

## Gardening Group Volunteer

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At St Mungo's we provide a bed and support to more than 3,150 people in accommodation each night. As well as accommodation services, we also provide a range of services, such as running activities, skills and employment training, and tenancy support, to help people at every stage of their recovery from homelessness. At the heart of all of our services is our commitment for everyone to have a place to call home and fulfil their hopes and ambitions.

A big part of this is encouraging clients to engage with activities, either in the accommodation where they live or through our Recovery Colleges. Activities are often someone's first step towards thinking about their aspirations and going on to access services for employment and learning. As a volunteer supporting clients to take part in activities, you will be doing something simple that makes a really big difference.

### What will I be doing?

In this role, you will be supporting us with all or some of the following tasks:

- Facilitating regular gardening sessions for our clients while sharing your talent for and interest in gardening, with them
- Supporting clients to learn at their own pace, and take pride in their achievements.
- Planning the gardening sessions to meet the needs of the participants and take a creative approach to how these are facilitated.
- Teaching clients how to grow plants/herbs/vegetables.
- Managing the vision for a garden and empowering clients to care for their garden.
- Liaising with the staff around maintenance, ordering seeds etc.
- Maintaining the garden to keep the space tidy and accessible to residents (e.g. weeding, lawn mowing, weeding, trimming, pruning, and clearing up leaves)
- Operating tools including lawnmower and hedge trimmers
- Adhere to St Mungo's Policies and Procedures at all times.
- Promote St Mungo's work in an appropriate manner.
- Actively promote equality, diversity and inclusion among staff, fellow volunteers and clients.

### Where/ When will I be volunteering?

Our projects and services run across London and the South of England. We aim to match you to the most suitable volunteer role. After we receive your application, we will give you more information on the exact location and time you'll need to commit to the role as well as the specific service you'll be supporting.

### Do I need to have specific skills?

- A passion for gardening and knowledge which you are keen to pass on to others.
- Plenty of patience – this role is about encouraging others to take part and try something new.
- Client and customer focused.
- A friendly personality, good interpersonal skills, enthusiasm and motivation.
- Willing to learn and develop within the role.



- Collaborative with good communication skills.
- An understanding of the causes of homelessness and its impact.
- Genuine interest in and commitment to St Mungo's work and client group.
- An understanding of and commitment to diversity & equality.

We particularly welcome applicants with experience of using and moving on from support services.

### **What support will I receive in return?**

- Our core volunteer training as well as access to further learning and development opportunities from our specialised Volunteer Services team.
- A role induction and role-specific training as well as regular support from your volunteer supervisor.
- Reimbursed volunteering expenses.
- New skills and experience within the largest homelessness services provider - both extremely valuable if you seek paid employment in the sector.
- Professional references after 3 months volunteering.
- A dedicated volunteer services team to support your volunteering.
- Access to our Volunteer Development Pathway to help you to develop the skills and experience to support your progression.

### **How can I apply?**

Complete our online application form. Or, contact us at [volunteer@mungos.org](mailto:volunteer@mungos.org) or on 0203 856 6160