



volunteering at
akt



role: *Fundraising Event Volunteer - London*

volunteer role description

fundraising event volunteer – london

about akt

akt supports LGBTQ+ young people aged 16–25 in the UK who are facing or experiencing homelessness or living in a hostile environment.

We support young people into safe homes and employment, education or training, in a welcoming and open environment that celebrates LGBTQ+ identities. The pandemic and lockdowns have had a significant impact on LGBTQ+ young people, as well as other marginalised groups including black people, people of colour and disabled people. Marginalised groups have not only dealt with the pandemic but also the rise of transphobic rhetoric in the media and spikes in racism.

akt saw an 118% increase in referrals to our services during the first lockdown, compared to the same period in 2019. When Government Covid guidelines banned sofa surfing, many LGBTQ+ young people had no other option but rough sleeping or staying at home in hostile or abusive family environments.

about the role

The responsibility of the fundraising team at akt is to engage people in a variety of ways and encourage them to donate to or fundraise for our work supporting young people. This can take the form of inviting them to set up regular gifts in the way of direct debit donations, to take part in a challenge event (such as marathon running or skydiving) and create online fundraising pages or even to engage corporate support in the form of official partnerships.

Our Fundraising Event Volunteers will be instrumental in helping us raise awareness and funding for our work at events, particularly during Pride season. These events can include performances in pubs and clubs, special appearances at theatres and galleries where the Volunteers' responsibilities will include interacting with patrons/customers/audience members and explaining how their support can help the charity. Information leaflets and resources will also be on hand for you to give out.

To give you an idea of how different donation levels can support the charity:

- **£15** could help us pay for a young person's mobile data top-up and transport to emergency accommodation
- **£40** could support a young person to obtain a form of Photo ID (needed to open a bank account, claim benefits etc)
- **£100** could cover the cost of a two day stay at emergency accommodation
- **£200** could pay for more than 20 hours of support from a caseworker

suggested activities

- Collecting donations at events using buckets, card readers or QR codes
- Talking about akt and our services to attendees
- Event set up and set down
- Selling tickets or staffing the door at an event
- Attending events to cheer on participants – i.e. people taking part in the Great Manchester Run

skills/experience required

- An interest in helping akt raise awareness of our work and the young people we support
- Confidence talking to members of the public
- No previous fundraising experience is necessary but could be useful
- An understanding of the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ homeless young people

volunteer role description

what you will gain

- Knowledge that your volunteering is having a direct impact on the financial success of the charity and therefore on the lives of the young people we support
- Opportunity to meet a wide variety of people and be part of a vibrant fundraising team
- Experience of volunteering as part of the LGBTQ+ community and the chance to attend a variety of exciting events
- Increased confidence and communication skills
- We can offer you a reference
- Opportunity to be part of the akt team and social opportunities with other volunteers

time commitment

This really depends on each event and how much time you are able to give. Each event usually requires volunteers' attendance for approximately three hours (although this is event specific) Events usually take place on evenings and weekends and are most frequent during Pride season and the end of the year.

support arrangements

Volunteers' involvement in any event will be managed and guided by the fundraising team who are on hand during the preparation of each event and during the event itself to answer any questions you may have.

location

Various across Greater London.

expenses

Travel to/from events and food expenses will be reimbursed if volunteering for more than 4 hours at one event e.g., at Pride events

application

Application is via a short application form. Volunteers will attend an online 'welcome to akt' introductory session and a community fundraising induction. Volunteers receive a pre-event briefing ahead of each event.

The logo for 'akt' is displayed in a bold, white, lowercase sans-serif font. The letter 'a' features a small white circle in its center. The logo is positioned in the upper right corner of the page, set against a green background. To the right of the logo, a portion of a cartoon illustration of a person's face is visible, showing a smiling mouth and dark skin.