

Role Description – Community Growing Space Volunteer

Fresh Start is an Edinburgh-based charity that helps people who have been homeless get established in their new home.

Purpose of the Volunteer Role

Fresh Start is looking for volunteers to design and maintain our Growing space. This will enable our service users to gain new skills in gardening, growing food and aid their personal development by increasing skills and developing communication while working with a team. No formal knowledge or experience is required, a willingness to learn and share is more important. The produce from this allotment will be used in our cooking classes that are run from our Food Station. You will be working with clients who are interested in getting involved in gardening. This volunteering post will involve outdoor physical activity and a basic knowledge of DIY would be an advantage.

Task Description

- Maintain the garden, growing space and grassed areas (weeding, mowing the grass etc.)
- Plant vegetables and harvest them throughout the year for the cooking classes
- Offer participants in the project a relaxed and supportive environment in which to explore the joys of gardening
- Working together with clients to explain the work that is needed in the growing space
- Carry out tasks as designated by the Development Worker
- Engaging with the client and supporting them to learn basic gardening and DIY skills
- Adhering to all Fresh Start policies and procedures, and respecting client confidentiality

Skills and Personal Qualities

- An interest in gardening
- Basic DIY skills or willingness to learn
- A good reliable team worker, enthusiastic, and able to engage with our clients
- Keen interest in horticulture
- In good health and physically active

What Fresh Start Can Offer

- Appropriate training, induction and support
- The chance to make a real difference to a client's life
- The chance to make new friends and have an enjoyable volunteering experience
- Gaining first-hand knowledge of the issues surrounding homelessness
- Volunteer events and other ways to get involved with the charity
- Gain a knowledge of safe tool use

Time Commitment and Location

On Monday to Friday at any time which is suited between 9am to 4pm or 9am to 1pm. There is no opportunity yet to volunteer on a Saturday, but this might happen in the future. We ask that you commit to a minimum of 4 hours of volunteering per month. Please note that we ask for a minimum commitment of at least 3 months of volunteering.

Fresh Start
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Supported by – Development Worker

Further Information

For more information please contact Fresh Start on 0131 476 7741 or email enquiries@freshstartweb.org.uk