



# Aphasia Re-Connect

Registered Charity Number 1176125

## **Voluntary Role Outline**

### **Conversation Partner**

#### **Role**

Your role is to visit a person within their own home, for an hour a week or at agreed interludes, over an agreed time period, for the purposes of providing supported conversation.

#### **Responsible to**

You are to report to Sally McVicker

#### **Hours**

You will be visiting your partner with aphasia one hour at a time. This may be once a week, or once every other week, or just once a month. Ideally you will agree the frequency of your visits with the person you visit and Sally on the first visit. It is an idea to mark your sessions clearly on a calendar to share explicitly your intentions.

In addition to the visits, if there are several of you operating at the same time, we will organise support group meetings for you to meet your peer conversation partners and to swap ideas and experiences. You are also asked to complete risk management training and process and to complete a 'feedback form' after each session.

#### **Length of commitment**

We ask you to agree to a specified time limit (three, four, five or six months), with the option of renewing in the program

#### **Location**

Within the local area: you will be consulted about accessible locations for you to travel to.



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## **Your main tasks will be:**

1. To provide your conversation partner with the opportunity for enjoyable supported conversations.
2. To support your conversation partner with their communication.
3. To attend the first visit to your conversation partner with Sally who will advise you on the communication skills and the client's interests as far as these are known at the time of referral.
4. To abide by the organisation's Health and Safety Policy and particularly the minimising risk requirements.
5. To record each visit on the feedback form provided and send forms in to Sally. We will give regular feedback to you.
6. To gather information on any changes or benefits to your conversation partner during the time of the visits.
7. To attend support group meetings for support, and sharing experiences with other volunteer conversation partners, (approx. run every 6 weeks, ideally).
8. To contact the Sally for additional individual support and supervision as and if required.
9. To identify further training that might be of use/interest
10. To be aware of the boundaries of being a conversation partner and to use supervision to clarify if and when uncertainties arise.
11. To liase with Sally if any problems arise.
12. To liase with your conversation partner's friends, family or carers if applicable.
13. To complete an evaluation form with what the benefits of the visits have been and what might be improved from you point of view, once you have completed your agreement.