

I want to become a volunteer

Volunteering can make a real difference to your own life and the lives of those around you. There are many volunteering opportunities available, but you need to take the time to think about what it is you want to do, and how much time you can logically commit.

Support Cambridgeshire does not place volunteers in charities or organisations directly, but we can help in signposting you to the correct organisation for your needs, so please contact us at info@supportcambridgeshire.org.uk

There are many other organisations who can help you find the perfect volunteering role.

Volunteer centres

These are local organisations that provide support to volunteers and the organisations that involve them. If you want to find an opportunity in your local area, this can be an ideal place to start. Use the link to locate your nearest centre.

www.ncvo.org.uk

Do-it

Every 45 seconds someone in the UK finds a volunteering opportunity thanks to Do-it. Do-it is the national database of volunteering opportunities. Search more than one million volunteering opportunities by interest, activity or location and apply online.

ivo

ivo is a social network for the community minded, connecting people and organisations that want to make their worlds a better place. It allows you to search through 25,000 or more volunteering opportunities and jobs available in the not for profit sector.

www.ivo.org

CharityJOB

CharityJOB is the UK's busiest site for charity jobs and volunteering opportunities. They regularly have more than a thousand voluntary, internship and trustee positions available across 27 job categories. If you're looking to volunteer in the UK or for opportunities abroad then CharityJOB might just have the perfect role for you.

www.charityjob.co.uk/volunteer-jobs

Volunteering provides a number of benefits to, people can:

- give something back to an organisation that has impacted on a person's life, either directly or indirectly
- make a difference to the lives of others
- help the environment
- help others less fortunate or without a voice
- feel valued and part of a team
- spend quality time away from work or a busy lifestyle
- gain confidence and self-esteem
- gain new skills, knowledge and experience
- develop existing skills and knowledge
- enhance a CV
- improve one's employment prospects
- gain an accreditation
- use one's professional skills and knowledge to benefit others (usually described as pro bono)
- meet new people and make new friends, and
- get to know the local community.

Volunteering is an important element of social action. Social action can be defined as people and communities coming together to solve issues that concern them.