

Neighbourhood Community Development Partnerships- Proposal Form



Amount of funding requested:

£24,996.80

Reference number (office use)

Which **neighbourhood** is this project for?

Southwest Lewisham

Project title:

Community Volunteer Coordinator

SECTION A: Your organisation

Organisation	Crofton Park Local Assembly
Contact person	Tony Rich (Community Development Worker)
Telephone	07905 164 705
Address incl Post Code	C/O The Ackroyd Centre, Ackroyd Road, SE23
Email address	tonyrich@gmail.com

If an organisation will be receiving the funds on your behalf please provide details below:

Delivery Organisation	Voluntary Services Lewisham
Contact person	Evelyn Brady
Telephone	020 8291 1747
Address incl Post Code	Lewisham Central Community Hub Leemore Centre, 29-39 Clarendon Rise, London SE13 5ES
Email address	evelyn@vslonline.org.uk

SECTION B: The Project

Which priorities does your application address

Lack of volunteers and lack of capacity to support volunteers	
Lack of awareness of services available in the neighbourhood	

1. What would you like to do with the funding? Include the aims, objectives, the activities to be delivered and how the health priorities will be addressed

The aim of the project is to recruit a part-time volunteer coordinator to address two health and wellbeing priorities which have been identified by the Neighbourhood Community Development Partnership (NCDP), namely:

- A lack of volunteers and a lack of capacity among voluntary and community organisations working in the neighbourhood to recruit and support volunteers, and:
- A lack of awareness of health and well-being projects and services within the neighbourhood

The activities to be delivered are:

Recruitment of a volunteer coordinator working across the neighbourhood and supporting the development of capacity within smaller, locally-based VCS organisations.

The post-holder will then:

- Engage with smaller VCS organisations to establish their volunteer needs
- Liaise with strategic VCS organisations covering the neighbourhood to ensure that their resources to support volunteer recruitment, training and coordination are best deployed
- Engage with strategic organisations (e.g. Community Connections, VAL and VSL) on the recruitment of volunteers and matching to the needs of local VCS organisations
- Continue to engage with the smaller VCS organisations in the neighbourhood to ensure that they are benefiting from the support available from the strategic VCS infrastructure organisations and to ensure that their volunteer needs are being met
- Keep contact with the network of volunteers to ensure that they are fully supported and their activities coordinated across the neighbourhood

2. Who in the community is your project targeted at and how will you ensure that the project supports people across the neighbourhood?

The project is targeted at supporting smaller locally-based voluntary and community organisations delivering health and well-being projects in the South West NCDP area with few or no staff through adding to their capacity to recruit and support volunteers. We will ensure that the role supports people across the neighbourhood by requiring the individual to work through existing locally-based organisations who will be supported and have their capacity enhanced by strategic voluntary sector infrastructure organisations (Voluntary Action Lewisham, Voluntary Services Lewisham, Carers Lewisham and Community Connections) which are strategic partners to this project.

The activities of the strategic infrastructure organisations will include supporting the range of smaller, locally-based VCS organisations in their procedures for managing volunteers and their capacity to do so. The volunteers recruited will be directly supporting locally-based VCS organisations and will be able to promote the range of health and well-being activities and services available in the neighbourhood

One example of a health and wellbeing project which will be supported through role is one discussed at the last NCDP meeting -, namely, to develop an interactive map which will need a number of volunteers based in different parts of the neighbourhood.

The person appointed will be able to assist the project promoter to recruit volunteers to

The purpose of the project is to recruit a part-time volunteer coordinator to address two priorities which have been identified by the Neighbourhood Community Development Partnership (NCDP), namely:

- A lack of volunteers and a lack of capacity among voluntary and community organisations working in the neighbourhood to recruit and support volunteers, and:
- A lack of awareness of health and well-being projects and services within the neighbourhood

The project is targeted at supporting voluntary and community organisations delivering health and well-being projects in the South West NCDP area through adding to their capacity to recruit and support volunteers.

We will ensure that the role supports people across the neighbourhood by requiring the role to work through existing locally-based organisations and also closely with voluntary sector infrastructure organisations (Voluntary Action Lewisham, Voluntary Services Lewisham).

The volunteers recruited will be able to promote the range of health and well-being activities and services available in the neighbourhood e.g. through a project discussed at the last NCDP meeting to develop an interactive map which will need a number of volunteers based in different parts of the neighbourhood.

3. What are the benefits and health outcomes you expect to achieve as a result of the project?

The project is intended to achieve the following outcomes:

- To recruit and support a minimum of 25 volunteers to work on health and well-being projects being delivered by locally based VCS organisations
- To work with a minimum of 8 VCS organisations in order to help with their volunteer recruitment, coordination and retention
- To instil a culture of volunteering within the neighbourhood through promoting the concept at meetings and events during the year

In addition, the organisations involved are aiming to achieve the following health outcomes:

- Mental health- several of the organisations run reminiscence projects (e.g. Stanstead Road Seniors Club (Seniors), lunch clubs (e.g. Elder People's Support Project (EPSP) and networking sessions such as Dad's groups (e.g. Ewart Road Clubhouse) aimed at reducing isolation and strengthening social interaction
- Physical health - several of the organisations deliver activities for promoting physical health such as line dancing (e.g. Bellingham Golden Oldies(Bellingham Community Project (BCP) and EPSP, yoga (e.g. Seniors)
- Other partner organisations such as Ageing Well in Lewisham run a range of activities e.g. singing, movement and relaxation which contribute to both mental and physical health
- In addition to the above there are strategic activities undertaken by partner organisations in the bid which contribute towards general health outcomes e.g. the Bellingham Health Forum run by BCP

4. When will the activity take place:

Start Date: 1st January 2018

(Please note it can take up to 8 weeks after the decision on funding to be confirmed for you to be paid).

End Date: 30th December 2018

*(Please note that the project must be completed by the end of **March 2019**)*

5. Locations where the activities will take place:

Various throughout the neighbourhood

6. How will you work with others to deliver the project? (For example will your project involve local residents, Community Connections, Council officers or other partners? Use this space to tell us how they will be involved during the different phases of the project):

This is a partnership-based project with the following organisations having so far come forward to offer support:

Voluntary Services Lewisham has offered to administratively 'host' the role through carrying out the necessary back office functions (e.g. pay roll) although the person appointed will be expected to work in a peripatetic way. VSL have also offered to oversee the recruitment and training of volunteers by providing space, the application and interview pack, DBS check and AQA accredited training which includes, Safeguarding, Boundaries and Confidentiality and Effective Communication Skills.

Voluntary Action Lewisham has offered to help by increasing volunteering opportunities in Lewisham through supporting organisations with best practice resources to manage volunteers, as well as publicising all of the available opportunities using their existing channels and getting more people engaged in volunteering. They have also suggested that the VAL Community Development Worker for Volunteering who has recently started will be able to support this post-holder by doing some of the groundwork in speaking to groups, helping to develop volunteer roles.

Ageing Well in Lewisham

Has offered to provide:

- quiet office Space in Catford at The Talent Factory (4-14 Barmeston Road, SE6 3BH.), private (in AWIL's office) or open plan 'hot-desk' style accommodation, suitable for 1:1 and group training purposes or meetings.
- Wifi access and fully equipped kitchen.
- Printing / Scanning facilities and secure storage space.
- Signposting volunteers to other local organisations including their services and volunteering opportunities.

Carers Lewisham

Has offered:

- Open plan 'hot-desk' office space at Waldram Crescent, Forest Hill with wifi access, fully equipped kitchen and secure entry with receptionist.
- Printing / Scanning facilities
- Confidential 1:1 meeting rooms in Forest Hill bookable in advance
- Training/supervision room for up to 20 people when available, with Digital TV
- Training and support for volunteers who are also carers
- Can also signpost volunteers to other local organisations including their services and volunteering opportunities.

Bellingham Community Partnership

Has offered to promote volunteering opportunities in the Bellingham area to potential volunteers via the Bellingham Online website and through the Bellingham Inter-Agency and Bellingham Health Forum. Also to sign post volunteers to opportunities in other

local organisations in the Neighbourhood Area in line with the partnership-based approach behind this project.

Community Connections Service

Has offered to support the bid by providing a way for the organisations to engage with 'hard to reach' clients. Its community facilitators will also be able to signpost people to the local volunteering opportunities as well as the groups which will be benefiting from having volunteers. Also, the Community Development Worker in this neighbourhood has offered to 'introduce' the Volunteer Facilitator to the geography of the network and the organisations.

In addition, the list below covers the locally-based organisations that have so far identified a need for more volunteers and also support in managing them:

- Elder Peoples Support Project
- Ewart Road Clubhouse
- Stanstead Lodge Seniors Club

This list is very likely to grow as there are other undoubtedly VCS organisations within the Neighbourhood area that would benefit from support in recruiting and coordinating volunteers.

7. Outline the key risks associated with the project and how you will minimise their impact. (If you are planning an outdoor event, for example, what would happen if it rained?): **Remember a risk assessment should be completed.**

Risk 1

The worker does not get the necessary administration support and becomes isolated

Mitigation

We are ensuring that the role has the support of two infrastructure organisations working across Lewisham. VSL has in particular, agreed to 'host' the role

Risk 2

There is not an identified need for the role

Mitigation

The role comes directly from the need identified at NCDP meetings among a range of locally-based organisations for support in recruiting and managing volunteers. In addition, a number of locally-based VCS organisations have already put themselves forward to work with the post holder

Risk 3

Not enough volunteers will be recruited

Mitigation

Voluntary Action Lewisham has offered to help in publicising opportunities for volunteering and we also intend to work with the Volunteer Centre

Risk 4

The volunteers will not be adequately managed and supported

Mitigation

Voluntary Action Lewisham has offered to make best practice resources available for local organisations in managing volunteers