



OPEN ROAD

VOLUNTEER MENTOR (ESSEX WOMEN'S SERVICE)

ABOUT US

Our mission is to empower a diverse range of individuals, families and communities to lead healthy and more meaningful lives, free from addiction, offending behaviours and disadvantage, to ensure healthier, happier lifestyles.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Open Road and Essex CRC (Probation Service) work in partnership across Essex to deliver a Support and Mentor Service specifically for women. We train and support Volunteer Mentors to work with women offenders during their period of rehabilitation. This service aims to improve personal outcomes for individuals and those close to them.

ABOUT THE ROLE

To provide one-to-one support to offenders from a range of backgrounds and circumstances. There may also be opportunities to support Service User's in drop-in sessions across Essex.

LOCATION

Various locations across Essex

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Act as positive role models, help raise the individual's confidence and self-esteem, and support them in identifying and achieving realistic goals and aspirations.
- Meet with offenders, usually weekly, in a community setting, helping them re-integrate into society.
- Accompany offenders to appointments if needed – the GP, Dentist, JobCentre Plus, training and educational courses and job interviews.
- Support women offenders to access information drop-in sessions across Essex enabling them to access services in the wider community.
- To adhere to all guidelines, policies and procedures in place at Open Road
- To promote the equality, diversity, rights and responsibilities of all individuals.

TRAINING PROVIDED

All Open Road Volunteers are asked to complete the following training:

Induction

Health and Safety Essentials

Equality and Diversity

Information Governance

Safeguarding Adults

Safeguarding Children

Dual Diagnosis

Effect of Drugs and Alcohol Referral Routes – Basic Understanding

SMMGP (Substance Misuse Management in General Practice)

Customer Service

Volunteering for the Women's Service also gives you the opportunity to complete the following training:

Peer Mentor Training

How to engage effectively with Sex Offenders

How to engage effectively with Older Offenders

Volunteering for the Essex Women's Service will also give you access to many other training programmes specific to other Open Road projects.

DURATION AND AVAILABILITY

We need you to be honest and tell us how much time you can commit to Open Road. For this role we ask that you commit to a minimum of ½ day a week.

PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Good written and verbal communication skills	x	
Good Organisation Skills	x	
Ability to keep accurate records and report back to the Service Co-ordinator	X	
Ability to work independently	x	
Over 18 years of age	X	
2 satisfactory references (1 professional, 1 personal) and an Enhanced DBS Disclosure (arranged by Open Road)	X	

VALUE OF VOLUNTEERING FOR OPEN ROAD

Skills/experience developed	Brief explanation
Confidence	Being able to express your own personal values and focus those beliefs volunteering in an Organisation that shares your viewpoint.
Self Development	Learning more about the issues facing Open Road Service User's and supporting others
Personal Growth	Gaining potential career related experience and skills, with something to add to your CV
Social	Create and strengthen social relationships