

Project Worker - Huntly Food Hub

Responsible to: Foodbank Manager

Responsible for: Development of Huntly Food Hub

Hours: Full –time 37.5hr p/w

Salary: £21,450

Location of job: Huntly

Temporary/ permanent: 1 year fixed term with view to attract more funding.

BACKGROUND

Aberdeenshire North Foodbank is a crisis intervention service with a vision to end hunger and poverty in our local communities. In the last year we have fed over 8000 people and received just over 87 tonnes of donated food. The service operates across the north of Aberdeenshire in Banff and Buchan, Buchan, Garioch, Formartine and Upper Marr.

The foodbank involves around 80 volunteers and has distribution centres in Inverurie, Ellon, Huntly, Peterhead and Fraserburgh. The food bank enjoys widespread community support from churches and school, as well as from the local authority, statutory agencies and frontline support agencies. Since opening there's been a growing and sustained use of the Foodbank service with geographical expansion into new areas.

We are also involved in a range of 'more than emergency food' projects including an active role in the Fair Food Aberdeenshire Partnership and development work which includes a community market garden and a food hub project in the Huntly and surrounding areas.

The foodbank is an independent Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation operating as part of the Trussell trust food bank. The Trussell trust is a charity founded on Christian principles. We follow the Trust's operating model working with compassion, honesty integrity openness kindness and care for all people regardless of religious belief or non-belief.

We are working closely with the Trussell Trust on a Pathfinder programme, which allows us to develop and deliver on strategic objectives that align with the Trussell Trust's strategy for ending the needs for emergency food and poverty. This work includes further developing our Financial Inclusion Services, embedding Participation into our organisation and raising awareness and making calls to action in our local communities about understanding and challenging the root causes of poverty.

ROLE OUTLINE AND PURPOSE

You will lead the development a multipurpose 'Food Hub' in Huntly which will be a food space that services all of the community, working within the Aberdeenshire Food Strategy on the 'field to fork' premise (all aspects of food from insecurity, environment, industry, economy).

You will develop the project to house a community fridge/ freezer, a drop in space that will be used for various activities, training, and community activities as well as the foodbank centre. This will also include recruiting and overseeing a team of volunteers that will support the work.

A focus of your work will be to deliver pathways out of food insecurity for people - that may just initially be through the use of the community fridge to top up weekly shopping through to accessing financial inclusion services to developing skills and experience that provide employability opportunities.

You will run/ organise sessions on cooking skills, budgeting, reducing food waste etc. and you will work closely with the Community Kitchen in the local community centre. You will also undertake outreach work in rural areas, identifying any specific areas of need in relation food poverty and related issues of poverty. You will work with other members of the Foodbank team to enable residents who may be facing food poverty or insecurity to participate in community led work to find solutions that will make a difference to them.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROLE:

- To lead in the set-up of Huntly Food Hub premises, and run the project on a day to day basis
- To recruit and oversee a volunteer team to support the work of the project
- To build relationships with community members, local partners and community groups and other relevant stakeholders
- Deliver or organise sessions to support people's skills and development

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Technical skills and minimum knowledge:

- Experience in community work/ projects
- Experience managing and working with volunteers.
- Good project management skills, able to balance a range of priorities.
- Food skills experience (preferable)

Behaviours and competencies:

- Strong communication skills
- Ability to work independently and unsupervised
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to multi-task
- Empathy and ability to work with people from disadvantaged, marginalised, or socially excluded backgrounds

- Passionate about tackling poverty and environmental issues.
- Car driver and access to a car (Full UK driving license and access to a vehicle fully insured with use for business)

You would initially need to have broadband at home and be willing to undertake a home working health and safety assessment.