

I want to volunteer... what do I do next?



You can view our volunteering opportunities online.

Once we have received your completed application form, we will be in touch to arrange to meet with you.



In advance of this, it is worth giving some thought to the kind of activities, tasks, or projects you would like to undertake and how much time you feel you could freely commit.

See below for ideas and inspiration.

- Gardening
- Woodwork
- Painting
- Photography
- Dress-making
- Knitting
- Leading debates
- Computers
- Dancing
- Companionship
- Helping with activities
- Arts and crafts
- Housekeeping
- DIY projects
- ... and more

Volunteer... at a Belong village near you...



Belong Atherton

Telephone: 01942 898410

Belong Crewe

Telephone: 01270 561200

Belong Macclesfield

Telephone: 01625 508700

Belong Morris Feinmann

Telephone: 0161 804 4200

Belong Newcastle-under-Lyme

Telephone: 01782 986300

Belong Warrington

Telephone: 01925 593800

Belong Wigan

Telephone: 01942 855600

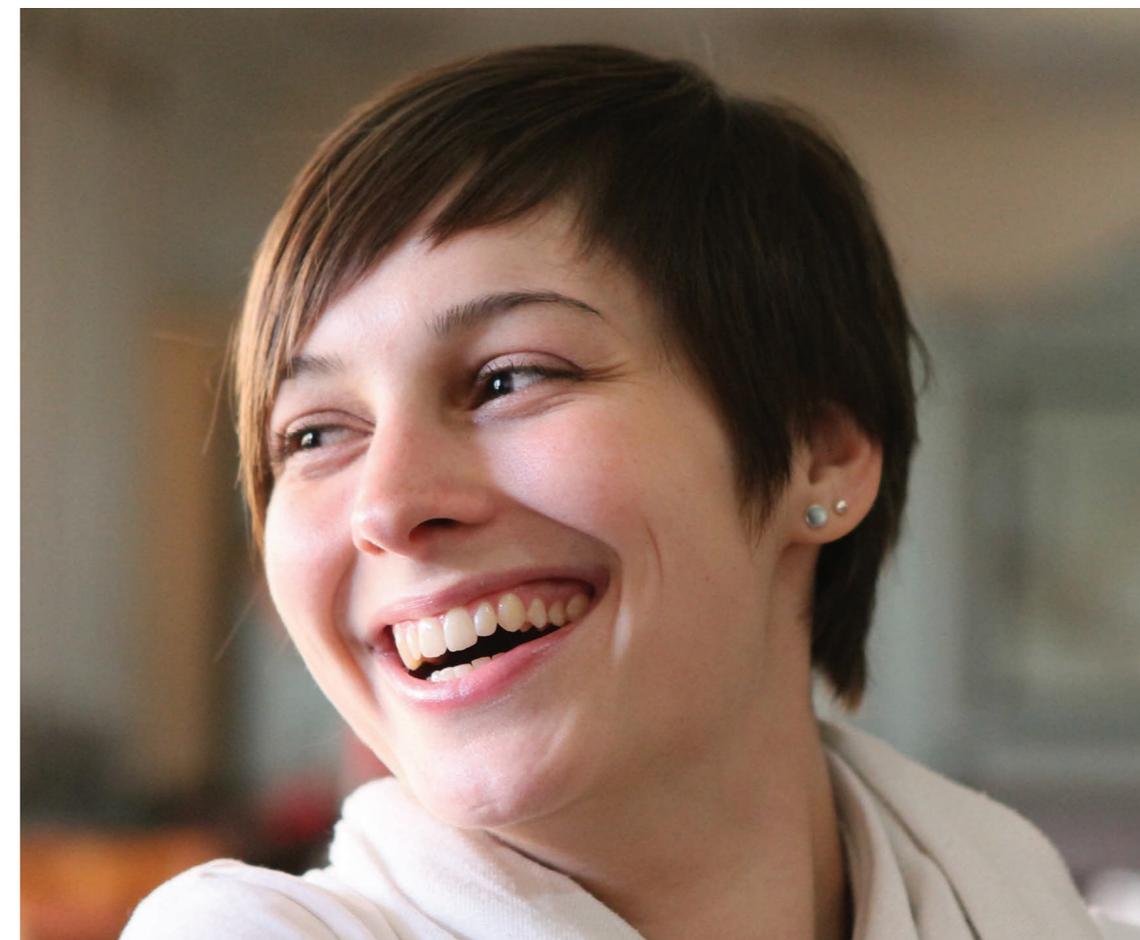
Contact your nearest village or
visit our website to find out more.

www.belong.org.uk



Your life, your pace, your way.

YOU can make a difference



Be inspired to make a difference by
helping others while helping yourself



Your life, your pace, your way.

Questions frequently asked by people considering volunteering at Belong...

What can volunteers do?

Volunteers can do almost anything! Typical activities include providing companionship; helping with shopping; enabling older people to maintain their hobbies or interests; fundraising; helping to market and further develop our services by promoting Belong within the local community or serving the many people who use our village facilities. Everyone can play a role in helping others and there are lots of ways for volunteers to get involved.

How much time do I need to volunteer for?

This is really up to you. Much will depend on what you want to do. Some of our volunteering roles require a minimum and regular commitment of a few hours a week whilst others are flexible. You can volunteer your time for just an hour a month and at anytime of the week, day or night! Typical volunteering out of normal office hours includes befriending and home visiting, fundraising, giving talks to local community groups and social and recreational activities with customers and carers.

Will I receive training and support?

Yes, as a volunteer at Belong, your experience should be enjoyable, worthwhile and rewarding. All our volunteers have a nominated volunteering placement supervisor, whose responsibility it is to ensure that you receive the support and training that you need to enable you to undertake your volunteering role safely and confidently.

Can I volunteer whilst claiming benefits?

Yes, if you are on benefits, you can still volunteer because volunteering is giving time to help others or a cause because you want to without expecting payment. For benefit purposes, volunteering must be for a not-for-profit organisation and for people other than your family. You can volunteer for as many hours as you like while on benefits as long as you continue to meet the conditions for receiving that benefit.

You can only receive out of pocket expenses and nothing more. If you are receiving benefits, you are advised to contact your local Job Centre Plus and/or Benefits Advisor if you want to volunteer. They may ask you to complete a simple form about the volunteering you wish to do. For more information about volunteering while on benefits go to www.nidirect.gov.uk

Can I be paid something to cover any expenses incurred?

Yes you can. Belong will reimburse you for any travel costs that you incur whilst undertaking your volunteering role and, if your commitment extends over four hours in any one day, you will be offered a complimentary meal from our bistro. Additionally, any other reasonable out of pocket expenses may be claimed where this has been agreed beforehand with you.

Do I need any qualifications?

No qualifications or experience are required for volunteering and, depending on what you would like to do, you may be offered the opportunity to gain a qualification if you wish. Volunteering also offers highly skilled and qualified people the opportunity to pass on their knowledge and skills to others.



Gardening Woodwork Painting Photography Dress-making Knitting Leading debates Computers Dancing Companionship Helping with activities Arts and crafts Housekeeping DIY projects ... and more