

## Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #14

### Recruiting expert volunteers

*Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks*

14th April 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is truly amazing to see that over a 1000 people have registered to volunteer in the county through Buckinghamshire Council's website, and many more are volunteering directly with local charities and community groups.

However COVID-19 has created new challenges and, if you are in need of a specific skill or experience, it may be hard to find a volunteer with the right skill set. We have highlighted several channels to find expert volunteers below:

#### COMMUNICATIONS VOLUNTEERS RECRUITMENT

The Media Trust recently carried out a survey which found that 97% of respondents said they would like access to pro-bono marketing and communication support. To help you with any communications challenges, you can:

- Register for free virtual digital, marketing or communications support by visiting The Media Trust's [Volunteer Platform](#) which connects charities with professionals from across the media and creative industry.
- Contact Ellwood Atwood to be connected with expert communicators who are volunteering their services to charities and other organisations involved in health, social care, education and social housing. If you need help with employee communications, crisis communications or lobbying local and national government, click [here](#).
- Check out [The Media Trust's website](#): the charity is tailoring its communications and online learning support for the voluntary sector over the coming weeks and months, including additional support from its media and creative industry partners.

#### EXPERT VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Reach Volunteering has experienced a surge of professionals registering with the online volunteering database, offering their skills and expertise for free.

Register for free to use the [online volunteering database](#) or, to help find the right person for your organisation and needs, Reach has created a series of sample mentor roles and a dedicated COVID-19 service. To recruit a mentor, click [here](#).

#### #FundAlerts

- **Fund to help vulnerable people:** The Barclays Foundation's COVID-19 Community Aid Package has been set up to provide £100 million to charities working to support vulnerable people affected by COVID-19, alleviating social and economic hardship caused by the crisis. For more information, click [here](#).
- **Emergency Fund (including operational costs) for the Sight Loss Sector:** grants of up to £10,000 or the equivalent of two months' running costs (whichever is less) is available for use over the next six months. For more information, click [here](#).
- **Funds for music-making organisations:** grants of up to £10,000 are available from Youth Music for music-making organisations affected by COVID-19. For more information, click [here](#).
- **Grants to help distribute food:** the COVID-19 Emergency Surplus Food Grant will help food redistributors to obtain surplus food from food businesses, such as retailers and food manufacturers, and distribute this to the vulnerable or people in need. For more information, click [here](#).

If you would prefer not to receive our COVID-19 Briefings, you can **opt out** by emailing [info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk](mailto:info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk)



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