Interested in volunteering

with adults with autism??

**Volunteers Aged 18-35 Years Needed for Upcoming Clinical Group!**

We are seeking volunteers for an upcoming clinical group to spend time with adults with autism to help them generalize social skills. Interested individuals seeking more information about this volunteer opportunity should contact Jesse Northridge ([jnorthridge@pennstatehealth.psu.edu](mailto:jnorthridge@pennstatehealth.psu.edu)) via email or by phone (717)531-0003  x285974.

**Description of Project:**

The Adult Multi-Media Social Skills Group is a 16-week intervention designed for groups of 8 young adults between the ages of 18- and 35-years with autism spectrum disorder. This aims to improve social skills in young adults with Asperger’s Syndrome and high-functioning autism.

Each week’s session lasts approximately 3 hours in the evening, but volunteers will only be needed for the last 90 minutes of the session. The first 90 minutes are devoted to group instruction of new skills using video modeling, including skill building in social approach, workplace relationships, personal relationships, and barriers to social interactions. The second 90 minutes is a peer generalization component to reinforce and practice skills taught during the first part. Same-age peers (volunteers) will join the participants for social outings in local community settings.

**Role of Peer Volunteer:**

* Serve as peer by socially interacting with adults with autism (pairs of participants and peers will be formed)
* Must be between the ages of 18- and 35- years
* 8 Volunteers are needed for each group of participants
* Commit to 8 weeks of the study
* Dates:
  + January 2018 – April 2018
  + Monday evenings
* Time commitment: Approximately 1.5 hours per week (or 3 hours per week if volunteering for both groups)
  + 6:30-8:00pm
  + Monday evenings
* Location:
  + Interventions will take place at Penn State Hershey Medical Group’s Outpatient Clinic on Northeast Drive in Hershey, PA
  + Peers will partner up with a participant and spend time with them at various local establishments and eateries within walking distance of the site (close to the Hershey Outlets)