Community Action Project
Feminist Library

Community Action Partner
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Aim: The Feminist Library is a large archive collection of Women's Liberation Movement literature, particularly second-wave materials dating from the late 1960s to the 1990s. We support research, activist and community projects in this field. The library was set up due to political imperative to provide a space for women to organise, agitate, network and share ideas in a clearly feminist space. The library is controlled by the people who use it, and intends to support today's feminist movement by providing a space to meet and organise and research - not only to read the words of women who have gone before, who will always inspire us, but to continue collecting the output of today's radical feminists. The library's continued existence is indicative of a strong contemporary movement, a movement proud of its history, which recognises the commitment, passion and diversity of us all, and the power of our words to inspire action and bring true and lasting social change. The Feminist Library wants to be a force for good, a living breathing space with a growing collection of work that reflects the diversity of the movement it serves.

Role: Volunteers are needed for library administration and cataloguing, and with stalls and events. They require volunteers to have an interest in feminism, and a willingness to learn how a feminist library operates. A practical and can-do attitude is welcome, good communication skills (writing, interpersonal, and telephone), computer literate, with an ability to take direction. Possible skills in fundraising would help. The ideal volunteer would be punctual, committed, enthusiastic, and potentially have library knowledge and training.

Training: An introduction to admin processes and procedures; cataloguing 101 and an introduction to the feminist library's filing system and other library processes. Volunteers are supervised by members of the library's management group.

Location: Westminster, London, SE1

Times: The library's current opening hours are; Mondays 2-6pm; Tuesdays 2-6pm; Thursdays 6:30-9:30pm; and the 1st Saturday of the month 1:30-5pm.

CRB: No CRB disclosure is required.

Other: No interest in feminism and women's issues would be a barrier to volunteering. The Feminist Library is a predominantly women-only space, but they would consider having male volunteers after some deliberation and discussion.

Application: All volunteers must be registered as Community Action volunteers. To do so, visit http://www.rhul.ac.uk/services/volunteering/register.html