

Post: Development Worker
Contract: 24 months (fixed-term contract)
Hours: 21 hours/week – by agreement
Salary: £25,000 pro rata
Location: Home-based and able to travel throughout Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle.
Annual Leave: 25 days/year pro rata

The Charity

Transforming Communities Together: Tyne to Tweed is part of a national network of faith-based charities dedicated to promoting thriving communities and giving national reach to local action. We work to support churches, organisations and community groups (regardless of faith or of no faith) working together to tackle poverty, deprivation and disadvantage across Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland.

Our current projects include establishing Money Advice Centres alongside our existing network of Places of Wellbeing (which range from coffee mornings and lunch clubs to Debt Advice Centres) in addition to establishing further places of Wellbeing.

Job Purpose

Working with colleagues the Development Worker will:

- support the development of further Places of Wellbeing and Money Advice Centres in local communities in Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle in order to promote social connection, inclusion and mental wellbeing.
- Promote the Partners in Community Action fund and support churches in the application process.

This is a proactive role involving targeted relationship and partnership-building together with the promotion of programme of work to key agencies, church leaders and volunteers.

Specific Responsibilities

1. Researching, networking and partnership-building

- Carry out research into existing services, projects and activities focusing on social isolation, loneliness and mental health. Identify those communities less well-served and which would benefit from a Place of Wellbeing.
- Establish working relationships and build partnerships with key local agencies, notably churches and also community organisations, care and health providers across the region in order to maximise the impact and sustainability of the projects.

2. Profile-raising and communication

- Promote the work of Transforming Communities Together: Tyne to Tweed through all appropriate media.
- Coordinate and deliver introductory meetings for volunteers and local partners, by video conferencing or face to face, in areas with a concentration of interest.

3. Training and guidance

- Facilitate church and community groups in identifying viable community action projects to address local need.
- Support local volunteers in project planning and delivery of those projects, including assessing resource needs.
- Develop, deliver or provide outsourced volunteer training, as appropriate.
- With colleagues, establish and maintain mutually supportive networks of volunteer coordinators of community gardens, Places of Welcome and befriending services.

4. Quality Standards & Reporting

- Plan and deliver work in collaboration with colleagues in order to meet targets.
- Monitor and evaluate the projects and submit quarterly and other reports as required by funders.
- Contribute positively to regular team meetings.

Person Specification

Essential:

Knowledge and experience

- Experience of working with church-based community groups and volunteers.
- Track record of building successful partnerships to deliver projects.
- Track record of delivering to targets set by funders.
- Experience of volunteer management and support.
- Experience of delivering training and facilitating groups.
- Extensive experience of delivering presentations using a variety of media to diverse groups of varying sizes.
- Strong links with and an understanding of local networks in the region.
- Experience of working in the third sector, particularly with vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.
- Understanding of the breadth of church structures and denominations.

Skills and Attributes

- Self-motivated and well organised with a proven ability to learn and adapt.
- Proactive, able to take initiative and make decisions within level of delegated authority.
- Able to work collaboratively, positive and enthusiastic about working with others to deliver change.
- In sympathy with the Christian faith.

- Ability to work with complex situations, able to problem solve and exercise sound judgement to deliver positive outcomes.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, self-aware and able to instil confidence in others.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Computer literate – proficient in the use of Microsoft Office, Excel, Word and PowerPoint, and Zoom or other video conferencing platforms.
- Willing to work flexibly, with some evening and weekend work.
- Willing and able to travel regularly throughout Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle.
- Full driving licence and own car.

Desirable:

Knowledge and experience

- Experience of working over a dispersed geographical area on a remote basis.
- Business planning and marketing.
- Experience of working in ecumenical relationships across a broad spectrum of church traditions and Christian groups.
- Experience of enabling community use of church buildings.

Skills and Attributes

- Personal commitment to the Christian faith that informs your understanding of responding to social need.

Application Process:

Please send a current C.V. with a letter of no more than 1000 words explaining how you meets the requirements of the post to admin@tct-tynetotweed.org by 4th May 2024.

Interviews will be w/c 13th May 2024