East Belfast Community Development Agency

Volunteer Development

If you would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer, please fill out the form below.

I would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Email:

I am interested in the following:

Individuals

Volunteer roles in East Belfast ☐

Volunteering for one off events ☐

Community Groups

Promoting volunteering opportunities ☐

Volunteer management support ☐

Access NI checks ☐

East Belfast Community Development Agency exists to provide resources, support and capacity building programmes for community groups that are based on partnership, equal opportunities and sustainable outcomes.

For further information please contact:
Volunteer Development Coordinator
East Belfast Community Development Agency

East Belfast Network Centre
55 Templemore Avenue
Belfast BT5 4FP

T 028 9045 1512
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www.ebcda.org

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Department for
Social
Development

EBCDA is the 'umbrella organisation' supporting community development in East Belfast.

Our membership is made up of community groups drawn from an area that contains almost 109,000 people. It is representative of a broad range of interests and needs within communities and encompasses a variety of groups, including local residents' associations, faith based organisations, sports clubs, older people's projects and women's groups.

What is Volunteering?

'Volunteering is the commitment of time and energy, for the benefit of society and the community, the environment, or individuals outside (or in addition to) one's immediate family. It is unpaid and undertaken freely and by choice'.

This definition refers to both formal volunteering (carried out with, or under the auspices of an organisation/ group) and informal volunteering (carried out outside the organisation, often at neighbourhood level but outside, or in addition to, the immediate family).

Why is volunteering important?

As a volunteer you bring something unique to your volunteer role. The organisation, community or cause you're involved with is enhanced and diversified by your volunteering contribution. You make a difference!

20 good reasons to volunteer:

1 Help others
2 Make a difference
3 Contribute to a cause that you care about
4 Improve employability
5 Meet new people
6 Find purpose
7 Enjoy a meaningful conversation
8 Connect with your community
9 Be part of a team
10 Use your skills in a productive way
11 Develop new skills
12 Gain confidence
13 Feel involved
14 Explore new areas of interest
15 Expand your horizons
16 Get out of the house
17 Feel valued
18 Make new friends
19 Strengthen your CV
20 Feel better about yourself

Project objectives

These are the project objectives which we are working successfully towards in the East Belfast area. They enable us as an organisation to support volunteering in the area for both individuals and community groups.

1 To promote and raise awareness of the benefits of volunteering and promote good practice.
2 To build links between groups who involve volunteers and encourage cooperation.
3 To help groups in the East Belfast area recruit volunteers.
4 To create a solid 'bank' of volunteers to support groups in East Belfast.
5 To facilitate links with outside volunteering/support schemes.
6 To Increase volunteer activity by groups under-represented in the volunteering population.
7 To ensure a wide range of volunteering opportunities are available.

Volunteer roles

There is a wide range of volunteering opportunities in the East Belfast area. Examples of roles include:

Youth club leader	Artist
Nature reserve assistant	Information stand helper
Blogger	Café attendant
Befriender	Event organiser
Charity shop assistant	DIY worker
Community fundraiser	Afterschools club helper
Driver	Leaflet distributor
Guide leader	Community gardener
Heritage guide	

How we support community groups

- Training
- Ongoing support
- Volunteer events
- Library resources
- Volunteer placements
- Volunteer management advice
- Volunteer Involving Organisation Network
- Updates on changes in legislation in relation to volunteers
- Access NI umbrella organisation