

Social-Sexual Grant Project

Through funding from the Mental Health Services Act and in partnership with the Department of Developmental Services, North Bay Regional Center is working on The Social-Sexual Education Project. This Project is designed to teach people with developmental disabilities about healthy and safe relationships and how to recognize sexual abuse and coercion. Our goal is to protect people with disabilities from being victims of sexual abuse and to minimize the practice of unexpected social-sexual behavior in the community.

How We Will Do It

We are developing an education program that is designed to be taught directly to people with developmental disabilities. The program will include a series of lesson plans. Each lesson will include written instructions for teachers and visual aids for learners such as photographs and videos. The photographs and videos will depict real world scenarios involving appropriate and inappropriate social-sexual boundaries/behaviors.

What We Need

We need between 150-200 volunteers to help bring the photos and videos to life. This includes performers with developmental disabilities and those without.

- We are seeking experienced volunteer actors/actresses to have speaking roles in our short (1-2 minute) videos. Final video edits can be used in portfolios.
- We are looking for “extras” to have non-speaking roles in some films and a lot of volunteers to pose for photos. Ideally, we will photograph couples (or people who can pretend to be in a romantic relationship).

Each volunteer will receive a \$25 gift card as appreciation for his/her time and we will provide food on filming days. Photo/video content will range from sitting next to someone on a bench to more suggestive photos (peeking into a bathroom, walking into someone’s personal space) to intimate situations (kissing, talking about birth control, etc.) No one will be expected to participate in any photo/videos he/she is not comfortable with. All volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and sign a consent waiver.

We are committed to reflecting the diversity of our state in this project. This includes a desire to find volunteers from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and religions.

Filming Dates

We currently have 4 film dates confirmed with our production company:

- Thursday, August 2
- Saturday, August 18
- Friday, October 26
- Saturday, October 27

To volunteer, please contact Grant Manager Georgia Pedgrift @ gpedgriftnbrc@gmail.com.

To learn more about the project, visit <http://nbrc.net/the-social-sexual-education-project/>.