

Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services

Your local county voluntary council



4. Volunteers

4.1 Thinking about volunteering

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer but are not sure what you would like to do, the range of opportunities can be overwhelming. There are a number of questions you can ask yourself which will help you select the right sort of voluntary opportunity to suit you:

- Why do you want to do voluntary work? Is it because you have time to spare, would like to make new friends, would like to learn new skills and gain experience, or have skills and experiences that you would like to put to good use?
- How much time can you spare? Can you make a regular commitment of a few hours a week, or are you looking to do something more short term?
- Do you prefer working with groups of people, on a one-to-one basis, or would you be happy to work alone?
- If you want to work with people, what sort of people - elderly, children, young people or disabled people?
- Do you have any specific skills that you would want to use in a voluntary capacity?
- Are you motivated to volunteer for a particular cause? If so, do you know exactly what you want to do or are you prepared to offer your services where they are most needed?
- Are you prepared to undergo training if the work requires it?
- If you are on welfare benefits, do you know how volunteering may affect your entitlement?

Volunteering involves a degree of personal commitment and responsibility but it also brings with it a sense of achievement and fulfilment. Whatever your reasons for volunteering, the most important advice you can be given is to enjoy what you are doing.

Once you have the answers to these questions, contact your local volunteer centre (Visit www.volunteering-wales.net to find your nearest centre).

A volunteer centre offers a one-stop resource for information, advice and guidance on all aspects of volunteering for both volunteers and recruiting organisations. Centre Staff aim to link the skills, experiences, time and enthusiasm of local people looking to volunteer with organisations seeking to develop their services.

Once you have made a selection, you may want to ask the organisation a number of questions before making a decision:

- Will you be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses?
- Will you have insurance cover while you are volunteering?
- Will you have access to relevant training?
- Will you know exactly what is, and what is not, expected of you?
- Will there be a named person who you can talk to about your work?
- Will you be trained in the use of any special equipment, and will protective clothing be provided?
- Will you need to give notice if you wish to finish your placement?

Volunteer centres in Wales

Here is a list of all volunteer centres in Wales:

Blaenau Gwent

Amanda Newman/Sinead Evans/Sian Sweet
Blaenau Gwent Voluntary Action
16A Market Square, Brynmawr, Blaenau Gwent, NP23 4AJ
Tel: 01495 306602
Fax: 01495 315339
amanda.newman@gavowales.org.uk
sinead.evans@gavowales.org.uk
sian.sweet@gavowales.org.uk

Bridgend

Sharon Headon
Bridgend Volunteer Centre
112-113 Commercial Street, Maesteg, Bridgend, CF34 9DL
Tel: 01656 810400
Fax: 01656 812151
sharonheadon@bavo.org.uk
bavo@bavo.org.uk

Caerphilly

Helen Heath/Keri Williams/Bev Mallet
GAVO – Caerphilly Volunteer Centre
Unit 1A, First Floor, Withey Duffryn Court, Duffryn Business Park
Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7TT
Tel: 01443 863540
Fax: 01443 812292
helen.heath@gavowales.org.uk
beverley.mallet@gavowales.org.uk
keri.williams@gavowales.org.uk

Carmarthenshire

Bill Martin
Carmarthenshire Volunteer Centre
10 John Street, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, SA15 1UH
Tel: 01554 778601
Fax: 01554 759552
bill@cavs.org.uk
volunteering@cavs.org.uk

Cardiff

Peter Trevett
Voluntary Community Service (Cymru) Ltd
Ground Floor, Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, Cardiff CF24 0EB
Tel: 029 2022 7625
trevettp@btconnect.com

Ceredigion

Trish Lewis/Catherine Derrick-Huge
Ceredigion Volunteer Centre
Bryndulais, 67 Bridge Street, Lampeter, Ceredigion SA48 7AB
Tel: 01570 423232
Fax: 01570 422427
trish@cavo.org.uk
catherine@cavo.org.uk

Conwy

Ceri Jones
Conwy Volunteer Centre
42 Madoc Street, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 2TW
Tel: 01492 871110
Fax: 01492 873794
volunteercentre@cvsc.org.uk

Denbighshire

Gaynor Jones
Denbighshire Volunteer Centre
Naylor Leyland Centre, Well Street, Ruthin, Denbighshire, LL15 1AF
Tel: 01824 702441
Fax: 01824 705412
gaynor@dvsc.co.uk

Flintshire

Lynne Rowlands
Flintshire Volunteer Centre
Unit 3, Mold Business Park, Wrexham Road, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 1XP
Tel: 01352 744017
volunteers@flvc.org.uk

Gwynedd

Rhianon Jones
Gwynedd Volunteer Centre
23-25 High Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AB
Tel: 01286 672626
Fax: 01286 678430
ymholiadau@mantellgwynedd.com

Isle of Anglesey

Sian Jones
Medrwn Môn
Unit 5, Bryn Cefni Industrial Park, Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7XA
Tel: 01248 724944
Fax: 01248 750149
post@medrwnmon.org

Merthyr Tydfil

Wendy Marshall/Karen Foley
Merthyr Voluntary Action Centre
89 – 90 High Street, Pontmorlais, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 8UH
Tel: 01685 353913
Fax: 01685 353909
karen.foley@vamt.net
wendy.marshall@vamt.net

Monmouthshire

Gwyneira Cox
GAVO – Monmouthshire Volunteer Centre
Holly House, Llancayo Court, Llancayo, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1HY
Tel: 01291 672352
Fax: 01291 672352
gwyneira.cox@gavowales.org.uk

Neath Port Talbot

Sue Ireson
Neath Port Talbot Volunteer Centre
36 Orchard Street, Neath, Neath Port Talbot, SA11 1EF
Tel: 01639 631387
Fax: 01639 646947
suei@nptcvs.org.uk
info@nptcvs.org.uk

Newport

Amele Tukandra
GAVO – Newport Volunteer Centre
Ty Derwen, Church Road, Newport, NP19 7EJ
Tel: 01633 241550
Fax: 01633 241583
amele.tukandra@gavowales.org.uk

Pembrokeshire

Caroline White
PAVS Volunteering Pembrokeshire
36-38 High Street, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA61 2DA
Tel: 01437 769422
Fax: 01437 769431
volunteering@pavs.org.uk
caroline.white@pavs.org.uk

Powys

Helen Mantle
Powys Volunteer Centre
Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations , Plas Dolerw, Newtown,
Powys, SY16 2EH
Tel: 01686 626220
Fax: 01686 610681
volunteering@pavo.org.uk

Rhondda Cynon Taff

Christine Davies / Thomas Crockett
Interlink Volunteer Centre
6 Melin Corrwg, Cardiff Road, Upper Boat, Pontypridd, CF37 5BE
Tel: 01443 846200
Fax: 01443 486107
cdavies@interlinkrct.org.uk
tcrockett@interlinkrct.org.uk

Swansea

Amanda Carr / Charlotte Davies
Swansea Council for Voluntary Service
Voluntary Action Centre, 7 Walter Road, Swansea SA1 5NF
Tel: 01792 544014 / 544000
Fax: 01792 544037
scvs@scvs.org.uk
charlotte_davies@scvs.org.uk

Torfaen

Charis Easter
Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
Portland Buildings, Commercial Street, Pontypool, Torfaen, NP4 6JS
Tel: 01495 742469
Fax: 01495 740097
charis@tvawales.org.uk

Vale of Glamorgan

Alison Steere
Vale Volunteer Bureau, 34 Holton Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF63 4HD
Tel: 01446 421782
Fax: 01446 746703
info@vvb.org.uk

Wrexham

Ann Vaughan
The Volunteer Centre at AVOW
21 Egerton Street, Wrexham, LL11 1ND
Tel: 01978 312556
Fax: 01978 352046
vb@avow.org
ann.vaughan@avow.org

Disclaimer

The information provided in this sheet is intended for guidance only. It is not a substitute for professional advice and we cannot accept any responsibility for loss occasioned as a result of any person acting or refraining from acting upon it.

For further information contact

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Tel: 01267 245555

info@cavs.org.uk

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Produced by WCVA, County Voluntary Councils and Volunteer Centres.

Last Updated:03/08/2011