

Chat Central Volunteer Roles

About Chat Central

Chat Central is a new project set up to support a range of lonely and socially isolated people to get involved in community activities and/or volunteering and give them the opportunity and confidence to form new social connections and relationships.

We will work with individuals to identify what they enjoy doing and what support they need. Maybe they would like to have someone come with them to a group or try out some volunteering or else just meet someone similar for a coffee.

The project is open to anyone aged 18+ experiencing loneliness, social withdrawal, low self-esteem and low self-confidence for any reason and from all across the city.

Volunteers

Chat Central would like an active team of volunteers who will help with drop-in sessions, supporting clients, visiting groups, promoting the project in organisations and in communities and with social media.

Below is the range of skills and experience that we want across a team of volunteers and each volunteer may bring different things to it.

Location: Voluntary Action Coventry, 27-29 Trinity Street, Coventry, CV1 1FJ

Hours: 2 hours + per week – 9-5pm Monday – Thursday – some weekends and evenings possible.

Chief Duties: To help people to feel positive about themselves, to support them to build new social connections and to reduce their feelings of loneliness and isolation through participating in community activities and/or volunteering

Any volunteer who is working with vulnerable adults may need to be DBS checked through VAC

Specific Duties

1. To support the engagement officer to identify potential clients that are isolated and lonely, uncover their skills, interests and aspirations and support them to engage and connect in appropriate activities.

2. Increase the confidence and self-esteem of clients to enable them to regularly attend sessions, try new activities, and build new relationships and move towards/into volunteering.
3. To support the engagement officer to develop a range of marketing materials including social media to promote the project.
4. To support the engagement officer to offer advice and support to organisations on providing placements for volunteers with additional support needs.
5. To support the engagement officer to promote the project to attract clients and supporting organisations.
6. Research and keep up to date with activities and volunteering opportunities around the city
7. To find ways to engage with harder to reach groups – e.g men

Team needs

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of engaging people • Experience of working with a diverse range of people
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good communication skills. • Ability to engage with a range of people • Ability to work as part of a wider team • Experience of using social media platforms to share information
Knowledge and understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the impact of loneliness and isolation on individuals • Understanding of the benefits of volunteering/community based activity • Understanding of the voluntary and community sector • Understanding of health and safety issues • Awareness of diversity and equality issues
Personal attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outgoing and enthusiastic approach • Ability to be empathetic and non-judgemental • Ability to listen well

Volunteering can help you to:

- Learn new skills or develop your existing skills further
- Put your skills to good use in a new setting

- Gain valuable work experience and enhance your CV
- Make new friends
- Build your confidence
- Have fun!

What we can offer you:

- We will provide a flexible way to volunteer that fits in with your lifestyle and other commitments
- We will provide you initial training and on-going support as you volunteer
- VAC will ensure that no volunteer is out of pocket as a result of their volunteering for the organisation. – see volunteering policy for details
- We may be able provide you with a reference on request if you work with us for a while