

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Learning Disabilities Support Volunteer

Service: Learning Disabilities

Summary: This role involves providing practical and emotional support to service users with learning disabilities who are living in supported housing schemes and empowering them to develop independent living skills which will enable them to lead more fulfilling lives.

Location: This opportunity is based at schemes in Camden or Islington

Some of the tasks this volunteer will have the opportunity to do:

- Building rapport with service users and providing emotional/ befriending support when required. This could involve supporting service users with weekly shopping, accompanying them to healthcare appointments (e.g. with GP, social worker, psychologist, occupational therapist), banks, benefits agencies, supporting them to access day centres or classes (e.g. art therapy) or other places of interest in the community.
- Empowering service users to develop independent living skills and to realise their dreams e.g. supporting them to access educational and employment opportunities, helping them to build friendship networks and maintain contact with the important people in their lives, and to develop practical skills such as managing their finances, cooking, greater independence with travelling etc.
- Supporting service users to attend social and leisure pursuits in the community (e.g. swimming, gym, ballets, visiting restaurants, bowling, cinema, theatre, musicals etc.).
- Supporting the staff team with co-ordinating social activities at the scheme (e.g. coffee mornings, film evenings, parties) and helping the staff to organise outings, day trips, holidays with the aim of motivating service users and improving their quality of life.

We are looking for someone who:

- Understands the needs of people with learning disabilities living in the community.
- Has a person-centred, empathic, non-judgemental approach to supporting people with learning disabilities.
- Can work as part of a team and independently on own initiative.
- Follows good practice in working in an anti-discriminatory manner.
- Communicates clearly and effectively.
- Flexible and adaptable approach to supporting service users.
- Can work within EPIC Trust's key policies,

Hours & Expenses:

Typically, a volunteer might work 2-3 days a week (4-6 hours per day). The days and hours for this volunteering opportunity are flexible (Monday-Friday). We will pay for travel expenses to and from the workplace, and a contribution towards lunch expenses, as long as tickets and receipts are provided. Supervision and high quality training are also provided.