**Volunteering Opportunity**

Organisation:Barnsley CVS

Role Title: ‘What’s Our Story’ facilitators

Purpose of Role: We are looking for volunteers who would like to be part of an exciting new project, to help share the stories that are important to the people in our communities.

We are looking for Barnsley people who can get out and about to talk to other Barnsley people about how they feel about the place they live, and what they would like to see happen in the future.

We want to hear from people all over the borough, from different backgrounds, because then we can all relate to the story that is being told. As a volunteer for the Barnsley 2030 project, you will work closely with community groups and organisations to encourage them to share their views.

The feedback that you collect, will play an important role in telling the story of Barnsley and in helping Barnsley Council, and other local businesses and organisations, to understand what our local priorities should be, as well as what our shared ambitions are for the future. This will help us to make sure that the story we tell is shaped around what people say they both want and need.

You can help us to paint a picture of a future Barnsley that is bold and ambitious. You can also help us to understand what the community thinks Barnsley will need to be like in 10 years’ time.

We really want to hear from the people and communities that make Barnsley so great and we need everybody to get involved!

As a ‘What’s Our Story’ facilitator you will work closely with community groups and organisations; asking them some specific questions about Barnsley. The information that you collect will then be used to create a written story that is all about Barnsley, it’s challenges and it’s hopes for the future.

What skills and/or qualifications do volunteers need to participate in this opportunity?

Facilitators will not need to seek out the community groups/organisations themselves, as this will have been organised for them, but we are open to ideas for anyone in your local community that may wish to join in and share their story!

You don’t need any particular qualifications or experience to apply – we value your lived experience and knowledge of your community above all else. You will need to be chatty and friendly though, with an inquisitive mind to explore and ask questions.

Anyone who lives, studies, works or socialises in Barnsley is invited to apply, and we particularly invite applications from people from BAME/PoC, trans/non-binary and disabled communities.

Facilitating a session may only take a few hours. You may choose to facilitate more than one session in your local area if you wish, so the days and times opportunities are available will be vast, but flexible, to ensure we cover as many people as possible. Facilitators will also be allocated a scribe to help take notes of the sessions, which will be submitted to help create the story.

You may want to ask your family and friends, rather than facilitate a community group, so there will be lots of ways you can join in and help us collect as many Barnsley stories as we can.

However, you must be able to attend training for the role.

Travel expenses occurred during volunteering will be reimbursed.

Recruitment Process:

Once you have expressed an interest in the role, we will aim to get back to you within three days to discuss the role in more detail and invite you for an informal chat.

We will be running training on the following dates –

Tuesday 21 January 2020 – 9.30am – 4.30pm approx.

Thursday 30 January 2020 - 9.30am – 4.30pm approx.

Wednesday 5 February 2020 - 9.30am – 4.30pm approx.

You only need to attend one of these sessions.

The training will cover approaches to community research, effective communication and equip volunteers with the skills to carry out focus groups, interviews and other methods of engagement.

If you are interested in becoming a ‘What’s Our Story’ facilitator and can commit to the training, we would love to hear from you!

Locations: This will be community based and exact location will be provided depending on the day/s you are available to volunteer.

Dates:The community sessions will happen throughout January, February and March and we will circulate a timetable of these you can book on once you have completed the relevant training.

Volunteers needed: up to 20

What you’ll be doing on the day:

* Facilitating small group sessions, with the community.
* Asking pre-set questions, but help to explore and encourage participants to talk about areas further to get a picture about what affects them in their community
* Liaise with the session note taker to ensure the right message has been captured.
* Submit session notes to the project coordinator at Barnsley CVS

To Apply:

Please contact Teresa Gibson at Barnsley CVS on 01226 812813, email [teresa.gibson@barnsleycvs.org.uk](mailto:Teresa.Gibson@barnsleycvs.org.uk) or apply online <https://barnsleycvs.org.uk/volunteering/opportunity/1864>