

Horticultural Volunteer

Information

Community Options is a registered charity established in 1990 to provide care and support to people with a mental illness. Throughout Community Options the emphasis is on high quality services which respond to the needs of service users, and seeks to maintain dignity, privacy and freedom of choice for each individual.

The volunteer positions available with Community Options are there to maximise the potential for participants to move into other volunteer placements and/or paid work and employment, promote independent living in the community, and enjoy a personally valued and fulfilling lifestyle.

Volunteer role description

Volunteers support different services provided by Community Options. This volunteer role will be supporting Branching Out.

Branching Out provides access to the local community through a variety of horticultural, environmental and conservation projects within the London Borough of Bromley. People with experience of mental health problems are given the opportunity to engage with their local environment, learn about horticulture and learn skills to help them back in to work.

The role of horticultural volunteer will support the Branching Out project to complete gardening projects and work.

This role will report to and receive supervision from the: Horticulture Project Officer.

Role purpose

Horticultural volunteers will work within teams to complete gardening, horticulture, conservation and environmental projects. You will:

- complete contracted work for individuals and organisations to support the continuation and development of Branching Out.
- Learn gardening techniques and practices as you complete the varied gardening projects.

Main Functions

1. To complete garden activities and tasks as directed by the Horticulture Project Officer and/or Volunteer Horticulture Lead. Group projects, tasks and work will vary on a daily basis as determined by the Horticultural Project Officer and the needs of the project.
2. Assist in creating and maintaining an environment that is tidy, beneficial and safe for everyone involved with Branching Out
3. To produce high quality standards of service delivery, development and monitoring; that meet Community Options contractual requirements and objectives.
4. To maintain professional standards and values as a representative of Branching Out and Community Options.
5. To adhere to all Community Options policies and procedures appropriate to the project.

Please note that work will vary on a daily basis as determined by the needs of the project and the team.

Role specifications

<i>Experience</i>
Completing horticultural projects
<i>Qualifications</i>
None necessary - relevant qualification in horticulture, conservation, environment beneficial
<i>Skills and qualities</i>
Ability to work as part of a team and following instructions
Ability to manage time effectively
<i>Understanding and knowledge</i>
A good understanding of mental health issues
Knowledge in health and safety and working procedures
<i>Personal attributes</i>
Self Motivation and flexible in approach
Willingness to learn and to undertake training