**Volunteer Role Description**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Sight Support West of England! We rely on the help and dedication of volunteers to support the wide range of services that we provide, and we recognise the huge contribution our volunteers make to the effectiveness of our organisation.

**Role:** Social Group Facilitator

**Locations:** Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, South Glos.,

**Purpose:** We are looking for friendly, outgoing individuals to facilitate our social groups across the region, whether this be supporting existing groups or helping to set up new ones. These groups are a place where blind and partially sighted people can enjoy each other’s company, share experiences and information, try out new activities/sports and provide encouragement to each other.

**What you will be doing?**

* Ensuring sure the space is safe and ready before the group arrives
* Greeting members as they arrive and introducing new members to the group
* In self-catering venues, making tea and coffee for the members
* In a cafe setting, ensuring all members have tea and coffee and working with the cafe staff to ensure the group is supported
* Facilitating conversation amongst the group and referring on to a Sight Loss Advisor where a member requires advice or support in relation to their sight loss
* Feeding back any issues, comments, suggestions or incidents that have occurred during the session
* Where possible, promoting the group within your local area

**What skills and experience are needed?**

* Good communication skills
* Friendly and approachable
* Punctual and reliable
* Able to work with a diverse range of people
* An understanding of issues affecting blind and partially sighted people

**What will you gain from the role?**

* The knowledge that you are making a positive difference to the lives of people living with sight loss
* Experience of working with a variety of people
* A greater understanding of sight loss
* Useful facilitation skills

**What support will be given?**

* Induction
* Understanding Sight Loss Training
* Expenses
* Supervision and support from the Volunteer Coordinator
* Additional training as appropriate

**When will you be needed?**

Times and dates vary depending on location.

**How often will you be needed?**

Variable, depending on the frequency of the group meetings

**References**

Two references required. These can be from anyone you have known, other than a family member, for over two years

**Disclosure and Barring Service Information**

This role requires a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check