

Volunteer role description

Volunteer role: Creative Volunteer
Key contact: Communications and Campaigns Manager
Placement: Various locations
DBS check level: Basic level check** plus 2 satisfactory references ** TBC

Training required: AgeUK induction training is mandatory, there after volunteers are encouraged to attend volunteer gatherings to share experiences and, receive training from the organised event. However there maybe additional service specific training required.

INTRODUCTION

AgeUK Cambridgeshire is an independent charitable organisation which exists to improve the life of older people in the county. The charity meets this objective by:

- Providing services
- Campaigning for a better deal for older people
- Working in partnership with other organisations
- Identifying, and finding new ways to meet new and changing needs

ROLE PURPOSE

To deliver arts workshops within our day centre settings to our service users, in order to support our objective of improving the health and wellbeing of older people.

Skills/Abilities and experience beneficial to the role

A real desire to make a difference to people's lives, also:

- Professional arts practitioner or experienced artist
- Confidence and experience to run a workshop
- People skills and ability to manage a group with differing abilities
- Organised and patient
- Friendly and enthusiastic
- Willing to travel

Tasks/responsibilities

- Planning a series of workshops that are self-contained but contribute to a final shared piece or final exhibition of work.
- Designing workshops that are accessible to individuals with a wide range of abilities.
- Delivering each workshop with the help and support of our staff.
- Responding and adapting to the environment in each workshop session with patience.
- Ensuring each participant is given stimulating creative activities to complete and is encouraged to achieve their potential.
- Working with trained staff to ensure that there is a risk assessment in place and each activity is considered and appropriate.

Sheet supporting Creative Volunteer Role

Although part of a national federation of partners, Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is an independent local charity working in the community to support older people, their families and carers in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area. We offer a variety of services:

- We provide rights based information which older people and their carers can use with confidence to make informed decisions and choices.
- We offer practical support to enable older people to remain independent in their own homes.
- We aim to reduce social isolation by bringing people together, providing opportunities to meet people and develop friendships.
- We campaign every year aiming to reduce loneliness and isolation and to promote activity to support aging well.

We want everyone to be able to love later life and seek a talented and compassionate volunteer to help bring some magic into the lives of the people we work with.

We are keen to hear from professional arts practitioners who would like to develop their practice and work with our specialist group, and we are also keen to hear from volunteers who have a passion for the arts and the confidence to run workshops. All volunteers will be given training and will have the full support of our staff throughout each session. We have no funding available for payment at this stage, however we are exploring funding opportunities for future development of this work. We would like to run:

- Up to 6 creative sessions per venue
- Sessions lasting between 1 hour to a maximum of 2 hours
- Venues at:
Cherry Trees Club, St Matthews Street, **Cambridge** CB1 2LT
Ambury Road Club, Ambury Road, **Huntingdon** PE29 1JE
Oasis Club, Oasis Community Centre, St Michael's Avenue, **Wisbech** PE13 3NR
Orton Club, Steve Woolley Court, Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, **Peterborough** PE2 5HP

What Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough can offer:

- Expenses for travel.
- Training. All volunteers receive induction training about our services and opportunities to attend specialist training events held throughout the year covering topics such as dementia, safe guarding, risk assessment
- Support given by our experienced staff.
- Hands on experience of working with a specialist group of participants (older people with particular health care needs, to include dementia and physical restrictions).
- The opportunity to learn new skills and enable people to enjoy the arts.

To apply:

If you would like more information then please contact: Beverley Young, Communications and Campaigns Manager at Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. To apply, please send your CV and a short outline of what you would like to cover during the 6 week programme to Beverley.Young@ageukcap.org.uk