

Community Engagement Volunteer (Kent)



National
Deaf Children's
Society

Community Engagement volunteers help to **raise awareness** of the support available for deaf children and their families through **engagement with community and voluntary groups**, and/or faith-based groups and/or other support organisations. This role will help us to better **support communities**, in order to build trust and ensure that any barriers to support are understood and overcome.

About you

- Confident, friendly, and empathetic
- Are committed to the vision and ambition of the National Deaf Children's Society
- Want to make a difference to deaf children and their families
- Have knowledge of (or willingness to learn about) deafness and local services for deaf children
- We particularly welcome applications from people who have lived experience of a particular community, in this case East European communities in Kent, and an understanding of the potential barriers faced by those communities
- Knowledge of a prominent language used in the community beyond English, such as Polish or Romanian would be an advantage but is not essential

When and where

- Flexible depending on your availability
- At different locations within your local community in Kent. Thanet and Margate in particular

What you will do

Tasks will be varied depending on the needs of the community. As examples, they could involve:

- Engaging with community groups, faith-based groups and/or other support organisations
- Providing information to families about deafness and signposting them to appropriate support
- Supporting with the planning of events and activities aimed at bringing families together
- Supporting us to understand the needs of deaf children and their families in your community

We also ask that you:

- Understand the boundaries of the role and ask for support where appropriate
- Provide evidence to demonstrate the impact you make in your community through volunteering

What will you gain from the role?

Other volunteers have told us that training and volunteering has given them:

- Increased confidence and new skills
- A broader understanding of childhood deafness and the issues faced by families
- A sense of achievement by making a positive difference

Support and training

You will be provided with:

- Training to support you in your role, including Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, safeguarding, informed choice, and deaf awareness
- Feedback on the support you contribute and the resulting outcomes
- A named point of contact at the National Deaf Children's Society & on your assignment
- Reimbursement of agreed expenses such as travel costs
- Clear information about what to do and who to contact if you are worried about something
- The opportunity to feedback how the role works to improve it for the future



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of families, children and young people. You will be asked to return a self-disclosure form, complete an Enhanced DBS Check, provide references, and complete our essential training.