

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

APPLICANT

Leuchie House

www.leuchiehouse.org.uk

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£24,561.00

£14,561

£10,000

Tyne Esk LEADER

Match Funding

PROJECT AIMS

- Increase the voluntary support at Leuchie House by recruiting a Volunteer Development Co-ordinator.
- Increase number of volunteering opportunities for people of different ages, backgrounds and abilities.
- Develop the skills of the local workforce.
- Improve organisation and training of volunteers so that activities and services, such as bus trips, are available more often.

PROJECT DETAIL

Leuchie House is a respite centre that provides unique short breaks that are a true integration of health and social care, enhancing the lives of people affected by long-term neurological, degenerative conditions. Their service offers 24 hour nursing care, as well as a variety of additional services including physiotherapy sessions, activities, outings and entertainment.

Leuchie has benefitted from a long history of volunteering and they rely on volunteers to help deliver a five star service to guests. This was recognised in 2016 with the charity being awarded The Queens Award for Voluntary Service. With a high number of staff and volunteers there is a need for more resource to fully support the function, ensuring the delivery of a five star service to its people and guests.

With the help of a LEADER grant Leuchie House has recruited a Volunteer Development Co-ordinator. The main purpose of the job includes all aspects of volunteer support to ensure that Leuchie builds on its current reputation as a volunteering organisation of choice offering rewarding volunteering opportunities to all.



Photos ©Leuchie House

RESULTS

“Since our Volunteer Coordinator started her role last January, we have recruited 26 new volunteers and are now supporting 70 volunteers in their role. Our in-house training programme has been developed to enhance the skills of our volunteers, and thus, that of the local community. Many volunteers have eventually applied to work with Leuchie House after building their confidence through a volunteering role.

There has been a production of volunteering leaflets, one aimed at the younger generation and how volunteering can benefit them to get into college, university and/or employment, along with a more general volunteering leaflet. We also organise events for the volunteers, among them a special ‘Volunteer Appreciation Event’ to say thank you to our volunteers for everything they do.

LESSONS LEARNED

“The additional resource of a Volunteer Coordinator allowed us to increase our volunteer base and improve the training and support given, without the need for the large marketing spend and other costs that we thought we’d have to incur, so we underspent on our grant award from LEADER. Part of this was simply over budgeting, but in the future, we’d encourage our Volunteer Coordinator to use the full budget if possible for the benefit of the project.”