



# Telford & Wrekin Carers Centre - Young Carers BEFRIENDER (Volunteer) Role Description

<b>Volunteer title:</b>	<b>Befriender (21+) (Driver with own car or use of car)</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Travelling independently within Telford & Wrekin area
<b>Main aim of role:</b>	To improve the quality of life for young carers between the ages of 5 and 18, reducing their isolation and improving self esteem.
<b>Objectives of role/outline of opportunities:</b>	To form a trusting one-to-one relationship with a young carer, initiating fun and interesting social activity outside the home, showing interest in their life, listening to their problems and supporting them in finding solutions.
<b>Training offered:</b>	Young Carers Befriender training (in house), and any other relevant training should it become available.
<b>Role requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An interest in improving young carers life enjoyment, confidence and self-esteem</li> <li>• A caring, non-judgemental attitude to young carers and their families</li> <li>• Able to take the initiative in the friendship with regard to meeting times/days/activities etc.</li> <li>• Able and willing to take part in activities/visits to locations outside the young carers home (depending on age and interests of young carer)</li> <li>• To take part in befriender training and supervision with the befriending coordinator</li> <li>• The ability to manage a small ‘friendship budget’ to cover costs for the friendship</li> <li>• Able and willing to give feedback about the friendship to the coordinator regularly</li> <li>• Be Reliable and responsible</li> <li>• A well developed sense of fun!</li> </ul>
<b>Commitment:</b>	A minimum of six months commitment to the friendship is preferred. We would expect 8 hours (2 hours x 4 average) minimum meeting time per month, to be managed by the befriender and the young carer, but ideally on a weekly/fortnightly basis.
<b>Support/Supervision:</b>	The Community Resilience and Social Action Co-ordinator offers an “open door” policy for 1-to-1 support at any time 9-5 Tues/Wed & Thurs. The Community Resilience and Social Action Coordinator also offers regular supervision by phone or face-to-face, giving the Befriender the opportunity to reflect on their role and personal development within the organisation.

*If application and references are approved, you will need to provide various documentation for submission of an enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service search. In line with all other members of staff within the organisation, volunteers are required to provide copies of all car documents including current registration document and driving licence. To receive expenses incurred while carrying out your volunteer role, you may need to change your insurance cover - from “social, domestic and pleasure” to “social, domestic, pleasure and business”. The Young Carers Service will pay any reasonable additional premium for this change.*

