

Activity Group Volunteer

Location: Walsall

About the opportunity:

Activity group volunteers support a group of adults with autism to access the community, go to new places and meet other people who have autism. Past activity sessions have been at the cinema or a restaurant in Walsall, or further out such as Sea Life Centre in Birmingham or a day trip to Stratford.

A key role of an activity group volunteer is to create and encourage opportunities for friendship and personal development within the group.

One parent said: "It has created an opportunity for friendship and given him the chance to try new activities. It has helped to bring him out of his own world into which he easily retreats...it has given him more sense of independence and a bit of 'normality' to life"

One of our volunteer befrienders said: "I really enjoy befriending, and have found it to be fun, engaging and rewarding! It's a great learning experience, and I feel that I've gained a lot from it"

Activities take place once a month, usually on a Friday. They can take place in Walsall or surrounding areas.

About Autism West Midlands

Autism West Midlands, as the **leading charity** for autism in the region, use our passion and expertise to **enrich the lives** of people with autism and those who love and care for them.

We deliver a wide range of services to people on the autism spectrum including residential and supported living, offering a range of training and education services; family support and a helpline service.

Our volunteers are valued by all at Autism West Midlands and recognised as individuals who really make a difference to the people we support and make incredible memories with and for our service users.

What are we looking for?

We require people who are interactive and social as well as reliable and responsible. If you are someone who is passionate about the community and want to help people live a life of independence, freedom, involvement and choice, then a volunteering opportunity at Autism West Midlands is for you. We are looking for volunteers aged 18+ who have the ability to travel within Walsall. Experience with vulnerable adults is desirable.

What can we offer you?

Autism West Midlands are a specialist and expert provider and as such you will benefit from learning about Autism and engaging in different social activities alongside your peers and our service users. You will have regular feedback sessions with your co-ordinator in which areas of interest can be

explored and discussed. A gathering of all our volunteers is also held every year as a way of us showing our appreciation for the invaluable work that you do.

Practical Considerations:

Out of pocket expenses for activities will be reimbursed. Travel expenses will be reimbursed at a rate of 45p per mile if travelling by car, up to the value of £10 per session.

Places available: 2

Find out more information and apply email volunteering@autismwestmidlands.org.uk