

Turning Tides

Volunteer Role Description



Event Fundraising Volunteer Help at events and connect with our supporters

About Turning Tides

Turning Tides is the largest provider of homeless services for adults throughout West Sussex. The charity runs 21 accommodation projects in various locations across the county and has over 300 volunteers and 150+ paid staff supporting its mission to end local homelessness. For 30 years, Turning Tides has supported thousands of people experiencing homelessness throughout West Sussex.

Turning Tides believe that everyone has the right to a home, regardless of the difficulties they may face in their lives. The work they undertake to empower homeless and insecurely housed individuals is vital.

Through a variety of specialist support services, both residential and community based, the aim for each person is that they are empowered to fulfil their potential and secure a brighter future.

Together we can make a difference and end homelessness in our community.

Location

Locations will vary within our local communities in Worthing, Littlehampton, Shoreham, Horsham, and Mid Sussex.

A bit about the role:

The Fundraising team are looking for enthusiastic individuals to join the Event Volunteer Team to support our attendance at fundraising events in the community throughout the year. You are welcome to volunteer for as many as you would like to attend.

You will volunteer alongside members of our Fundraising Team and clients from our services to not only spread awareness about our much-needed services but also to encourage compassion in the community. You will help set up and attend our information stand at community events and at fundraising events and challenges.

You will help us to connect with existing and new supporters, and to be able to talk confidently and passionately about the work of the charity. (Full training will be given.)

Whether it is hours or days, the time you give really will make a difference.

We wish to be better known in our local communities. To help this we attend community stalls and events organised by other organisations and run our own events.

We need people who are friends and supporters of Turning Tides and who can be the face of our Charity.

This vital role helps us to reach new people and inspire others to support our work.

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What will I be doing?

We need you to help promote the work we do by engaging and talking to the public confidently about the charity, to encourage and gain new supporters and run a fundraising activity or sale of merchandise from our stand. We attend and host a variety of events and the role could involve:

- Taking donations using our collection tins or using our cashless tap-and-go terminals and iPads for online donations. Training and support will be given for this.
- We aim to make the stand as interactive as possible so you may be asked to take part in some simple activities such as a raffle or quiz (Covid guidance permitting).
- At some events we sell merchandise or need stewards.
- Helping with setting up and taking down the exhibition stand/display would be appreciated as we have gazebos, tables, vans etc.
- We are also seeking help with the distribution of promotional materials and putting up and taking down banners in key locations at various times throughout the year, to promote our current appeals and events.

It is Turning Tides' hope and expectation that as a volunteer you will:

- be inclusive and welcoming
- communicate professionally with the contacts you make
- be flexible to the needs of the staff member on duty
- be consistent, reliable, trustworthy, and honest
- be over 18 years of age
- be willing travel - a driving licence would be helpful

Times & Commitment:

Flexible – ad hoc, various events throughout the year. These events are most likely to fall on weekends. For all day events, we can run shifts to suit your needs. You would be part of a Fundraising Events pool of volunteers and as community event attendance is booked, we will contact you to ask if you are available.

What Training will I receive?

Turning Tides offers volunteers training so your time volunteering is the best it can be, is as safe as possible, and of course adds value to your experience and to Turning Tides.

Every volunteer regardless of role will have their initial induction. During this induction you be taken through a PowerPoint presentation and be issued with 'Not Just a Volunteer' handbook. The induction will cover Professional Boundaries, Safeguarding and Equality and Diversity and be a chance for you to ask any questions.

We will provide ongoing support and everything you need to get started and you will be asked to attend a training session, so you are comfortable and happy in your role.

Members of the fundraising team will be present to support you in your role and knowledge of the work that Turning Tides do will be shared.

You will get a T-shirt to wear too!

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Training and support will be given regarding cash handling and online donations.

The health and safety of our volunteers and supporters are always our top priority. As the situation with COVID-19 evolves, we will ensure any fundraising you carry out is within current Government and Fundraising guidelines. We will support you in this so guidelines are met.

We need to ensure you are eligible to volunteer in the UK. To do this we will ask to see documentation that proves your right to volunteer in the UK at your induction. If you are unable to provide this documentation you will be unable to volunteer. If you have the right to work in the UK on a permanent basis you are also normally allowed to volunteer. If in doubt, please contact the Home Office.

All of Turning Tides' roles require two-character references. These references do not need to be employment references; however, we cannot accept references from family members.