

Aphasia Re-Connect

Volunteer Role Outline

Volunteer Role: Communication Support Role

Responsible to: Sally McVicker

Time requirement: At least 2 hours per week when groups running

Location: SE1, BR1, EC1 – various according to group

Objectives

- The aim of **communication support** is to enable each person with aphasia to **participate** as fully as possible within a group/ meeting /conversation setting.
- To support the peer facilitator to engage and host the group discussions
- Enable **new** people with aphasia to fit in to

Tasks

- To use the range of **total communication techniques** and encourage group members to use total communication
 - Writing key words down
 - Drawing
 - Gesturing
 - Using 'props' e.g. maps, photos, meeting minutes/agendas etc.
- Ensure you have **pen and paper** to share.

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- Enable a person to have **equal access** to take part in group discussion by being observant of those needing more communication support.
- Try and support in a **subtle** way, watching them to gauge your input.
- Be aware of the whole group conversation and feed into this, supporting others to feed in. Beware of side conversations.

Tasks to be done in partnership with the co-facilitator

- To work with peer leaders to **set up the room** and ensure that **key resources** are in place.
- **To support Summarising the discussion**
- **To clarify and check things out**
- **To probe, dig deeper?**
- **To Link ideas**
- **To support facilitating a Voting**
- **To support giving Feedback**
- To work with other peer leaders and volunteers to ensure the **room and resources are left tidy**
- **To De-brief** with other peer supporters and volunteers to keep a check on how things are running

Support/training provided by Aphasia Re-Connect

- Groups or Co-facilitator training
- Regular supervision