Community Research Volunteer

Role Description

Introduction to Healthwatch Southwark

Healthwatch Southwark was established in April 2013 as the new health and social care consumer champion in the borough representing residents, service users, carers and organisations within Southwark.

We listen to the needs and experiences of Southwark residents on health and social care services and use those experiences to influence the professionals who plan, buy and deliver services so that they can be improved.

For more information on Healthwatch Southwark, please visit our website: **www.healthwatchsouthwark.org**

Benefits of volunteering

As a volunteer, you will support Healthwatch Southwark in fulfilling our purpose in being the champion for people using health and social care services in Southwark.

There are many benefits to volunteering with your local Healthwatch. These include:

- An opportunity to contribute positively to your local community, help people, and make a real difference to their lives
- A chance to learn new skills with training and personal development opportunities
- A useful stepping stone to employment
- An opportunity to meet like-minded people and develop connections with people in your local community
- Be part of a great team of volunteers, with dedicated staff to support you

Community Research Volunteer

As a Community Research volunteer will you support with undertaking our priority projects and help to collect and analyse data on people's experience of health and social care services.

Why should you be a Healthwatch Community Research Volunteer?

As the patient consumer champion, we regularly hear about people's experiences of local health and social care services. As a Community Research Volunteer, you will help us utilise what people tell us to help us identify and address health and social care issues within Southwark.

What will the role involve?

There are many things you can get involved in as a Community Research Volunteer! Some of which includes:

- Conducting desk-based research for our research projects, articles for the website etc

- Assisting with our research projects e.g. facilitating focus groups, conducting phone interviews with the support of Healthwatch staff

- Helping expand our online signposting directory on our website

- Collating and analysing patient and public experience intelligence and data

- Opportunities to undertake your own mini-research projects with the support of Healthwatch staff

What is required for this role?

- An interest in improving local health and social care services

- Experience of using IT packages, including Microsoft Office

- Good Research skills (desirable but not essential)

- Be comfortable volunteering from home

- Access to internet/email

How much time is involved?

- We will always work closely with you to ensure your volunteering role fits with your personal and social commitments.

- We ask for a minimum commitment of 3 months.

How to apply

- You can apply for this role by filling out an application form and emailing it to info@healthwatchsouthwark.org.

- If you have any questions, would like to find out more about the role, or require support filling out the application form please call us on 020 7358 7005 or email info@healthwatchsouthwark.org

- Please outline any accessibility requirements that you may have in the application form.

We look forward to hearing from you!