

Community Befriender Volunteer

Could you help our service users to overcome loneliness and isolation in the community?

West London NHS Trust is at the forefront of developing and delivering a new model of community-based mental health care. We've called it MINT which stands for mental health integrated network teams. Our service users in the community benefit from regular contact with others, and from support to do activities that they find enjoyable. However, doing activities is often a struggle for service users, and as a volunteer you will provide support and encouragement to help them to take the next steps towards meeting others and getting involved in fun and exciting activities in their local area.

To be successful in applying for this role you will need:

- Complete our online volunteering application form
- An informal volunteering interview
- X 2 references
- DBS Check
- Completion of core and local induction training

What does the role involve?

- Working with service users individually in a friendly but professional way
- Doing activities in the community with service users that they enjoy
- Helping service users to overcome loneliness and isolation through befriending
- Escorting and accompanying patients to medical and other appointments using public transport or walking
- Adhering to the relevant policies and procedures of the Trust, including Infection control, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity, Data Protection and Confidentiality policies
- Opportunities to get involved in other areas of the Trust's work, including our NHS careers

Exclusions:

Volunteers are not expected to be involved in any of the following:

- Clinical or medical treatments of any kind
- Psychological interventions
- Dealing with high risk individuals
- Volunteer driving

What skills and qualities do you need?

West London NHS Trust is committed to equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

- Friendly approach, able to work with people with a wide range of backgrounds and interests
- Some experience of working or living with people with mental health problems is preferred, but not essential
- Applications from people with lived experience of having a mental health problem is particularly encouraged
- Good interpersonal skills
- Be reliable
- Able to work as part of a team
- Able to complete tasks effectively and efficiently
- Committed to upholding [Trust core values](#) (Togetherness, Responsibility, Excellence, Caring) and NHS policies

What we can offer you

- A full induction, training or brief to your role
- On-going support and guidance from a member of staff
- The opportunity to develop your personal and professional skills
- The opportunity to get involved in other areas of The Trust's work, including NHS careers
- Reimbursement of reasonable expenses
- The opportunity to contribute to our mission supporting outstanding patient care.

Time commitment

There is an expected minimum commitment once a week for at least 3 months for this role

The general time options activities could occur (these are not specific scheduled shifts)

	Morning	Afternoon	Evenings	Nights
Monday	x	X		
Tuesday	X	X		
Wednesday	X	X		
Thursday	X	X		
Friday	x	x		
Saturday				
Sunday				

Number of volunteers needed

We will need 4 volunteers for this role

'West London NHS Trust is committed to safeguarding all children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.'

This role outline is binding in honour only, and is not intended to be legally binding