**Health Champion Volunteer role description**

There are a range of local community organisations that can support residents experiencing social, emotional and practical needs to reduce social isolation and improve wellbeing.

There are many services that can help residents but navigating what is available and accessing local services can be difficult. We are looking for volunteers to work at a variety of GP practices in Bexley to identify patients who may need support beyond what their GP can offer.

1. Role Purpose

The purpose of the role is to engage with local residents within GP surgeries to:

* Inform them of the project and explain associated benefits
* Promote and enable access to community organisation to improve wellbeing
* Divert demand from GP practices that is better and more appropriately dealt with by other organisations

1. Main Duties

* To engage with people waiting in the practice about the needs
* To maintain confidentiality in person and in writing
* To maintain a low profile and respect confidentiality when speaking to individuals
* To signpost to local initiatives or relevant supporting services
* To carry out the role in accordance with Bexley’s volunteering policies, procedures, values and code of conduct.

1. Our expectations of Volunteers

* A minimum of 2 hours per week for 3-6 months – Volunteers are free to leave at any point but we hope our volunteers would expect to be available for a minimum of 3 months.
* Attendance at all service induction/training required for this role
* Willingness to travel within the area and work flexibly to accommodate GP practices
* Attendance at regular supervision sessions

1. What you can expect

* Reimbursement of agreed expenses
* Thorough accredited training
* Regular support and supervision

1. What we are looking for from our Volunteers

* Able to engage and communicate with a wide range of people – and listen too
* Able to work on your own, organise your time well and keep adequate records
* Willingness to learn about work with vulnerable people and the importance of confidentiality and boundaries
* Commitment to diversity and equal opportunities within the community