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| **VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION** |
| **ROLE TITLE**  | Volunteer Gardening Assistant – Swindon |
| **SUMMARY**  | Medaille Trust supports and empowers survivors of modern slavery, trafficking and exploitation. We do this in a number of ways, from offering safe accommodation, to offering support both in our safehouses and out in the community on our Moving on Projects. Our work also includes advocacy and awareness raising in the UK as well as an entrepreneurship academy in Albania, which provides meaningful alternatives to those who may otherwise be at risk of exploitation. All our work embodies a commitment to personalised support, recognising the dignity and agency of our service users and empowering them on a path to a life that is free from slavery and exploitation.As part of the work we do, we offer activities to service users to help them to gain skills, learn new things and create friendships.We recognise the importance of wellbeing and being in nature. So, we are keen to create our own vegetable patch to support this vision. We are looking for a Volunteer Gardening Assistant to help us create and maintain our vegetable patch alongside our service users. Helping to teach the service users skills such as planting and maintenance of the vegetable patch where necessary. |
| **RESPONSIBLE TO**  |  Service Manager  |
| **COMMITMENT LEVEL** | Weekly |
| **DURATION**  | 6-month minimum commitment after training.  |
| **LOCATION OF ACTIVITY**  | Swindon |
| **CORE TASKS** | We are looking for a Volunteer to help support us with creating and maintaining our vegetable patch, as well as working alongside service users to support them with all things gardening related, tasks will include:* Digging, planting, maintaining, harvesting of plants.
* Trimming hedges and bushes.
* Weeding and watering plants.
* General gardening duties.
* Sharing knowledge of plant, flower, and food cultivation with service users.
* Organising gardening activities for service user participation.
* Consulting service users to gain their feedback about what sessions they would like to participate in..
* To offer a safe and comfortable experience for all service users, showing awareness of service users’ varying physical and mental well-being needs.
* To provide feedback to Service Manager reporting any observations or concerns in a timely manner.
* To take part in regular supervision and support
* To regularly attend volunteer or staff meetings
* To attend training as and when required
* To work within agreed professional boundaries at all times
* To provide a safe and non-judgmental environment that promotes the core values and ethos of the Trust, in accordance with the Medaille Trust Policy, Data Protection Act, and Health and Safety Regulations.
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| **PERSON SPECIFICATION** | The role would suit someone who is friendly, kind, empathetic and non-judgemental. This position is very rewarding and would suit a person who is happy to work in a team, in a busy and sometimes challenging environment. This role requires maturity, and an ability to engage with adults in a trauma informed way, while working alongside staff members to deliver the activities in line with agreed procedures and systems. * Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.
* Volunteers will need to have a good standard of spoken and written English
* Have experience or qualifications in gardening, cultivation, harvesting of plants.
* This role requires a regular commitment- weekly
* Ability to maintain confidentiality is essential
* Volunteers to have knowledge and understanding of human trafficking issues or willingness to learn
* Knowledge of mental health issues and the challenges faced or a willingness to learn
* An understanding of the importance of professional boundaries in the role
* Must be able to get to the venue which is based in Swindon
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| **TRAINING PROVIDED** | Induction to the Medaille Trust, including an overview of Modern Slavery in the UK, safeguarding, boundaries, GDPRAny additional training that is commensurate to the individual roleRegular Supervision is required for this role |
| **REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES** | Travel costs and other expenses in line with our expenses policy. |
| **ANY OTHER INFORMATION** | An enhanced DBS check is required to volunteer. |