

**Groundwork London**

**Role:** Interpreting Volunteer – English and Arabic, Albanian, Tigrinya, Russian, Farsi, Sinhala, Swahili, Lingala, Somali, Oromo or Pashto (Together Programme)

**Responsible to:** Senior Partnership and Learning Coordinator

**Operational Area:** Communities

**Location:** Online

**ABOUT THE PROJECTS:**

Our vision at Groundwork is of a society of sustainable communities that are vibrant, healthy, and safe, which respect the environment and allow individuals and enterprises to prosper. Groundwork delivers a series of three innovative programmes, funded by the EU’s Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, helping migrants and refugees to integrate into life in the UK.

**IMPACT** will be running 2020-2022 in the boroughs of Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham (West London) and in Bristol to support the integration of 600 refugees and third country nationals.

**TOGETHER SOUTH** will be running 2021-2022 in the boroughs of Bexley, Greenwich, Lewisham (South London) and in Hastings and Rother (Kent) to support the integration of 500 refugees and third country nationals.

All three projects offer a range of holistic activities focusing on 3 key areas:

* **LANGUAGE**: conversational English language support helps participants to communicate more easily with UK citizens and to access services.
* **CULTURE**: refugees and migrants take part in community activities alongside UK citizens to promote inter-cultural understanding, build their confidence and meet people. Activities will be 'green' and centre around the theme “Create & Communicate”. This may include arts & crafts, food growing, cooking, furniture re-use, etc.
* **PREPARATION FOR WORK**: Participants are offered employability skills training, careers advice and pastoral care via Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG).

Due to Covid-19, our provision is mainly delivered online, however, we offer some face-to-face delivery.

**ABOUT THE ROLE:**

We are looking for volunteer interpreters to enable us to support our participants to register and access our programme, and to support with the delivery of workshops where needed.

We are looking for volunteers who speak **fluently in both English and either Arabic, Albanian, Cantonese, Tigrinya, Russian, Farsi, Sinhala, Swahili, Lingala, Somali, Oromo or Pashto**. We need interpreters to be able to explain complex terms, for example around data protection and GDPR, and help us identify participants’ support needs. It will be a remote and ad hoc role that works flexibly around your own commitments.

**TASK DESCRIPTION**

The role will include:

* On-call interpreting support to enable outreach to register participants onto our programme
* Interpreting support to enable participants to access and participate in our sessions
* Providing support to our facilitators during online sessions when necessary
* Translation of written material such as flyers, registration forms, etc

All of our activities, including initial participants registrations and workshop delivery are currently delivered online. As the project develops and Covid-19 restrictions ease, this role may develop to support other activities, including:

* Supporting the teams to engage potential participants
* Continuing to provide interpreting support for participants to access our programme in-person
* Supporting the delivery of English, Employment and Create sessions

This volunteering role with the Groundwork community team will allow you to gain experience in:

* Working as part of a diverse and busy project delivery team
* Developing interpreting skills and delivery skills
* Working in an online community setting (this is likely to develop into a face-to-face setting after restrictions ease)
* Delivering projects which benefit you and your community
* Develop your network in the sector and programme area

We will provide:

* A full induction, support and guidance throughout your volunteering period
* A work reference upon request
* Training opportunities e.g. Safeguarding, data protection, best practice, etc.

The successful candidate should:

Essential:

* Have fluency in English **and either** Arabic, Albanian, Cantonese, Tigrinya, Russian, Farsi, Sinhala, Swahili, Lingala, Somali, Oromo or Pashto
* Be available for approximately 4 hours a week for a period of up to 3 months. These 4 hours can be spread across the week, depending on your availability and the needs of our participants.
* Have strong interpersonal and communication skills
* Have an understanding of confidentiality, safeguarding and data protection protocols
* Have cultural awareness and a commitment to professional boundaries
* Be able to work effectively as part of the team
* Have access to a smart phone and reliable internet to be able to provide virtual support
* Have basic knowledge of Microsoft packages, Zoom, WhatsApp, Skype and other virtual communication tools

Desirable:

* Have some interpretation experience, whether in the community or professionally
* Be a refugee or migrant with some lived experience

Groundwork London is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all members of the community.

Appointment to this post is subject to an enhanced criminal records check through the Disclosure and Barring Service and a reference check.

 **HOW TO APPLY:** If you are interested, please fill in the application form [here](https://creatorapp.zohopublic.eu/groundwork/integration-project-volunteers/form-perma/Volunteer/jBaN8vZY5GxVha8fZY2kQXUvsCWn1TxRkrfZG5K9gWXsg21QHKtUUrZNDsHgOOVUaf9NfKxzmy6CMHsVxWK3z6XUfjVKfXpXBbE2).

For further information or to discuss the role, please contact volunteerstogether@groundwork.org.uk