

VOLUNTEER NEWS

SWAN's Quarterly Volunteer Update

Welcome to our second edition Volunteer Newsletter.

This quarter we are focusing on new projects, recruitment and volunteer feedback.



Latest News

It's been a busy few months here at SWAN in terms of volunteering. We are actively recruiting across our Wiltshire and Isle of Wight (IoW) services. We are also excited to be launching two new roles - Volunteer Advocacy Coach and Volunteer Community Champion. Find out more below.

Meet our Volunteer Team on the IoW



Volunteering on the Isle of Wight

Kay Lanning, Isle of Wight Supervising Advocate will be managing volunteers on the island and supporting our volunteer programme. Kay is excited to start and said:

"After a long 18 months, the country is now moving forward, cautiously optimistic, away from the COVID pandemic. The strength of our community pulling together through this time has impressed me. Islanders have all united, in some way, to help those whose voices might have gone unnoticed amid pandemic anxiety and isolation. It is clear to me, now more than ever, that my passion lies with advocating for people's needs, wants and wishes. I certainly know that we each have it within our gift to help get voices heard.

I'm looking forward to meeting and working with volunteers who feel the same way; who are excited by the sense of Island community and feel just as strongly about offering independent, impartial support to empowering others. We are a new service on the Island and I believe that starting our project together means we can all make it something incredibly crucial and worthwhile."

Kay is supported by Charlotte Price, Isle of Wight Service Manager

Current Opportunities on the IoW

We are actively recruiting for the following roles on the IoW

Advocacy Coach

This role supports our Self-Advocacy Programme. Advocacy Coaches support clients through 1:1 sessions or bespoke workshops to gain confidence and the skills to self-advocate either for a one off event or as part of their personal progression.

We are looking for Volunteers who have;

- A positive attitude towards clients who have a variety of complex needs
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Experience of delivering training or workshops to groups

Community Champion

This role supports the promotion of the services provided across SWAN on a local level by raising awareness of the service offerings, assisting with events, and improving engagement with the community. We are seeking individuals who are passionate about the Isle of Wight and would like to support SWAN in reaching and giving a voice to people across the Island.

We are looking for Volunteers who have;

- Knowledge of the Isle of Wight and the services for vulnerable people
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- The motivation to ensure that our organisation can give a voice to the most vulnerable people on the Island

If you have any questions or would like to apply for either of these roles then contact
Anna Temblett, Volunteer Manager, via volunteer@swanadvocacy.org.uk or 07928525693

Summer 2021 Edition

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Kay Lanning

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Service Ella Carter

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Recruitment Opportunity

Living Well Advocacy Service

Volunteer Living Well Advocate Opportunity

Are you committed, passionate, empathetic and a good listener?
Do you believe that everyone has an equal right to have their voice heard?
Would you like to help someone plan for their future?
If so, we would love to hear from you.

By becoming a Volunteer Living Well Advocate you can make a difference by advocating for people who would otherwise struggle to be heard. Volunteering in this service means that you will be supporting those with long-term health conditions to plan for their future. Producing a Living Well Plan of their past, current and future wishes to empower them at times when having their own voice may be more of a struggle.

This is a rewarding opportunity. You can help make positive changes to a person's future goals and wishes. As a Volunteer Living Well Advocate you must be able to demonstrate the ability to work with individuals from all walks of life. We welcome applications from volunteers with their own lived experience, either through caring for others, employment, or a diagnosis.

If you have;

- a positive attitude towards clients with complex needs
- excellent communication skills, computer literate and well organised

You would like to be part of a small team of volunteers who are making a big difference

And you are a driver with the willingness to travel throughout Wiltshire who can you spare a minimum of 3 hours per week to volunteer.

Then get in touch with our Volunteer Manager, Anna Temblett, to discuss this exciting opportunity. Contact details below.



Living Well Volunteers

Volunteer Feedback



Community Money Advice Service South Wiltshire (CMA)

Volunteer Money Mentors

Abi Marshall has been volunteering as a Money Mentor since the project launched in November 2020. Abi kindly shared with me her thoughts on volunteering with the service.

"Supporting CMA in their vision to help individuals and families during times of financial difficulty has been eye opening to the many financial challenges and complexities people face. The clients require different support, which makes each case unique. For some it is about learning to budget and understand their finances more intricately, for others it is supporting them through debt solutions, which the CMA hub lead on."

SWAN is well connected to various services meaning clients that come to us might be receiving other support, and therefore the CMA aspect often contributes to the wider, holistic support a client may need. It's been a pleasure to be part of SWAN and CMA given the great work they do." Abi Marshall, Volunteer Money Mentor, CMA South Wiltshire.



Abi Marshall, Money Mentor, CMA

Victims of Crime Advocacy Service (VOCAS)

Volunteer Victim Advocate



Ella Carter is a Volunteer Victim Advocate, this what she says about her time volunteering for the Victims of Crime Advocacy Service (VOCAS):

"Volunteering as a Victim Advocate has been both fascinating and challenging. It has given me the chance to help make a positive difference to someone's life. Through providing emotional support to clients and communicating with services such as the police."

I am most enjoying being able to benefit someone's life and make their day a little bit better. I feel very supported by SWAN through monthly 1-1s with my supervisor. Helping the client with their anxiety and emotional needs, and supporting them to feel like they're not alone is really rewarding.

Volunteering with VOCAS has provided me with the experience and inspiration to pursue a career in victim support. I am very thankful for this opportunity." Ella Carter, Volunteer Victim Advocate, VOCAS

If you'd like to find out more about volunteering with SWAN you can check out our website at

www.swanadvocacy.org.uk/volunteer

Contact Anna Temblett, Volunteer Manager, directly via email: volunteer@swanadvocacy.org.uk Tel: 07928 525693