

37 Portland Road, Hove, East Sussex BN3 5DQ

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Mayor's Charity 2019-20-21-22



Volunteering at Antifreeze Project

Project Antifreeze provides food, hot drinks, sleeping bags and hygiene items to the homeless through our evening outreach teams and our day centre on Portland Road. We also offer the support our service users need to find accommodation and keep it. We aim to help our clients thrive, not just survive. At project Antifreeze, we treat every service user as a valuable individual and never a statistic.

Role Description – Street Outreach

This is a key role for assisting with the Antifreeze Project support on offer. It is an important role for the people who are homeless, rough sleeping and/or vulnerably housed who we meet on the streets of Brighton and Hove. The aim is to enable people on the streets to be valued and cared about, shown dignity and have access to practical provisions and support for housing and other essential services.

What you will be doing

- Greeting and building rapport with people on the streets who are homeless, rough sleeping and/or vulnerably housed
- Carrying and handing out drinks, snacks, hygiene items, clothing and other practical provisions as appropriate
- Promoting the Antifreeze Project and Day Centre support and linking people in need with other essential local support services
- Maintaining personal safety and appropriate boundaries with people on the street
- Adhering to relevant volunteer training and organisational policies

Skills, experience and qualities needed

- Motivation to help improve the life experience people who are homeless, rough sleeping and/or vulnerably housed
- Confidence in engaging with people of different backgrounds and walks of life, including those who may have complex needs and/or may be intoxicated.
- Good verbal communication skills i.e. calm, patient, active listening, able to build positive rapport and trust
- Able to maintain appropriate boundaries with people on the street
- Able to assess and respond appropriately to situations of risk to personal and/or others' safety
- Able to complete relevant volunteer training at a suitable time (Mon-Fri day or eve)

When and where

- Minimum 2hrs per week / Monday-Thursday evening between 7pm and 10pm
- Starting points either from our Antifreeze Day Centre, 37 Portland Road, Hove, BN3 5DQ, or a location in central Brighton/Hove. You must be able to access transport to travel to relevant starting point by foot, bike, public transport or car.

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Support offered

- Our Volunteer Coordinator will be your first contact and provide training and support when you are on your shift and for supervision check-ins at other times
- Where the volunteer coordinator is not available, another member of staff will provide necessary support as appropriate.
- You may be volunteering alongside other lead/non-lead volunteers

What you could get out of it

- We trust you will have a rewarding experience of improving the life experience of people who are homeless, rough sleeping and/or vulnerably housed and who often have multiple and complex needs
- Sharing the love of Christ with those in need
- Development of relevant skills and training i.e. health and safety, safeguarding, equality and diversity, managing tasks and communication skills etc
- Volunteer work references for use for future volunteer and/or paid work

Other information

- Due to the Christian faith-based ethos of Off the Fence, the Antifreeze street outreach offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to those in need, so we do ask that volunteers for this support would be able and comfortable offering prayer in a Christian context as appropriate.
- All volunteers working with people who are homeless, rough sleeping and/or vulnerably housed must complete a full disclosure DBS check.
- In accordance with our COVID safety policy, and in particular relevance to working with clinically vulnerable people, we also ask that all volunteers have been fully vaccinated against COVID.
- We require volunteers to provide 2 character references from people who have known them and had regular contact with them for at least 6 months – this could be a friend, volunteer or work colleague or supervisor. If you are part of a Christian community, we ask that you provide details of your church leader as one referee.

What to do if you're interested

1. Contact our volunteer coordinator Anna Muten via anna.muten@offthefence.org.uk or by calling 01273 774140.
2. Anna will then contact you and provide necessary application details.
3. Once your completed application is received, you will be invited for an informal chat to get to know you better and to discuss any other queries or support needs you may have.
4. Once references are completed, you will be invited for an initial trial shift and if the role is suited to you, then you be added to the relevant volunteer rota according to your availability.
5. DBS checks will be processed accordingly.

We look forward to hearing from you!