

VOLUNTEER NEWS

SWAN's Quarterly Volunteer Update

Welcome to our fourth edition Volunteer Newsletter.
This quarter read about our Volunteer Manager, Anna Temblett and her first year in post.



Latest News

One Year On

SWAN's Volunteer Manager, Anna Temblett has now officially been in post for 1 year and what a year it has been for our Volunteer Programme. We are on target with our Volunteer Strategy and all our services have welcomed new volunteers over the past 12 months. Recruitment continues to grow with Anna taking the lead to advertise and engage with prospective volunteers.



Living Well Volunteer evening at the theatre, Stourhead Sept 2021

SWAN now has Supervising Advocates across all service areas, after their successful implementation in the Living Well Service. Their role ensures that volunteers have the right level of ongoing support, training and expertise to call upon.

Our new recruitment, induction and support programme has ensured that we have retained our fantastic volunteers and they are continuing to spend their precious time helping our services grow and advocating for our clients.

We are looking forward to the next year and seeing how we can grow further.

Anna summarised her year...

"I can't quite believe that it has already been year, whilst so much has been achieved, it also still feels like I stepped into this role only yesterday. It has been a tough year not without its challenges but it was also a phenomenal year for volunteer recruitment.

I've spoken with over 30 prospective volunteers, met 23 for an interview and 21 then joined me for their Induction to SWAN. The feedback from our new and existing Volunteers is really positive and I am encouraged by the number of applicants we receive for all roles we advertise.

All of this has only been possible though with the support of the Supervising Advocates and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their support, both when I took on the role and over the past year. It is only with their support to train and supervise volunteers that the new programme has been so successful.

And thanks also to the Senior Leadership Group who have supported my ideas and given me the platform and resources to test things out. I've been given the time to find my own ways of working and I am so grateful as I have been able to make the role my own.

I can't wait to see what the next year will bring."

Anna Temblett Jan, 2022

Plans for 2022:

The next steps are for volunteering include

- Increasing our Volunteer Advocacy Coaches
- Recruiting a Volunteer Digital Champion (see over for more details)
- Expanding our offer and continuing to diversify our volunteers
- Supporting future contracts and implementing Social Value Projects

Profile: Anna Temblett
Volunteer Manager

(Loves) Harry Potter, walking the dog, running, watching films and TV dramas.

I like to spend my spare time building Lego, with and without my 3 children.

Although not something that comes naturally I have taken up running during the pandemic and will be entering the Taunton 10k in May.

I am a Trustee for my local Preschool and I like that I can offer some of my free time to volunteering as the volunteers do for us.

Winter 2022 Edition

Latest News—One Year On

Current Opportunities

Digital Community
Champion

Advocacy Coach

Relevant Person's

Representative

Volunteer Victim Advocate

Next Edition Bristol Services



Anna Temblett, Volunteer Manager

Keep an eye out for the **Special Volunteers Week Edition in June** when we will review **"A Year of Volunteers"** looking back from April 2021 to see just how far the Volunteer Programme has come.

If you have any questions or would like to apply to be a volunteer then contact
Anna Temblett, Volunteer Manager, via volunteer@swanadvocacy.org.uk or 07928525693

Current Opportunities

Volunteer Digital Community Champion (based in our Head Office in Taunton)

This role supports the digital promotion of the services provided across SWAN. We are seeking individuals with I.T. and marketing skills who would like to support SWAN increase our reach and give a voice to people across our service areas via our digital marketing.

We are looking for Volunteers who have;

- Working knowledge of social media, website design and marketing
- Excellent written communication skills
- Experience in using and adapting information for social media

We are actively recruiting for the following roles on the Isle of Wight, in Somerset and South Gloucestershire

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



Volunteer Relevant Person's Representative (RPR)

The role of Volunteer RPR is to advocate for clients living in restricted settings and care homes, to ensure their best interests are safeguarded and their rights are upheld. Clients requiring a RPR are subject to a Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Authorisation from the Local Authority.

We are looking for Volunteers who have;

- A positive attitude towards vulnerable clients who may have dementia, a learning disability, autism or complex needs
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Experience of record keeping and report writing

A background in Health and Social care is desirable for this role.

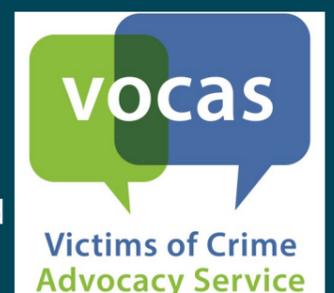
The VOCAS team are seeking Volunteer Victim Advocates

Volunteer Victim Advocate

Volunteer Victim Advocates have a willingness to help others have their voices heard and support them when they are a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour. This is a varied role where you will be supporting the delivery and promotion of a diverse, inclusive and client led independent advocacy and support service. Helping people through a time when they are at their most vulnerable.

We are looking for Volunteers who;

- Can show empathy towards victims of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Have excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Are organised, professional and reliable



You can read about these and other opportunities on our website

www.swanadvocacy.org.uk/volunteer

Next Edition

The details of the Bristol Advocacy volunteer projects were not ready for this edition but look out for the details in our Spring Edition due April 2022

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