

## Volunteering opportunity

Contact email for all enquiries: [volunteering@whocaresScotland.org](mailto:volunteering@whocaresScotland.org)

Name of Organisation: Who Cares? Scotland

Title of Volunteer Opportunity: Participation Support Volunteer (North Ayrshire)

### ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY

#### Participation Support Volunteer:

##### Purpose and Aims of the role

Would you like to be part of building a new project to help Care Experienced children and young people engage in activities in their local community? The Participation Support Volunteer role will provide and support activities for young people to build their skills and confidence, as well as building connection and belonging amongst Care Experienced young people.

This role will involve being at the forefront of a new project in North Ayrshire, where you will be setting up a new group and interacting with young people secondary school aged 12-16 predominantly young people who are looked after at home or in kinship care settings.

You will be supporting and leading on a variety of activities chosen by the young people in fortnightly sessions as well as opportunities to get involved with our National events that happen throughout the year.

**You do not need to be Care Experienced for this role, but we are, as always, interested to hear from applicants with Care Experience.**

##### What will I be doing?

- Involved in the project from the planning stages and building the team
- Supporting staff to plan & undertake activities
- Supporting youth group sessions
- Leading on activities & planning
- Supporting young people's sense of belonging and connection
- Helping children and young people to have fun
- Building children and young people's confidence and self esteem
- Being a positive role model

##### What skills can I bring to this role?

- Experience of working with children (*not essential*)
- A knowledge of issues affecting Care Experienced children and young people
- Ability to work well with children and young people
- Good communication and listening skills
- Ability to encourage and motivate children and young people to participate in activities

### What qualities do I need?

- To have a non-judgemental approach to people, and to have empathy
- Be enthusiastic, flexible, and committed
- Reliable and approachable
- Friendly, helpful, and understanding
- Reliability and a commitment to treat all information in a confidential manner
- To have a good value base, be open minded and level-headed

### When will I be needed?

- Regular groups and events, as well as planning meetings.
- Groups will be held **fortnightly**, likely on Thursday evenings (though this is subject to change)

### Location

*Volunteer Rooms, Parterre, Irvine, North Ayrshire, KA12 0BA*

### What will I gain from the role?

- A sense of satisfaction in helping children and young people build their confidence and self-esteem to achieve their full potential
- Practical experience of working with children and young people
- Gaining leadership skills & experience in the third sector
- Having fun!

### What support will I be given?

- Volunteer Induction and child protection training
- Role specific training & ongoing development opportunities
- Expenses – all out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed
- Supervision and support from your group lead and volunteer coordinator
- Optional sign up to Saltire Award or Adult Volunteer Recognition award

### Additional Information

For all roles involving regulated work with children and young people, applicants will be required to submit a PVG Scheme Record or a PVG Scheme Record Update application. This opportunity is subject to the completion of satisfactory references and successful registration on the PVG Scheme.

### This role involves the following:

Children

National and local participation sessions

Young people

**\*All volunteers will be subject to application form, interview, reference and PVG Checks\***