

West Kent Volunteer Centre



With Christmas just around the corner we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2022. As the year draws to a close it is an opportunity for reflection; volunteers have played a vital role in supporting the recovery of charities as we have moved through the pandemic and will continue to do so. We hope that you can find something of interest in the newsletter. If you are looking for a specific opportunity that isn't featured here then get in touch with our team by email

volunteering@imago.community or call 01892 530330.

Best wishes

The Volunteering Team



What will motivate you to become a volunteer?



Volunteers are essential to the support we give to victims of crime.

As a Victim Support volunteer, we will train you to support victims from the first time you meet them until they feel strong enough to move forward on their own. You will listen to their concerns and make sure that their needs are met.

For more information and Application form please Log on to www.victimsupport.org.uk Under "Get involved", click on "Volunteer" to see the roles on offer in Kent.

www.victimsupport.org.uk

Registered charity number: 298028
Registered address: Victim Support, 1 Bridge Street, Derby. DE1 1HZ



Marketing and Communications Assistant



What will you do?

In this role you will help to promote Citizens Advice in North & West Kent and the services that we offer.

- Complete an introduction to Citizens Advice in North & West Kent and your role
- Help promote Citizens Advice in North & West Kent so that the people understand what Citizens Advice does and how they can get advice, and how they could become a volunteer
- Create leaflets and posters to promote the advice service, or update existing materials
- Use social media e.g. Facebook and Twitter to raise the profile of Citizens Advice in North & West Kent
- Help to share what Citizens Advice in North & West Kent does with the local press or radio station
- Write content and blogs for the website and external newsletters
- Talk to clients or volunteers about their experiences
- Use analytic tools and methods to measure the success of communication activities.



What's in it for you?

- Make a real difference to people's lives
- Learn about a range of issues that affect our clients such as benefits, debt, employment and housing.
- Build on valuable skills such as communication, listening, marketing and advertising
- Full training given
- Increase your employability
- Work with a range of different people, independently and in a team.
- Have a positive impact in your community.



What do you need to have?

You don't need specific qualifications or skills but you'll need to:

- Be friendly and approachable
- Be non-judgmental and respect views, values and cultures that are different to your own
- Have excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Have good IT skills
- Be willing to learn about and follow the Citizens Advice aims, principles and policies, including confidentiality and data protection
- Be willing to undertake training in your role



How much time do you need to give?

We can be flexible about the time spent and how often you volunteer so come and talk to us.



Valuing inclusion

Our volunteers come from a range of backgrounds and we particularly welcome applications from disabled people, people with physical or mental health conditions, LGBT+ and non-binary people, and people from Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities.

If you are interested in becoming a media volunteer and would like to discuss flexibility around location, time, 'what you will do' and how we can support you please contact us.



Contact details

Carol Hunt, Development Team (normal office hours Mon-Wed)

Email: carol.hunt@nwkent.cab.org.uk

Website: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/north-west-kent/>

Awareness raising and fundraising volunteer



What will you do?

The **Awareness raising and fundraising volunteer** works closely with the Fundraising team to raise awareness of Citizens Advice in the community.



What's in it for you?

- work independently and part of a team.
- Work flexibly.
- have a positive impact in your community.

And we'll reimburse expenses too.



What do you need to have?

- Ideally you will have transport
- Knowledge of Citizens Advice is desirable
- Be friendly and approachable
- The role would suit someone who enjoys getting out and about in the community
- You will be willing to work on occasional weekends to help set up and man information/fundraising stalls
- Willing to help with bucket collections at events and venues.



How much time do you need to give?

This is a flexible role and on an ad hoc basis



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Do you want to make a difference and support the British Red Cross? You can do both when you join as a Customer Service Volunteer at our new location in Tunbridge Wells

The Coronavirus pandemic has meant that people need our support more than ever. By joining our Mobility Aids Team as a Wheelchair Volunteer, you can be there for people when they need it the most, whilst making a difference in your community.

We have recently opened a new Mobility Aids retail store at Royal Victoria Place, Tunbridge Wells and are seeking volunteers to run it.

What you will be doing

You will be providing great customer service issuing wheelchairs/equipment and receiving returns, using a computer-based stock control system, demonstrate safe use of the equipment, receiving payments / donations, dealing with enquiries from people wanting to hire/loan a wheelchair or other equipment (online, phone and in person).

The skills you need

- Physically able to safely lift or move wheelchairs and other mobility equipment.
- Some customer service experience is desirable.
- Enjoy meeting people and good interpersonal skills.
- Able to work independently and in a team.
- Good IT skills and able to complete on-line training.
- Able to commit to a regular shift on a weekly basis.

What's in it for you

- Meet new people and be part of a dynamic and inclusive team.
- A great opportunity to use your existing skills or gain new ones.
- All training and induction for the role (there is no charge for training).
- Reasonable pre-agreed travel expenses for the role including for attending training.
- An opportunity to be part of the world's largest humanitarian organisation and the knowledge that you are making a positive difference to people's lives.



BritishRedCross



It makes a difference to people that they can get a wheelchair. They say that we are life-savers and life-changers and that is a really good feeling.

- Kameron, Mobility Aids Volunteer

If you can spare a few hours per week you can help get people moving again after an illness or injury.

For more information email us at

wheelchairvolunteer@redcross.org.uk or call us on 03000 040309.

To apply go to, <https://bit.ly/CSVSTunbridgeWells>

Under-18s: Due to Covid19 restrictions we regret that we are currently unable to provide the required level of supervision, so we cannot offer this opportunity to under18s in most of our locations. Contact us at wheelchairvolunteer@redcross.org.uk to check what is available in your locality

DAVSS



1 in 4
Women



1 in 6
Men

experience
domestic
abuse

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

YOU can make THE difference.
BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Interested? Want to find out more?
Email us at office@davss.org.uk

We provide emotional support, practical advice and advocacy services to victims of domestic abuse in West Kent.

Can you provide 5-10 hours a week?

You will be given our accredited domestic abuse training, be making a difference to your community and be part of a leading Kent charity.

This is **YOUR** opportunity to make a difference



Kent Explorer, Volunteer Visitor Tunbridge Wells area

The Volunteer Role

We support a man who is in his 60's who loves to spend time out and about as well as relaxing at home. He likes to get out in the local community, going for lunch, having a pint in the pub or a stroll around the local parks. He loves mini golf and other fun activities. He is very independent but he does get some support from care staff.

As a Mencap Visiting Service Volunteer, you will be visiting a person with a learning disability in their local community to spend time with them doing the things they want to do. You will be reducing social isolation, helping them to form relationships and supporting them to enjoy activities.

In your role as a Mencap Volunteer Visitor, you will make 6 visits per year to your matched beneficiary. These visits are flexible. Each visit is unique to the individual being supported.

You will be introduced and get to know him with the support of Mencap staff and others.

What skills do I need?

As a Mencap Visiting Volunteer you will be:

- Aged 18 or over
- Friendly, patient and reliable
- 2 references are required by all successful applicants

When do I need to be available?

Visits will be every 2 months and can be during the week or weekends. Visits will last around 30mins—1 hour. We kindly ask for a minimum commitment of 1 year.

To apply, go to: [Kent Explorer, Volunteer Visitor, Tunbridge Wells area in - Royal Mencap Society](#)





Heart
of Kent
Hospice

30

years of
caring
together
1991 - 2021

Help make a difference

Join our Hospice Retail Team!

We can only keep our 14 shops open with the loyal support of our retail volunteers. As a retail assistant you can help welcome and serve shop customers, sort donated goods and create eye-catching displays.



To find out more or to apply contact your local Heart of Kent Hospice shop or email volunteers@hokh.co.uk

Find the nearest Heart of Kent Hospice shop to you... Aylesford, Borough Green, Coxheath, Headcorn, Larkfield, Lenham, Maidstone, Parkwood, Senacre, Snodland, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and West Malling.

*Thank you, we cannot wait
for you to join our
volunteering team and help
us to support anyone in
our community living with
a terminal illness.*



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



www.hokh.org



[heartofkenthospice](https://www.instagram.com/heartofkenthospice)



[Heart of Kent Hospice](https://www.facebook.com/HeartofKentHospice)



[@heartofkenthosp](https://twitter.com/heartofkenthosp)



Café Supervisors

Come and volunteer at the **Bluebell Café** at Aspen Charity in Pembury. We are a local charity and have a café that is used by the people we support and the surrounding communities.

We are looking for volunteers on **Saturdays** between the hours of **10am-4pm** to help make teas and coffees, help at the till and tidy up all whilst enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and making new friends.

If you think this is something you would enjoy please email volunteering@aspens.org.uk or call 07979179986

Be a volunteer for Dementia COGS Clubs at Crossroads Care Kent

*Volunteers urgently needed in **Maidstone** and **Northfleet** Clubs*

The clubs are fun, positive, supportive, and stimulating and that's just for their volunteers! Their members, who are living with the earlier stages of dementia, benefit from being with people in a social and inclusive setting and get to experience a programme designed to stimulate their memory. The clubs are run on a weekly basis. Activities include gentle physical games such as magnetic darts, skittles, golf and balloon tennis, team quizzes, concentration activities such as word searches, dominoes and card games.

You could help in the morning, afternoon or for the whole 5-hour session if you would like. You will not be on your own and will always be supported, valued and be part of a wonderful **COGS Club Team** who are passionate about providing fun activities.

If you would like more information, an informal chat, or an application form, please get in touch via email:

enquiries.macmillan@crossroadskent.org





Putting you in the driving seat

Transport is a means to independence, but when you are unable, too poorly or wary of using public transport then isolation and loneliness can become the normal.

Dial 2 Drive has a fantastic team of volunteer drivers who use their own cars to offer a lifeline to local older or less mobile people, helping them get to their appointments and with trips out and about.

If you are looking for a volunteering role that is flexible enough to fit around your other activities, where you can volunteer for one drive a month or more, with expenses reimbursed, then look no further!

Dial 2 Drive supports people living in the Kent districts of Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and we are also looking to recruit drivers to meet the demand from residents in Swanley, Dartford and Gravesham. Our drivers have been busier than ever as we have been helping transport people to Covid vaccination appointments.

To find out more, visit our website for details and an application form. One of our Coordinators will be in touch to have an informal chat and answer any questions. If you both feel the role is right for you then we would take up references and carry out a DBS check before offering you a drive. It is a great role and one that makes such a difference to those who need it.

“Meeting new people, seeing new parts of my local area and helping those who need it the most— that’s why I volunteer for Dial 2 Drive.”

<https://imago.community/Community-Services/Dial2Drive/Volunteer>

Email driving@imago.community

Call 0300 777 1200



Volunteer Telephone Befrienders

Do you like talking to others? Are you a good listener? Could you give an hour of your time each week to be a listening ear for others?

We are recruiting **Telephone Befrienders** to support those who are elderly, have mental health issues, facing homelessness or living with a disability and resident in Dartford, Gravesham, Swanley and Swale. Through weekly phone calls, which you would make from the comfort of your own home, you would enable clients to become more confident and reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation.

You will receive training including safeguarding, we will match you up with a suitable client and provide you with continued support throughout your time volunteering with us. References and a DBS check are required for this role so you will need to hold valid ID. Applicants need to be 18+.

If you want to help reduce social isolation and can engage with others, then email volunteering@imago.community for an application form and we will be in touch for an informal chat.



@Volunteering_WK



VolunteeringWK

volunteering@imago.community

01892 530330

www.imago.community