

Confidential Victim Advocacy Training



TESSA's Confidential Victim Advocacy (CVA) Training assists victims of domestic and sexual assault in the El Paso and Teller Counties by providing immediate crisis intervention and support (which includes our 24/7 Safe line, 32-bed shelter, hospital on-call, court assistance, case management, housing, follow-up support, legal assistance, clinical groups) and information on safety planning and community resources. Training is operated off of the protection of C.R.S. 13-90-107.

TESSA relies heavily on the assistance of our Volunteer Confidential Victim Advocates who help out in the many areas of our different programs on a regular basis to provide direct victim advocacy services, outreach, community support, and community resources.

Requirements

All individuals must maintain a high level of integrity, reliability, confidentiality, and commitment while volunteering with TESSA. In addition, the following criteria must be met by all volunteers:

- Submit an application online at <https://www.tessacs.org/volunteer/>
- Complete a background check through verified volunteers
- Successfully complete ALL of CVA training (*Appx 36 hours, 3 nights a week for 2 weeks, 4 hours from 5-9pm, and 2 Saturdays 8-5pm*)
- Volunteer a minimum number of hours per week in your program of choice and/or participate on the Safe Line/ on-call Hospital rotation each month with a 6-month commitment after completion of the CVA Confidential Victim Advocacy Training.
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to cope with emotional and stressful situations due to exposure to individuals in crisis.

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The CVA Training is designed to train volunteers on TESSA programming and the duties and services provided by victim advocates, and to provide awareness of the essential role the unit plays within TESSA. The training is comprised of four-hour classes given three times a week and two eight hour classes on Saturdays for approximately 2 weeks. Participants will gain a general understanding on the various programs and functions of TESSA. In conjunction with the training, on-the-job training is also provided to those volunteers accepted into the organization.

Next CVA Confidential Victim Advocacy Training begins January 25, 2020.