

MK-ACT Volunteer Project Volunteer Person Specification

Title: MK-ACT Community Support Volunteers.

Definition of role: To be an active member of a team of 6-8 volunteers trained and supported to assist service users who are leaving domestic abuse services to establish independent living within the local community.

Key tasks and duties: To befriend service users, providing emotional support. To provide practical support and assist with appropriate tasks as necessary. To empower and enable service users, many of whom will be on low incomes, to access community resources, with the aim of decreasing social isolation and enhancing prospects for training, education and employment.

Qualifications, Skills, Qualities, Experience: Personal experience or Professional knowledge of Domestic Abuse is not an essential requirement of this role but may be beneficial. An empathic, compassionate and non-judgemental attitude with the ability to establish and maintain healthy relationship boundaries is essential. Some knowledge or experience of accessing local community resources and services may be helpful. Practical skills such as languages, DIY, IT skills, crafts, counselling skills etc may be an advantage.

- Able to communicate well with other people, particularly women and be a good listener
- Able to relate to the issues and challenges facing those who have experienced abusive relationships
- Are reliable, consistent and dependable

Supervision Provided/Required: Regular support and supervision is provided by the Volunteer Coordinator and the Floating Support Team as well as Peer support from other members of the Community Support Volunteer Team.

Training Provided/Required: Domestic Abuse awareness training will be provided, within a comprehensive volunteer training programme that considers issues of safety, confidentiality, boundaries, non-judgemental attitudes and anti-discriminatory practice. Attendance at these training events is mandatory and forms part of the selection process.

Time Commitment: Minimum 2 Hours per week.

Location: Milton Keynes area. Some travel outside the area may be required.

Benefits: Travel Expenses and reasonable subsistence payments may be claimed.

Other: This role is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.