



Community Action Project

The Diabetes UK Involvement Network

Community Action Partner Diabetes UK

Aim: Diabetes UK is the largest organisation in the UK working for people with diabetes, funding research, campaigning and helping people to live with the condition. They have over 170,000 members. They work for people with diabetes, their carers, family and friends. They represent the interests of all people with diabetes by lobbying the government for better standards of care and the best quality of life.

Role: Diabetes UK has created an innovative way of enabling people affected by diabetes to influence its work - The Involvement Network. This is a flexible mechanism by which people living with diabetes can engage in their decision-making, ensuring that the voice of people living with diabetes is heard throughout the charity. On a fortnightly basis, members are sent a selection of opportunities. The Network enables members to choose how and when they contribute, based on their availability and interests. Network members have already helped several teams across Diabetes UK, recent examples are: a mystery shopper project alongside the Customer Services Team, working with the Campaigns Team and various consultations with the Healthcare & Policy Team. Anyone who has, or is effected by, diabetes is welcome to join. There are no regular meetings or any sign up fees.

Training: Training is provided online with the opportunity offered.

Times: The Diabetes UK Involvement Network operates via a virtual network. There are no regular meetings. Depending on what your specific interests are depends on the type of involvement, the majority being by email or post.

CRB: : No CRB disclosure is required.

Other: Diabetes UK are particularly looking for anyone who has diabetes or is a parent, carer or friend of someone with diabetes and is happy to use their experiences to influence their work. This project will reimburse any travel expenses you may incur.

Application: Visit the Community Action office to pick up a copy of the application form, or email volunteering@rhul.ac.uk to request an electronic copy. All volunteers must be registered as Community Action volunteers. To do so, visit <http://www.rhul.ac.uk/services/volunteering/register.html>

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