

# Home for Good Community Volunteer



<b>Location:</b>	Your local borough
<b>When:</b>	Once a week/fortnight for 1-2 hours. Days and times are flexible
<b>Supervised by:</b>	Home for Good staff
<b>Commitment:</b>	We require a minimum commitment of 6 months from our volunteers

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Home for Good is a volunteer-powered, London-wide befriending project. Our volunteers provide bespoke support to vulnerable and formerly homeless clients who have been resettled into their own accommodation, and/or are facing isolation. The purpose of the service is to empower people to establish connections and thrive in what will often be a new community for them. If you want to make a lasting difference to someone's life then this is an opportunity for you.

## What will I be doing?

- You will be matched with a client with the aim of assisting them to get to know their local area and link into local community services
- Providing reliable, regular and sustained contact
- Encouraging the achievement of personal goals
- Participating in activities of interest to the client and empowering them to continue independently

## We would like to hear from you if:

- You're compassionate, kind and non-judgemental
- You're committed and reliable
- You're patient and able to motivate and engage others
- You're able to maintain and respect The Passage policies and procedures
- You have a genuine commitment to working to empower clients with complex and multiple issues
- You have excellent communication and listening skills
- You have the confidence to work independently in the community with support from the Home for Good Team
- Flexibility on where you could meet, including central London, is desirable.

## What to expect:

- A straightforward approach to volunteering
- A full induction and training for your role
- Support and supervision to help you carry out your role (including group supervision/training opportunities for volunteers)
- A budget for meeting and travel expenses

## Still interested?

Fill out an application form and return it to the team at [homeforgood@passage.org.uk](mailto:homeforgood@passage.org.uk)

If you need any other information about the role or the application process, feel free to phone on **020 7592 1850** to speak with the team.

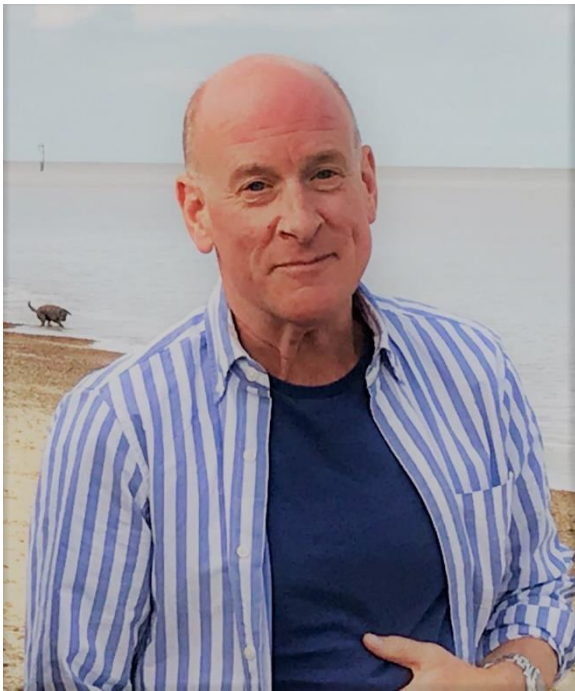
This role requires the provision of two references, a DBS (criminal record) check and mandatory training provided by Home for Good. We welcome applications from people with lived experience of homelessness. You must be aged 18 or over for this role.

# Home for Good



Home for Good is a London-wide resettlement support scheme from The Passage which offers a befriending partnership when you are settling into accommodation in a new area.

We know that the Covid-19 pandemic can feel like a challenging and uncertain time, but we are all in this together and our Home for Good Community Volunteers are providing regular support to people by phone and video calls. Below is Ant's and Darren's experience of how their partnership is helping them during lockdown:



*Darren: 'Meeting Ant has been a good experience, it's something I look forward to and it makes my week. You paired us up well, we have a similar sense of humour.'*

*Ant (pictured left): 'I'd been meeting Darren most weeks since September last year. It was my first experience of Home for Good, so I wasn't really sure what to expect and nor was Darren. After a slightly hesitant first meeting, however, we quickly developed a friendly and trusting relationship and I think we both looked forward to our meetings. Darren and I last met for a coffee on 19th March, although I saw him briefly when I dropped off a few supplies on the 24th, the first full day of the lockdown. It was a strange experience walking through deserted London streets and thinking I wouldn't be back there for who knows how long.'*

*'Lockdown was a strange new world for both of us, Darren especially as being a wheelchair user adds to his vulnerability. He did say, however, with his usual sense of humour and insight, that he was*

*probably much better prepared than I was for isolation. So, for the past eight or nine weeks we've been talking on the phone about three times a week, catching up on all the things we've not been doing. Apart from the usual "How are you?", "Are you getting food OK?" and "What've you been up to?", we talk about what's going on in the country and around the world; about music, TV and films. I don't know quite how it came up, but Darren does some great impersonations - he does a mean Fagin from *Oliver!*. We'll keep talking on the phone, but we're hoping it won't be too long before we can catch up face-to-face again.'*

Details of our services overleaf...

## Home for Good - how does it work?



**Befriending** - Our befriending scheme recruits Community Volunteers across London to support people who are settling into new accommodation after experiencing homelessness. Volunteers are from a wide diversity of backgrounds and are DBS checked. After referral, you will be matched with a volunteer from your local area whom you can speak with regularly (usually weekly) on the phone or by video link, for support and encouragement in whatever you are dealing with, and in your goals and aspirations. The idea is that once the lockdown has eased you can explore the local area, resources and opportunities together: for example places of interest, community groups, activities and courses. Partnerships last for up to a year.

**Social Club** - During 'normal' times our Home for Good weekend Social Club meets every Sunday between 11:30 and 16:00 in Pimlico, and provides companionship through a shared Sunday lunch, reading of Sunday papers, board games, and regular group visits to places of interest. (During the Covid-19 lockdown the club is suspended, but we are in regular contact with members and are planning other ways to connect.) **Contact Colin for more details: [colin.giordmaina@passage.org.uk](mailto:colin.giordmaina@passage.org.uk)**

**Client support** - **Mohammed offers support to clients on the Home for Good scheme with issues that may arise in relation to housing, health and welfare, liaising with and making referrals to other support services where needed.**

Please speak to your worker about a referral or contact **[homeforgood@passage.org.uk](mailto:homeforgood@passage.org.uk) / 07568 430020**