

Volunteer with Lymphoma Action

Support Group Organiser

Location: In your local area, either with an existing support group or with a new group if this is identified as a local need.

Time Commitment: Around 3-5 hours a month on a regular yet flexible basis; this role requires a longer term commitment of at least one year.

About Lymphoma Action

With the help of our valuable volunteers we're ensuring that no one has to face their lymphoma alone. Lymphoma Action is the UK's only charity dedicated to lymphoma, the fifth most common cancer and the most common cancer in young people aged 15-24. We've been providing in-depth, expert information for over 30 years, helping thousands of people affected by lymphoma.

How this role makes a difference

Each year, around 2500 people meet others, hear talks and share experiences at support group meetings in their area. As a Lymphoma Action Support Group Organiser, you will volunteer closely with the Regional Development Manager or Volunteering Development Manager and other volunteers, to provide a safe, confidential space where anyone in your community who is affected by lymphoma can benefit from mutual support and information.

What's involved?

Tasks are ideally shared among two or three volunteers. Throughout all tasks, communications and relationships you will positively represent Lymphoma Action in the local community, having a strong connection to our mission and values, as well as volunteering within Lymphoma Action guidelines, policies and procedures.

Organisation

- Arrange speakers for meetings
- Liaise with meeting venue and arrange refreshments at meetings
- Request and distribute posters, flyers and other publicity materials
- Contact attendees about upcoming meetings
- Stay in regular communication with your staff contact and other volunteers about the group
- Register new support group attendees
- Share information from Lymphoma Action to support group attendees
- Manage any small contributions from attendees to cover refreshments, etc.
- Manage any fundraising activity carried out by the support group.

Facilitation

- Welcome new and existing attendees to meetings
- Create a safe and confidential space for people affected by lymphoma to connect with each other, share their experience and concerns
- Make sure that everyone has an opportunity to share their experience and get the support and information they seek
- Connect people to the information and support available from Lymphoma Action
- Signpost anyone who needs one-to-one support to Lymphoma Action Support Services

What skills and experience you'll need

If you have been diagnosed with lymphoma, or are close to someone who has, before taking on the role you/they will be at least six months post any treatment or six months into active monitoring ('watch and wait').

- An understanding of how cancer can affect people who are diagnosed and those close to them (or a willingness to learn more).
- Compassion and commitment, enjoying meeting people from all backgrounds and be empathic and non-judgemental.
- Good communication skills, particularly good listening skills, and comfortable talking with people who may be upset, anxious or confused, including those who are dealing with a life-limiting condition.
- Good organisational skills and the ability to work well with others.
- An understanding of the importance of managing personal data and confidentiality, as well as managing money (or a willingness to learn more).
- Comfortable volunteering and being supported remotely.
- Access to email and a mobile phone to have regular contact with your staff contact.
- Over 18 years old.

Training & Support

- Induction and welcome to Lymphoma Action
- Relevant training and ongoing development opportunities to help you in your role
- Ongoing support from a designated Lymphoma Action staff member
- Reasonable expenses reimbursed in line with Lymphoma Action's policy
- Access to resources, guidance and news and updates about volunteering for Lymphoma Action

What you will get out of volunteering with us

- You'll make a positive contribution in informing, supporting and connecting people affected by lymphoma in your local community.
- You'll be part of our volunteering community who are at the heart of our work.
- You'll develop your awareness and understanding of lymphoma and the work of a national cancer charity.
- You'll gain experience in a variety of skills such as facilitation and supporting others, as well as bringing your own expertise and interests to the role.
- You'll improve your own wellbeing through giving your time to make a positive impact, being active in your local community and connecting with others.