Volunteering opportunity

Contact email for all enquiries: volunteering@whocaresscotland.org

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| **Name of Organisation:** | Who Cares? Scotland |
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| **Title of Volunteer Opportunity:**  | Participation Support Volunteer (East Renfrewshire) |

**ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY**

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| **Participation Support Volunteer****Purpose and Aims of the role**We are looking for committed volunteers who can provide a strong foundation to help strengthen their communities by helping Care Experienced children and young people engage in activities to build their skills and confidence and to be included, understood, respected, and valued in their communities. The East Renfrewshire group has been running since 2017, offering a space where care identity is explored with a light touch, with the emphasis on a safe, imaginative place for the young people to have fun, build positive relationships and enjoy new experiences.The Participation Support Volunteer role will assist in providing and supporting activities for young people, providing supportive adults to ensure all children and young people can thrive and bring communities together. This role will involve interacting with young people primary aged 6-13 years through supporting and leading on a variety of activities e.g. arts/crafts/sports/general youth work at our fortnightly sessions as well as at our National events that happen throughout the year. This role will help build community strengths for Care Experienced people and provide social networks to help build resilience and positive outcomes for children and young people. Who Cares? Scotland is a people organisation. We invest in our people, our relationships and in a positive working culture. It’s important to us that our volunteer team is included, involved and motivated to change society.Due the importance of building and maintaining relationships we are looking for someone who can have a long term commitment to supporting our group.**We aim to recruit people with excellent qualities from a wide variety of backgrounds who share in our mission. We particularly welcome applications from individuals with care experience.****What will I be doing?*** Supporting staff to undertake and plan activities
* Leading on activities
* Supporting Care Experienced young people’s sense of belonging and connection
* Building community ties, ensuring Care Experienced people are welcomed within communities
* 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, 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 (Tuesdays fortnightly - 5.30pm-8pm), occasional school holiday activities and events

**Location**East Renfrewshire: Dalmeny Community Centre, Barrhead**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
* Experience to get back into the workplace or education
* Have fun!

**What support will I be given?*** Volunteer Induction and Child Protection training
* Role specific training & additional training opportunities
* Expenses – all out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed
* Supervision and support from your volunteer coordinator

**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:**

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| x | Children  | x | National and local participation sessions |
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|  |  |  |  |
| x | Young people  |  |  |

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