



Community Action Project

Victim Support

Community Action Partner

North Surrey Victim Support

Aim: Victim Support offer practical and emotional support to victims of crime and their families.

Role: To help victims of crime and their families to come to terms with the emotional and practical problems which follow crime by providing free and confidential support, advice, and information, in accordance with Victim Support policy and guidelines, and the principles of Equal Opportunities. Their ideal volunteer would be a caring, considerate individual, who would be able to empathise with victims of crime. After training, they would be able to provide victims with support, advice and information to assist them to come to terms with the practical, social and emotional impact of the crime. This may involve:

- Allowing them to talk about their feelings about the crime.
- Assisting them to identify strategies to overcome the social/behavioural and practical effects of crime.
- Providing information about Police and court procedures.
- Providing information and assistance with applications for Criminal Injuries Compensation.
- Providing information about, and referral to, other local agencies who can provide specialist or long term help.
- Liaising with other agencies to obtain information or services on the victim's behalf, with the agreement of the victim.

Training: Core training consists of 5 training modules and some distance learning modules. Each training module takes place on a Thursday and Friday and covers 6 days. Constant supervision is given, either on a one-to-one basis or as part of a group volunteer meeting. An annual appraisal is also undertaken to ensure that the needs of the volunteer and scheme is being met.

Location: Confirmed with Scheme Manager.

Times: Volunteer visitors are expected to commit themselves to being available for a minimum of two hours a week. Because of the nature of the work the actual hours worked are flexible, and will be agreed with the Scheme Manager, and regularly reviewed. Volunteers may be asked to attend evening or weekend meetings or training events.

DBS: This project requires a DBS disclosure via Community Partner.

Other: Volunteers will be reimbursed travel expenses and the project has accessibility. An application form is available from the Community Action office.

Application: All volunteers must be registered as Community Action volunteers. To do so, visit <http://www.rhul.ac.uk/services/volunteering/register.html>

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