

Volunteer role Description



Social Connections Volunteer

Introduction

This role involves befriending people in the local area and helping them to reengage with the local community post pandemic. The role is designed to reconnect people with their local neighbourhood and to regain confidence and social connections. This could involve visiting people at home for a social/well being visit, accompanied walks to help with confidence or local visits out.

The main goal of this service is to reduce social isolation and improve physical and emotional wellbeing.

Responsible to: Senior Social Prescriber

Hours: Support to client's can be offered any day between 9.00-20.00

Location: East Preston, Rustington and Littlehampton.

The service:

- Receive referrals from the social prescribing team attached to local GP surgeries
- Visit clients for accompanied walks and local visits out.
- Support clients in line with Social Prescriber's guidance, the client's needs and feedback progress/issues to the Social Prescriber.
- Maintain logs of your interaction and submit to your line manager monthly
- Liaise closely with the local Social Prescriber, seeking advice, guidance and support where required
- Carry out tasks according to Age UK WSBH policies and standards, in particular on safeguarding, confidentiality, anti-discriminatory policies and health and safety.
- To report any concerns or safeguardings to the Social Prescriber and liaise appropriately.
- To follow the Lone working Policy and guidance. Your safety is paramount. It is essential that you do not enter a client's property without informing someone you are going in and the again once you leave. This could be a friend or family member. Alternatively it can be someone within AUKWSBH. You will inform us what works best for you,
- Adhere to the GDPR regulations
- Participate in training sessions and meetings as necessary.

Role requirements

No specific previous experience or qualifications is required as training and on-going support will be provided. Any potential volunteer will need to be able to demonstrate:

- excellent listening, communication skills and empathy
- the ability to work confidently on own initiative and know when to seek help and support
- willingness to attend scheduled training days, Age UK volunteer induction and any other training deemed essential to the role as identified
- commitment of at least one session/day per week is required for this role
- willingness to undergo a DBS check.

How will we support you?

You will be given an Age UK West Sussex, volunteer induction and role training to carry out your role effectively and be able to enjoy doing so with confidence.

What will you get out of volunteering for Age UK West Sussex, Brighton & Hove?

- The opportunity to be involved with projects where your own ideas and input will be valued.
- The chance to make a contribution to Age UK West Sussex, Brighton & Hove's work.
- Access to organisational resources
- Free Training
- Travel Expenses
- Professional Reference provided

The organisation's expectations of the volunteer

- To understand and promote the organisation's policies and abide by its guidelines
- To be responsible, reliable and safety conscious
- To work within the service parameters
- To be open and honest about any work issues or problems
- Have a genuine interest in the needs of older people
- To attend team meetings when needed
- To take initiative in encouraging suggestions, ideas and changes for the improvement of the service
- To keep informed of other functions and activities at Age UK West Sussex, Brighton & Hove
- To work professionally with fellow volunteers and members of staff in other organisations
- Participate in training, supervision and support sessions as required

Volunteer Agreement

I have read and understood the above Role Description & checked my insurance details and would like to become a volunteer for this service.

Signature.....

Date.....