

## **Service Description for Coworker, short term** (Last updated July 24, 2006)

**Minimum Time Commitment:** Preferably at least 6 months

**Start date:** Ongoing

**Period:** 1 year preferred

**Main Responsibilities:** The short-term co-worker has three main areas of responsibility: 1) Assisting in running a household; life sharing with and caring for people with developmental disabilities; 2) Co-managing a workshop; 3) supporting the integrity of the mission and the various events of the Village.

**Main Duties:** House: provide daily physical and emotional care for people with developmental disabilities, clean, do laundry, make meals, wash dishes, provide coverage of the house when needed; this includes evenings and weekends.

Work: work two regular shifts M-F, determined by both the co-worker's interests and the community's needs. Examples of possible shifts are cooking, baking, gardening, farming, weaving.

Community: support the various festivals, gatherings, and community events by active planning and participation or by allowing others to attend, offering your input and suggestions, bringing forth your own special gifts and talents!

**Required Skills And Knowledge:** Must be 18 years old. Must have willingness and patience to work with people with developmental disabilities and to live in community. Flexibility, a sense of humor, and a calm response to the unexpected are favored, as is a positive attitude. Must be willing to follow the rules and expectations of the community.

**Training provided:** Training will be provided by experienced, long term co-workers. There is also an orientation course, which is conducted throughout the year. This course meets the state-mandated requirements for "Training-Hours" for foster caregivers.

**Basic Living Needs:** Co-workers have all their basic needs met for housing, food, toiletries, and reasonable long-distance calls. Co-workers are eligible for health insurance if they are here for more than six months. Co-workers receive money toward a vacation at the end of the year. Extra expenses may be negotiated as needed.