**Women’s Health Project Information Session and Interview volunteer**

**Purpose of Role**

We are looking for dedicated volunteers to collaborate with Healthwatch Redbridge staff members in delivering information sessions for our Women’s Health Project. Improving women’s health and access to services has become a national priority. The government published a Women’s Health Strategy in 2022. The strategy takes a ‘whole-life approach’ to improving women’s healthcare from puberty through the reproductive years into menopause and beyond.

Our research project aims to inform policymakers within the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England and commissioners to understand reasons for women’s hesitancy to come forward for screening when invited and service-led barriers. We are shining a health inequalities lens on this project by focusing on hearing from women whose views haven’t been sought or strongly heard in the past.

The role also will involve recruiting female residents of Redbridge to be interviewed about their experiences.

**Main tasks and responsibilities**

This role will involve the volunteer visiting different organisations in Redbridge with Healthwatch staff to provide information sessions to hear the concerns and barriers faced by seldom heard communities when accessing health services.

* Seeking and managing new relationships with other community centres, grassroots organisations, NGOs, religious institutions etc.
* Arrange information sessions with organisations.
* Create awareness about Healthwatch Redbridge and motivate other organisations to invite their beneficiaries to these information sessions.
* Assist Healthwatch Redbridge in the delivery of information sessions/events to recruit interviewees.
* Provide support in the delivery of interviews.
* Maintain all information in line with confidentiality and data protection policies.

**Minimum Time Commitment**

We ask that volunteers are able to commit to at least three month’s volunteering. The number of hours will vary depending on the information sessions we are undertaking and the interviews.

**Benefits to volunteer**

* Help out and better understand local communities, particularly for women and to improve access to health services.
* An opportunity to improve communication, interviewing, presentation, data protection knowledge and skills.
* A chance to better understand and support the work of Healthwatch especially in relation to local communities.

**Skills/Experience**

* Can speak a language such as Bengali, Somali or Romanian.
* Be reliable.
* Be friendly, have an outgoing personality.
* Ability to listen to others without judgement.
* A commitment to and understanding of Equality and Diversity.
* Excellent verbal communication skills to communicate effectively with a wide range of people.
* Have a mature attitude and empathy for clients.
* Can maintain confidentiality.

**If you are interested, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Miranda, to discuss or complete the application form.**

**Name: Miranda Peers**

**Telephone: 020 8553 1236**

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