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**Youth Cook Club Volunteer**

**Time: 4 PM-7.30 PM (Mondays, Wednesdays)**

**Address: Cyrenians Cook School**

**66-68 Jane Street, EH6 5HG,**

**Edinburgh**

**Overview**

The cook club for youth fosters a safe space where young individuals combat social isolation, make friends, and learn culinary skills. It directly aligns with the organizational goal of addressing homelessness by tackling underlying causes like social isolation and lack of support networks. By nurturing a sense of belonging and community, the club helps mitigate factors contributing to homelessness while empowering youth with essential life skills and resilience. Through engagement in constructive activities, participants build connections and receive support, offering a proactive approach to addressing the root causes and consequences of homelessness among the youth population.

**What are the aims and expectations of the role?**

The organisation seeks a **volunteer available Mondays or Wednesdays from 4-7:30 PM** to assist in the cook club for youth, aged 12-20. With 3-8 participants weekly, the club aims to create a relaxed environment for cooking, chatting, and chilling. Main duties include dishwashing, aiding young chefs, and engaging in conversations. The ideal candidate is independent, hands-on, and resonates with the group's dynamic. Given the participants' talent, minimal assistance is typically required in cooking tasks, which vary based on Fare Share donations. Overall, the role offers an opportunity to contribute to a supportive community and foster culinary skills among young individuals.

**What kind of volunteer are we looking for?**

**Essential**

* 18 +
* Being a member of the PVG Scheme
* Being proactive
* Being able to engage independently and demonstrate a hands-on attitude during the cook club for youth
* Enjoy interacting with young people
* Be comfortable assisting with cooking tasks
* Can contribute positively to the club's relaxed and supportive atmosphere
* A willingness to participate in conversations and help with cleaning tasks

**Desirable**

* + Enjoy working with youth from many different backgrounds and cultures
	+ Good listening skills
	+ Be aware and respectful towards other cultures
	+ Reliable with good time keeping
	+ Able to work with individuals who may have different support needs
	+ Non-judgmental
	+ Respectful of confidentiality

**What can you gain from this opportunity?**

This volunteering opportunity offers a rewarding experience where you can make a meaningful impact while honing valuable skills. By joining the cook club for youth, you'll cultivate a sense of community, foster friendships, and contribute to the personal growth of young individuals aged 14-20. Through hands-on involvement in cooking activities and engaging conversations, you'll develop leadership, communication, and teamwork skills. Moreover, you'll gain insight into the challenges faced by young people and contribute to creating a supportive and inclusive environment. Joining this vibrant community provides a chance to make a difference and forge lasting connections while enjoying the camaraderie of cooking and chilling together.

**Further Info**

**Expenses**

We cover local travel costs at public transport rate or mileage, and £2.50 or a meal if volunteering over 4 hours at one time.

**About Cyrenians**

Cyrenians is over 50 years old. We began with the creation of an innovative community to meet the needs of a group of homeless people who had fallen through the cracks of whatever support was available at the time. Our roots lie in responding to the injustice of homelessness.

We have spent the last five decades journeying with people grappling with the causes and consequences of homelessness through building and nurturing of trusted relationships and engaging with social exclusion and inequality which has so often been at the root of their tough reality. We are values-led and relationship based; our core values are Compassion, Respect, Integrity and Innovation.

Cyrenians’ head office is based in Edinburgh, with smaller offices in other areas, including Falkirk and West Lothian. Cyrenians is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered charity SC011052.