

## **Lepra Schools Volunteer**

Are you interested in working in a school environment? Do you want to improve your public speaking? Do you have experience communicating with children, or want to gain this?

We are looking for volunteers to help us spread our message to schools, and to help raise money to help beat leprosy in India, Bangladesh, and Mozambique.

### **Background**

Lepra have been working with schools successfully for many years. We're now at an exciting new phase in our development, where we have a new plan for schools and a curriculum-aligned message to take to children in the UK. Our team of regional fundraisers work closely with schools and teachers, but with so many schools across the country, we would love your help in reaching even more.

### **What will I be doing?**

We are looking for volunteers to engage with the schools in their local areas, to go in and give talks, and to encourage the children to come up with their own fundraising ideas. As a schools volunteer, you might contact schools local to you – mostly we aim at year 7s – and arrange to go and visit them to deliver our special lesson plan or assembly. You might then return a few weeks later to collect the money they have raised, and to do a thank you speech or present certificates.

### **Will I need to prepare the talk myself?**

No, we have a set of materials that you will be able to use. This includes a presentation, and lesson activities that can be tailored to different sizes of group. Your local Community Fundraiser will also be able to help you with any extra materials you need.

### **What training will I get?**

Before you go into a school by yourself, we will ensure you are fully comfortable with everything you need to do. This will probably involve accompanying your Community Fundraiser on a school visit first, so that you can see how it's done. You will also have the opportunity to practice giving the presentation, either to your Community Fundraiser in person or by talking it through with them over the phone or by skype.

We will provide you with an induction so that you know about Lepra and what we do, but of course we don't expect you to know everything and will always make sure you know who to refer questions back to if you can't answer them.

Your Community Fundraiser will also be on hand to help should you have any questions or need any materials.

### **Do I need any qualifications or experience?**

You don't need any specific experience or qualifications for this role, however because this role involves going into schools, all volunteers will need to undertake a DBS check. We will also require you to read and comply with Lepra's volunteering code of conduct, as well as our safeguarding and data protection policies. This may seem like a lot, but it's important for a role with this level of responsibility and access to young people.

The most important aspect of this role is that you can confidently give a presentation to children in an engaging way, and inspire them to do their own fundraising.

### **What's the time commitment?**

Because of the nature of this role and the fact that it requires a certain amount of training and checks, we ask for a commitment of at least six months to undertake this role. As you will be mostly contacting and booking the schools yourself, with the support of your local fundraiser, you can arrange the visits to fit around your schedule. Most schools will involve two visits, a couple of weeks apart. You will work with your Community Fundraiser to identify which schools you'd like to approach.

### **What's in it for me?**

We think this is a unique and really exciting volunteer role, which will give you the opportunity to gain direct experience in a classroom situation. Some of the people that this role is ideal for include;

- Anyone who is interested in working in a school

This role is perfect if you are interested in becoming a teacher or teaching assistant, or would like to work in a school. It will be a unique role to include on your CV, giving you the opportunity to gain experience presenting in a classroom and assembly setting.

- Anyone who has worked in a school previously and would like to use their existing skills

Maybe you're a retired teacher and you miss the classroom? Would you like to be in that environment again, without having to plan lessons or do marking? We would love to make use of your skills and experience!

- Anyone who is interested in gaining experience working with young people

If you are interested in any kind of youth work, the ability to communicate with children is crucial. This role could give you some of the experience that will help you stand out, and help develop your skills in this area.

- Anyone who would like to gain public speaking experience

Even if you're not interested in being a teacher or working with children, this role is a wonderful opportunity to gain experience in public speaking in a controlled and receptive environment.

### **Next Steps**

If you are interested in this volunteer role we would love to hear from you! Please contact us at [volunteering@lepra.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@lepra.org.uk) or call 01206 126700. We will want to have a chat to you about why you're interested in the role, and what you're looking to get out of it, as well as answer any questions you have about the role.