community hub, making a real difference in the lives of children (birth to age 6) and their families.

Why Volunteer with EarlyON?

Join a dynamic community where your efforts help families connect, grow, and thrive. At EarlyON in Stratford, we provide free, play-based programs for children (birth to six years) and their caregivers in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Your impact will support meaningful exploration, creativity, and lasting connections within our evolving and vibrant community!

Our Commitment to Inclusion:

The YMCA of Three Rivers celebrates diversity and is dedicated to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all. We encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds and are happy to provide accommodations throughout the application process upon request.

What You Will Do:

As a YMCA volunteer in EarlyON, you will support children (birth to 6 years) and their parents/guardians and caring adults alongside of our EarlyON Educators by:

- Creating a safe, welcoming, and supportive play environment.
- Acting as a play partner with children and their families, engaging in meaningful interactions.
- Assisting with health and safety protocols, including cleaning, disinfection, and child protection measures.
- Setting up and maintaining play areas, including gym setups, creative materials, and loose parts play to ensure safe and stimulating experiences for all ages at the direction of our EarlyON professionals.
- Redirecting play as needed to promote inclusive, safe and positive interactions.
- Inviting parents/guardians and caregivers into play experiences to support in scaffolding and extending play at their child's level of development with the materials provided.
- Working alongside EarlyON Professionals to deliver regular programs effectively.

What You Will Bring:

- Experience interacting with children under 6 years old.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work independently within defined parameters.
- Comfort in a loud and busy environment requiring adaptability and problem-solving.
- Physical ability to manage heavy lifting and set up, take down and move play areas, furniture, toys and materials.
- A valid First Aid/CPR-C certification.
- An acceptable Police Vulnerable Sector Check.
- Some sites may require reliable transportation.

What You Will Gain:

- **Community Impact:** Be part of a team that is creating brighter futures for families in your community.
- **Personal Growth:** Develop valuable skills, expand your network, and gain hands-on experience in child development and family engagement.
- **Exclusive Perks:** Enjoy a free YMCA of Three Rivers membership—a bonus for your commitment to making a difference.

How to Apply:

Contact our EarlyON Talent Specialist, Janhavi Kulkarni, at janhavi.kulkarni@ytr.ymca.ca with the following details:

- Your full name and date of birth
- Your availability (days and times)
- Your contact information (email and phone number)

Give us up to two business days to reach out and guide you through the next steps. We look forward to connecting with you!