



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

<b>Volunteer title:</b>	Befriender (21+)
<b>Work location:</b>	Telford and Wrekin area
<b>Aim of role:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the quality of life for young carers between the ages of 5 and 18</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives of role/outline of opportunities:</b>	<p>As a befriender to a young carer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To form a trusting one-to-one relationship with a young carer, participating in social activity, showing interest in their life, listening to their problems and supporting them in finding solutions.</li> <li>If necessary give encouragement and support in education, training and employment, setting goals to be achieved when appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Training offered:</b>	Befriender Training (in house), any other training when it becomes available.
<b>Role specification:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An interest in improving young carer's life enjoyment, confidence and self-esteem</li> <li>A caring, non-judgemental attitude to young carers and their families</li> <li>To take part in Befriender training and supervision and any other group activities within the Young Carers Service</li> <li>To be available for two-way mobile phone contact by the young carer</li> <li>Able to always take the initiative in the friendship, with regard to meeting times/days, activities, etc. with the support of the Volunteer Coordinator</li> <li>Able and willing to take part in physical activities/make visits to locations outside the young carers home</li> <li>The ability to manage a 'friendship budget' to cover costs for the friendship (claim for expenses to be made in arrears)</li> <li>Able and willing to keep a Befriender Log and report back to Volunteer Coordinator regularly.</li> <li>A well developed sense of fun!</li> </ul>
<b>Commitment:</b>	A minimum of six months commitment to the friendship is preferred although this can be flexible. We would expect 8 hours minimum meeting time per month, to be managed by the befriender and the young carer, but ideally on a weekly basis.
<b>Support/Supervision:</b>	The Volunteer Co-ordinator offers an "open door" policy for 1-to-1 support at any time 8.30-4 Monday-Thursday. The Volunteer 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, we will expect you to provide various documentation for submission of an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau search. If you are a car user, we will need to collect photocopies of all related documents on a regular basis including current: car tax disc, driving licence, registration document, insurance certificate, MOT.*

*To receive expenses incurred while carrying out your volunteer role, you will need to change your insurance cover from "social, domestic and pleasure" to "business".*

