

Psychosocial Care Providers (Child Life)

Description

Our child life volunteers are licensed professionals that provide psychosocial care and guide the patient and family through the surgical experience. They utilize their knowledge of child development to ease patient fears and anxieties by explaining and demonstrating every aspect of care. They facilitate therapeutic play and activities, working with parents, and act as the child's and family's advocate in the often confusing world of the hospital.

Qualifications

In order to be eligible as a child life volunteer with Operation Smile, you must fulfill the following criteria:

- Hold a degree in child life, child development, psychology or closely related field; and hold certification in child life or an equivalent disciplinary credential.
- Clinically competent in provision of developmentally appropriate therapeutic interventions based on stress vulnerability assessment, teaching, emotional support and the provision of patient and family centered care.
- **Minimum two years full-time, paid CLS experience** preparing children & families for surgery.
- Ability to educate counterparts about psychosocial care.

Application documents needed:

- Completed Child Life application online, including three references.
- Copy of resume/curriculum vitae detailing current experience.
- Must have minimum two years full-time, paid CLS experience preparing children & families for surgery.
- Copies of diplomas and degrees.
- Copy of certification (as applicable by country/profession; for US volunteers – CCLS required)