

community outreach volunteer

Hours: 3 hrs once a week (min. 3 months)

Location: based at our Newcastle Office

akt is committed to being an inclusive place to work and volunteer that represents the diverse communities we serve. We actively encourage applications from candidates with diverse backgrounds and with lived experience. We particularly encourage applications from Black, Brown and People of Colour, transgender and non-binary identities and disability groups. All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability or age.

About Us

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. 136,000 young people in the UK are homeless. 24% of those are LGBTQ+, made homeless by rejection or abuse from family. For as long as LGBTQ+ young people are subject to hostility, exclusion and insecurity, our services will be vitally needed.

About the role

The akt Outreach Programme aims to spread the word about akt far and wide with the goal of letting as many LGBTQ+ young people as possible know we're here to support them if or when they need us. Community outreach volunteers are passionate and eager to share their knowledge of our cause with others whether it's dropping off leaflets at a venue, attending a LGBTQ+ Fair/event or contacting youth agencies, schools and colleges with information about our services.

Suggested Activities:

- Using your existing networks to spread the word about akt to young LGBTQ+ people who may be experiencing homelessness or living vulnerably
- Accessing online spaces or LGBTQ+ groups
- Researching organisations to approach for outreach activities and working with other outreach volunteers and the Services team to coordinate these
- Sharing your passion for what we do with your community
- Opportunities to undertake your own mini-research projects

skills/experience required:

- Good communication skills
- Experience in using IT packages, including Microsoft Outlook
- Good research skills (desirable but not essential)
- Good knowledge of your local area and potential supporters, and a genuine enthusiasm for our cause.
- Creative and flexible
- An understanding of the issues that are faced by LGBTQ+ communities and young people is desirable

What you will gain:

- an opportunity to meet like-minded people and develop connections with people in your local community
- it's a great way to increase your knowledge of the charity sector, helping you in your personal and professional development
- you will make a positive impact in your community and beyond
- a reference
- the opportunity to be part of the akt team and social opportunities with other volunteers

Time Commitment & hours preferred

Every **Wednesday from 11-2 pm**. We ask for a minimum commitment of 3 months.

Training, Induction and Supervision Arrangements

Volunteers will receive an induction as well as an informal supervision meeting every 4-6 weeks. There will be a member of staff present when in the office.

Expenses

Travel and other reasonable expenses will be reimbursed if volunteering for 4+ hours on one day.

Application Process

Application is via an application form via our CRM database Volunteerio and an informal discussion/interview about your skills and what you would bring to the role. Interviews are expected to occur in [insert date], and we will be aiming to organise this as and when we receive applications.

Deadline: Friday 30th August

We actively promote equity of opportunity for all and welcome applications from candidates with criminal records. **This role is eligible for an enhanced DBS check (free of charge to you) and two references are required.** A criminal conviction does not necessarily stop you from volunteering with us. All decisions regarding convictions will be made on a case-by-case basis. We advise all applicants who require a DBS check how to follow the [sensitive applications route](#). This gives trans and non-binary applicants the choice not to have any gender or name information disclosed on their DBS certificate, that could reveal historical details relating to their identity.

Update Service

For candidates who are already registered on the Update Service before joining us, we can accept existing checks without having to process a new check ourselves (provided the check is at the relevant level for the role.)