**Volunteer Session Worker**

**Job Description**

**Employer:**

The Arts for Life Project is a charity supporting young people’s emotional health and mental wellbeing through the therapeutic value of the creative arts. We encourage integration, communication and education for mental wellbeing, covering a wide spectrum of ability for all young people. The project provides services and support programmes that have been proven to create happier, healthier individuals, both mentally and physically. The Arts for Life Project is run by psychotherapists, artists and young people who understand the value of proactive mental health

**Purpose of opportunity:**

The aim for this service is to deliver a targeted emotional health and wellbeing service in Harrow /Hillingdon that is community based with outreach to schools that provides appropriate, early intervention.

The service complements and works closely with relevant agencies and educational establishments to ensure that children and young people are seen in a holistic manner. The service provides short to medium term therapeutic and other evidence based interventions, ensuring CYP's voices are heard, listened to and acted upon.

The purpose of the role is to provide a safe and welcoming wellbeing service where children and young people can express themselves to make progress and informed choices about their lives. The type of therapy and counselling is dependent on the need of children and young people.

**Key activities:**

* To assist and / or provide support and mentoring to CYP in group setting
* To cooperate with other members of team (staff, volunteers) and other agencies in order to support the emotional development of young people.
* To assist the project team in preparing, running and breaking down sessions
* To listen, support and understand the needs of the young people
* To observe and feedback to project team, observations, understandings and insights into young people.
* To provide the most effective service
* To accurately record the sessions
* To attend supervisions, team meetings and trainings where appropriate

**Attitude/skills/knowledge required:**

* Awareness of factors impacting on and issues facing vulnerable children and young people
* Knowledge of Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
* Ability to apply Arts For Life Projects safeguarding and child protection procedures
* Ability to listen to and communicate effectively with CYP
* Ability to write reports

**Mandatory for practice:**

* Experience with working with young people
* Self starter
* Commitment to 1 year service following a 2-month trial period.
* Commitment to Arts For Life Projects Mission and Vision
* Commitment to Arts For Life Project Equality Policy

**Training, support or other benefits available:**

* As an Arts For Life Project employee you will receive the following:
* A family that will nurture and support your development needs
* A full induction into the work of Arts For Life Project and our values
* Mandatory training is Arts For Life Project Safeguarding, Equality, Risk Assessment and Data

**Protection**

* Training to assist with admin tasks and the role.
* Regular supervision and support from your designated project lead
* Clinical supervision (where required)
* Annual appraisal (which will include feedback from staff, children, young people and families you are working with.
* References upon completion of the volunteering role

**Location:** Pinner - HA5 (Occasional Travel within London & Home Counties)

**Period covered by opportunity:** Ongoing

**Days/Hours/ Time commitment:** Monday 4:00 – 5:30pm

Tuesday 3:30 – 8:30pm

Thursday 3:30 – 9:30pm

Friday 6:30 – 10:30pm

**Operations:** Volunteer times vary and a schedule will be arranged to suit availability

**Current Onsite Projects:** Session Support

Outreach Support

Marketing & PR Support

Administration  
Community Engagement Support Grants & Fundraising

**Outreach:** In-School Training, Workshops, Activities

**Minimum Age:** 18 years (Peer Mentors 14+yrs)

**Expenses:** Can be offered

**Disclosure:** Enhanced Disclosure applies (16+)

**Type of Check:** Enhanced and Children’s barred list applies

**Workforce:** Child Workforce applies