



Voices in Exile

Supporting refugees, asylum seekers & those with no recourse to public funds

Foodbank volunteer role description

Background

Voices in Exile works with adult refugees, asylum seekers and migrants with no recourse to public funds in Sussex. We offer both practical and legal support to those who would otherwise be unable to access justice. We work with both individuals and families, including refugee families resettled in the UK from Syria and Afghanistan.

Purpose of the role

We run an independent, volunteer-led and donation-based weekly food bank for service users experiencing destitution. We need a reliable volunteer team to help us make this happen. Each week we receive donations which needs sorting and packing into food parcels ready for distribution on Wednesday mornings.

What's involved

- Accepting deliveries of food for the food bank;
- Carrying the food into the building;
- Helping sort the food for storage;
- Packing food into parcels ready for collection;
- Making sure the food bank is left clean and tidy in line with food health and safety

We are looking for people who are:

- Reasonably fit;
- Be able to lift or help lift up to 20kg;
- Able to sort and store food;
- Understand food dates so that food can be sorted by date order and used within time;
- Be able to follow instructions to help make up the food parcels;
- Work as part of a team.

To volunteer with Voices in Exile you should have an interest in migration issues and a commitment to basic human rights.

Time commitments - This role requires a commitment to:

- initial induction and training
- 2 hours on either a Monday or Tuesday morning. This can be done every other week or to cover when needed.
- volunteer for a minimum of 6 months

Benefits - Your role will provide you with opportunities to:

- connect with people from different countries and cultures
- experience the working environment and gain an understanding of different careers in the migrant sector
- share your knowledge and skills, making a difference to someone's life

Support - You will:

- receive a full induction into Voices in Exile and your role
- have a named staff member at Voices in Exile for 1-2-1 support and supervision
- have regular volunteer support group sessions where you can meet other volunteers for peer support and learning
- be reimbursed for reasonable travel and other agreed out of pocket expenses

Practicalities - Due to the nature of this role, we will require you to:

- attend our induction and training sessions
- follow the policies and procedures of Voices in Exile
- tell us about any health conditions which may impact on your ability to volunteer in the foodbank - this will allow us to see if we can make any reasonable adjustments to allow you to volunteer.

There is a lift platform to our food bank but is not wheelchair accessible.

We welcome applications from people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and people who speak a community language in addition to English, as well as people for whom English is a first language. We would particularly welcome applications from speakers of Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Dari and Ukrainian.