



Breastfeeding Support Volunteer Role for Koala North West

Volunteer Task Description

Koala North West is a voluntary organisation in which Volunteers offer regular support, befriending and breastfeeding support and information in hospital and in their own homes for as long as they need, helping to prevent family crisis or breakdown.

The work of Koala North West Volunteers requires a high level of commitment and reliability and will be supported by a Koala North West Co-ordinator.

Purpose of Volunteer's Role:

- To visit families in their own homes, because this way the dignity of each individual can be respected
- To reassure families that difficulties in bringing up children are not unusual
- To emphasise the positive benefit of breastfeeding for their family.
- To develop a relationship with the family in which time can be shared and an understanding developed
- To encourage families to use effectively the support services available in the community
- To support the family in working towards increased confidence with infant feeding.

Responsible to:

- The Koala North West Co-ordinator, who is in turn responsible to the Management Committee

Commitment:

- Initial Course of Preparation, attended one day per week over a period of 12 weeks
- A minimum of 3 hours per week offering support and information, according to the family's needs
- Attendance at regular support and supervision sessions.

- A minimum commitment of 1 year. N.B. References cannot be supplied during this period of time.
- A commitment to attend ongoing training and personal development.

Tasks:

- To be familiar with and committed to the Koala North West ethos, as specified in the Constitution and Standards and Methods of Practice, the Koala North West Agreement and the Policy and Practice Guide, which will be covered during the Course of Preparation.
- To understand and implement Koala North West's policies on:
Confidentiality
Equal Opportunities
Safeguarding Children
- To give daily support as required to families referred to the service.
- To share information with the Co-ordinator and contact the Co-ordinator immediately if there is a concern about any member of the family.
- To complete daily contact sheets for visits to families.
- To attend support and supervision sessions every 6 to 8 weeks.
- To attend periodic refresher training as and when required.
- To submit travel expenses on a monthly basis; which will be paid at the agreed rate and to submit monthly time sheets.
- To inform their insurance company if they decide to use their car for voluntary work with Koala North West - any additional costs incurred will be reimbursed by Koala North West.
- To keep up to date with BFI training.

Name: (Please Print).....
Volunteer

Signed:.....
Volunteer

Signed:.....
Volunteer Co-ordinator

Date:.....