



Art & Craft Support Volunteer

The art and craft volunteer role plays an important part in helping Advice Support Knowledge Information (ASKI) to support older people coping with social isolation, depression and a wide range of mobility issues. The volunteer supports this process through helping with weekly art based workshops.

Volunteer Role Description

Overall Purpose:

To support weekly art and craft sessions for older men and women in a User Led charity. You will be volunteering as part of a team to support our co-workers in art based activities such as drawing, painting, photography and card making. Support is to be offered without giving interpretation of members art work and you will be responsible for enabling and encouraging members to produce their own art pieces rather than the volunteer producing art work themselves.

Please note that this role will be subject to an Enhanced CRB check, as you will be directly involved in working with vulnerable adults.

Main duties:

- Help to set up art and craft sessions and clear up after sessions
- Enable members to complete arts based tasks in order to reach their goals.
- Support members to reflect on previous goals and set new goals on a quarterly basis
- Support new members in their first sessions, orientating them the work of the project, helping them to meet other people and find their way around the project.
- Talk directly to members about their goals.
- Participate in pre and post session briefings with at regular intervals with the Director of Operations and other team members, giving feedback when sessions end.
- Contribute to the delivery of ASKI's organisational aims by participating in practical sessions
- Assist with the physical maintenance and general organisation of ASKI and operating as a member of the team
- Undertake art and craft sessions in alternative locations and with other groups as required away from the main site
- Welcome visitors to the site and advising people seeking information about ASKI, including the opportunity to assist with visitors' days, special events and other occasions on and off site
- Attend group supervision sessions and meetings

Skills and abilities required:

The basic role requirement is to have an interest in supporting older people reduce their social isolation through arts and crafts workshops/activities. You need to be able to communicate effectively and empathise with older people who may have barriers to engagement. We are also looking for someone with creative flair and with experience of arts and/or crafts, either in a professional, educational or at a personal level.

Specifically, we are looking for people with the following abilities:

- Creative with a personal interest and experience in the arts/crafts



¹Excellent communication skills - you will need to be able to communicate well with a variety of different people, enjoy meeting new people and have an understanding that it takes time to get to know someone

- Demonstrate sensitivity and an awareness that people may not wish to share their personal stories or situations
- Be patient in the delivery of activities having the time to listen and support individuals during the session
- Be non judgemental, open and accepting
- It is desirable that you will have knowledge of working with older people in a paid or unpaid capacity health issues, mental health and physical disabilities in particular
- Ability to work reliably and as part of a team is a key aspect of the role
- Be willing to listen and learn from your experiences.

Volunteer Gains

- Experience of volunteering in a community organisation
- Experience of working with older men and women
- Opportunity to meet new people
- Opportunities for training in areas relevant to the role
- Skills in motivating and enabling others
- Skills development in art based activities

Availability

One session a week (3 hours).

Location

33 Brigstock Road Croydon CR7 7JJ

Email joseph@aski.org.uk

Head Office

Advice Support Knowledge Information (ASKI)

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