Certified Peer Visitor Tips

Certified Peer Visitors (CPV) are trained volunteers who have adjusted well to limb loss and lead full, active lives. CPVs offer encouragement and information from a place, and at a pace, that can help a new amputee in a similar circumstance better adapt to life after their amputation. When a volunteer becomes a Certified Peer Visitor, they become a valuable extension of the Amputee Coalition. Below is a list of positive habits of a successful Certified Peer Visitor and behaviors that should be avoided to ensure the safety of our constituents, and uphold the Coalition’s Code of Ethics.

**Do:** Contact the individual that you are matched with as soon as possible.

**Don’t:** Forget to leave a detailed message voicemail with your background and contact information if the individual does not answer your initial call.

**Do:** Bring a Peer Visitor Tote Bag with you to your visit for the individual you are visiting in person for the first time.

**Don’t:** Give medical advice, suggest medical procedures, or endorse any specific prosthetist, organization or brand.

**Do:** Find a public, mutually convenient place to conduct your visit.

**Don’t:** Conduct home visits under any circumstances. We value your safety and the safety of our constituents.

**Do:** Contact the Amputee Coalition if you feel uncomfortable at any time, or are unable to complete your assigned visit.

**Don’t:** Share personal information about the new amputee with anyone outside of the Amputee Coalition, Volunteer Coordinator, or the client’s medical team.

**Do:** Follow up with your assigned individual.

**Don’t:** Accept or handle money from the individual or their loved ones.

**Do:** Submit a Peer Visit Report after each visit (this includes follow-up visits). These forms can be found on our website.