



Role description: Forum Support Volunteer

Role requirements

Please note, this role is specifically for people who have a personal connection with blood cancer, either through a personal blood cancer diagnosis or through caring for someone with a blood cancer diagnosis. The minimum age for this role is 18 years old.

About Blood Cancer UK

We are Blood Cancer UK, the largest UK blood cancer charity, and the biggest dedicated funder of research into all types of blood cancer. We've been working to beat blood cancer for over 60 years, and we won't stop until we do.

Background

The purpose of the Blood Cancer UK Forum Support Volunteer role is to develop and strengthen our reach and engagement within our online community which is made up of people with a personal connection to blood cancer, develop our peer-to-peer support offer and increase the support we are able to provide for people affected by blood cancer.

Blood Cancer UK Forum Support Volunteers play a vital role in helping Blood Cancer UK to grow and develop its expanding online community, and raise awareness of our research, information and support.

By sharing personal experiences and supporting others through difficult times, Forum Support Volunteers will help to foster, encourage and develop a peer-led community, adding an incredibly valuable element to the support that Blood Cancer UK can offer people affected by blood cancer.

We are committed to actively promoting equality, diversity, and inclusivity. Read our [statement](#) which reflects our strong drive to change in this area. We are especially keen to hear from individuals from underrepresented groups, including: Black, Asian, and minoritised ethnic communities; those with a disability; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer + communities, to better reflect the community we serve. Please feel free to read more about equality, diversity and inclusion at Blood Cancer UK, [here](#).



Key activities

- Supporting the Support Services Team to foster an online community that is relevant, engaging, welcoming and inclusive to all people affected by blood cancer.
- Creating threads on the forum, moderating threads to ensure forum users are replied to and supported.
- Welcoming new users to the forum and where appropriate, signposting forum users to the Blood Cancer UK support line and health information
- Helping to Support the Blood Cancer UK Support Services team to moderate the forum, ensuring that any inappropriate and/or offensive posts are flagged to the Support Services team.

What type of experience is required?

- Connection to blood cancer, either through a personal blood cancer diagnosis or through caring for someone with a blood cancer diagnosis.
- Experience using online forums (desired but not essential as there will be training)
- The ability to empathise with and support people affected by blood cancer, whilst maintaining personal and professional boundaries.
- The ability to work well as part of a team of Forum Support Volunteers, and more widely with the Support Services Team.
- You will need your own electronic device which can access the forum website and an internet connection.

How much time do I need to give?

- 2-5 Hours per week Pre role: 1 hour an interview & 1 day for Blood Cancer UK induction & Initial training (all applicants must pass their induction and training sessions before being approved to become a volunteer)
- In Role: Minimum 8 hours volunteering per month. Attendance at quarterly training updates (up to 2 hours each). Regular check in over email or by telephone, depending on volunteer preference.

Location - (UK Wide/Virtual/Remote)

What will I get out of it?

You will:



- Have the opportunity to support others affected by blood cancer, including through, where you feel comfortable, sharing your own experiences.
- Have the opportunity to work with Blood Cancer UK to further develop our online forum and the peer-to-peer support offer we are able to provide as an organisation.
- Have the opportunity to be part of a friendly, supportive and passionate team of Forum Support Volunteers, all of whom have a personal connection to blood cancer.
- *Have the knowledge that you are supporting our blood cancer community*
- Be valued and respected
- Receive training and support in your role

- **How do I register my interest?**

Please contact Jo Buckton, Volunteer Co-ordinator, at email:
volunteering@bloodcancer.org.uk Tel: 0207 5042275