

Lincolnshire Action Trust

Volunteer Mentor – Personal Health Wellbeing & Women’s Service

Lincolnshire Action Trust:

Lincolnshire Action Trust was established in 2000 and works with a variety of agencies within the criminal justice system to reduce re-offending, by working with people with convictions to address some of the issues and challenges which have resulted in their sentence.

The charity offers a range of training opportunities and employment support to prepare people for their release. Additional key services are also offered to their families and dependants, both during their time in prison and following their release.

General overview:

The volunteer mentor project matches volunteers with individuals in the criminal justice system to provide them with encouragement, support, and confidence to develop themselves and access new opportunities, ultimately aiming to reduce reoffending.

Mentoring matches work together to identify goals and participate in activities that progress the mentee towards achieving them. This could include working towards employment, volunteering, gaining new skills, emotional wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem, and much more.

Volunteers in this role will therefore act as a mentor to an individual over a period of time, working one-to-one with them in the community. They will provide regular feedback of any activities undertaken, adhering to LAT’s safeguarding procedures. Mentoring operates across multiple projects within LAT.

Main tasks will include:

- Working closely with an individual to achieve their desired goals
- Meeting regularly to undertake various activities with the individual
- Providing verbal and written feedback of activities
- Communicating information effectively to aid multi-agency working and reporting
- Respecting confidentiality and acting professionally at all times
- Adhering to professional boundaries throughout the mentoring relationship
- Providing emotional and practical support

Skills required:

- Confidence and effective communication
- Active listening
- An understanding of confidentiality
- Patience and understanding
- Reliability and commitment

Requirements:

- Due to the nature of the project, mentors must be over 18.
- Due to the nature of the project, volunteers for the Women’s Service must be female. The above role is exempt under the Equality Act 2010, Schedule 9, Part 1.
- Advanced DBS including Children and Adult Barred List

Locations:

The Women's Service is available throughout Greater Lincolnshire, and Personal Health and Well-Being is available throughout Lincolnshire. Your own travel is desirable, but not essential.

Expenses:

- Public transport costs with receipts or mileage up to a 20 mile radius at 45p per mile
- Reimbursement for refreshments with receipts

Training and support:

- Initial project induction and training, including safeguarding and an overview of the criminal justice system
- LAT offers a training and recognition day for all volunteers annually

Commitment:

LAT asks volunteers to:

- Commit to the project and its purpose
- Give notice of absence as soon as possible
- Be available for a minimum of 2 hours per week over a 4-6 month period
- Undertake an induction and training programme
- Agree to an Enhanced DBS check and reference checks

Volunteers can expect:

- Regular support and supervision from the volunteer coordinator and senior practitioners
- Training and progression opportunities
- A clear and understandable volunteer policy
- Invitation to volunteer meetings and outreach
- Recognition of their work

Recruitment process:

- Email or call for more information or to request an application form. Alternatively download an application form from the website
- Complete and return the application form via post or email
- Applicants will be invited to attend an informal interview with the volunteer coordinator and/or a senior practitioner
- If both parties wish to continue the application process references will be sought
- The applicant will then be invited to a volunteer training session relevant to the role they have applied for and a DBS form for an enhanced DBS check will be completed
- After training, the applicant will meet with the volunteer coordinator and/or senior practitioner after training to discuss next steps and the DBS form will be sent to the umbrella body for processing
- Volunteers will be given regular support and supervisions, as well as the opportunity to access development opportunities and training. Volunteers are also reimbursed for 'out of pocket' travel and expenses incurred in the role

To apply:

- Download an application form from the 'Getting Involved' page of our website
- Email volunteering@LATcharity.org.uk
- Ring 01522 806611

