

## **Hastings and Eastbourne Substance Misuse Service**

### **Roles, responsibilities and duties of volunteers:**

- Directly involved in supporting people affected by substance misuse by providing information and advice
- Spending time within our needle exchange schemes alongside project staff with the purpose of supporting the delivery of open access harm minimisation services
- Support the engagement of service users by using/developing communication and interpersonal skills to empower, motivate and encourage people affected by substance misuse
- Active involvement in the development of the harm reduction service via research, evaluation and raising awareness
- Support and accompany staff during assessments and outreach services as a second person
- Support service user involvement by acting as an advocate at service user groups and meetings
- Use their own specialist skills to provide unique services to service users accessing the open access service

### **Time commitment:**

The Open Access Service operates a Monday to Friday 9-5pm working week and the volunteer would be expected to be able to work within these times.

The service is flexible with the level of commitment the volunteer is able to offer, but in line with CRI policy this will be no more than 3 days volunteering per working week. We ask that volunteers commit to a regular day or days per week (starting with one per week during the trial period)

Days:

**Monday** 9:00 – 5pm

**Tuesday** 9:00 – 5pm

**Wednesday** 9:00 – 5pm

**Thursday** 9:00 – 5pm

**Friday** 9:00 – 5pm

## Skills and experience:

Essential	Desirable
Good communication skills and the ability to engage with and motivate a hard to reach group of individuals	Background knowledge of substance use and the issues effecting people actively engaged in using substances.
A non-judgmental approach and respect for service user confidentiality	Some experience/background of social care work/settings
An interest in volunteering in the substance misuse field with the aim to working in the social care sector	Basic active listening skills gained through work experience or attendance on a counselling course
Ability to work as part of a team in a busy environment	Currently working towards a social care qualification
Commitment to gaining accreditation and attending the volunteer placement for at least four months	
A sense of humour!	

## Additional information:

*Volunteering with CRI will provide:*

- Ability to gain valuable experience of working in the substance misuse field
- Ability to gain comprehension of the harm reduction approach to substance use
- Ability to be part of a continually developing service
- Opportunity to undertake an accredited CRI training programmes
- Opportunity to undertake CRI Core training courses after a qualifying period