

Gardening and Befriending at Community Impact Bucks

Community Impact Bucks is a charity that gives support, advice and training to other charities, community groups and rural communities throughout Buckinghamshire. Through our expertise, knowledge and grass roots' engagement, we enable the voluntary and community sector to achieve its full potential to build a thriving, vibrant community.

In addition, we improve the lives of people living in Buckinghamshire through direct services to individuals to prevent isolation such as handy helpers, community transport and pub lunch clubs.

www.communityimpactbucks.org.uk

Aim of role	Our Gardening and Befriending Service is a thriving initiative with an excellent reputation built on trust. We provide a range of gardening and well-being services to vulnerable Buckinghamshire people living on a low income. Our service users include infirm older people, young carers and people living with disabilities. Many live in disadvantaged areas and are often isolated and living alone in the community.
Main internal contact	Gardening Services Manager
Start date	1 st September 2017 to 1 st September 2018
Time commitment	The role is flexible so volunteers can fit gardening activities around their other commitments. This can be during the week or weekend, daytime or early evening. Volunteers can give their time as a one-off, occasionally or regularly. The role requires between 1 and 2 hours at a time.
Location	Buckinghamshire: Aylesbury Vale, Amersham & Chilterns, Wycombe District, South Bucks
Main tasks	Volunteers can garden either as part of our employee led team of gardeners who support multiple clients or independently for a regular client on a one-to-one basis. Volunteers can specify which of the tasks they would like to carry out. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass cutting • Weeding beds • Trimming hedges • Tidying dead/wilted plants and shrubs • Cutting low hanging branches • Forking-over beds • Pruning shrubs
Skills/Experience	We welcome both experienced gardeners and enthusiastic novices We would like our Gardeners to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enthusiastic, friendly and approachable • Good communicators with listening skills • Able to use their initiative and work autonomously
What we can offer you	Being a Volunteer Gardener is a very rewarding experience. Your donation of time, no matter how small is greatly valued and appreciated as it makes a significant difference to the life of a vulnerable person. Our Volunteers say

	<p>they get an enormous sense of achievement in doing something useful that couldn't be done without their help. In addition, you get the opportunity to use your talents and explore your capabilities.</p> <p>As a Volunteer with CIB you can expect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant training • Free place provided at any CIB-run training course or event relevant to this role. • Induction to the service and volunteer role • To feel fully supported in your role • The opportunity to meet new people • Agreed out-of-pocket expenses to be reimbursed (e.g. Travel)
Additional information	References and a DBS check are required.
Get in touch	<p>If you think this opportunity could be for you, please contact:</p> <p>Samantha Hardy, Gardening Services Manager 01844 348 831 – samantha@communityimpactbucks.org.uk</p>