**Online Volunteer Coordinators' Network meeting 15 June 2022, 2pm to 3.30pm**

**Chair:** Toni McSherry

**Facilitator:** Peshang Arkawazi

In this network meeting, the following topics were discussed:

1. **Our first guest speaker Valerie Chang, Volunteer Coordinator at Westminster Connects spoke about this programme:**

‘Westminster Connects is a programme that was set up at the start of pandemic to support people who are vulnerable in the community.’

The content of the presentation covered useful tips and advice to help Volunteer Coordinators in their roles including:

* Close understanding of the main aims and objectives of the Westminster Connects Service.
* How Westminster Connects Service could provide support relating to role promotion and recruitment of volunteers for Westminster Volunteer Involving Organisations.

1. **The second guest speaker was One Westminster’s CEO, Jackie Rosenberg, who is also a member of the Vision of Volunteering Steering Group. She presented details of the recent launch of Vision of Volunteering:**

Vision for Volunteering is a collaboration led by NAVCA, NCVO, Volunteering Matters, the Association of Volunteer Managers and Sport England.

* A detailed description of how the Vision was developed
* How volunteering is changing and evolving
* How this will define volunteering
* Exploring how volunteering could/should like in 10 years’ time

300 organisations were interviewed, to come up with the first iteration of the Vision that included five key themes:

* **Awareness and appreciation of volunteering:** The awareness of how to volunteer, why to volunteer and what to achieve from volunteering
* **Power:** Empowering volunteers, making sure their voices heard and that volunteer sectors are cantered
* **Equity and inclusion:** How to attract people from all communities and backgrounds, and come up with strategies that really demonstrate being inclusive as possible
* **Collaboration:** The recognition that no one should be doing things on their own/ we are stronger together
* **Experimentation*:*** Not being scared to experiment, to be innovative and not to be restricted

For further details about Vision for Volunteering please follow this link:

[**https://www.visionforvolunteering.org.uk/**](https://www.visionforvolunteering.org.uk/)

**Actions resulting from the meeting:**

* For the promotion of volunteering roles promotion, organisations should send them to [timeandtalents@onewestminster.org.uk](mailto:timeandtalents@onewestminster.org.uk) and the T&T team will post them on the fortnightly Westminster Connects newsletter.  Also, to get help in identifying suitable projects that can be supported by T&T corporate partners contact [timeandtalents@onewestminster.org.uk](mailto:timeandtalents@onewestminster.org.uk).
* For DBS queries, please contact Nigel Barber: [n.barber@onewestminster.org.uk](mailto:n.barber@onewestminster.org.uk)
* Jackie Rosenberg will report back to Vision for Volunteering that volunteer coordinators are hoping for some guidance on actions that groups, and organisations can take.

1. **Network and Updates**

Organisations offered the opportunity to share information about their projects, events and anything else that would benefit other volunteering organisations or their service users.

**Information shared between organisations:**

* Grand Junction activities: <https://grandjunction.org.uk/events/days-by-the-canal/>
* St Marylebone Festival: <https://www.stmarylebonefestival.com/>
* Link to Outside Edge Theatre Company’s weekly activities: <http://edgetc.org/monthly-schedule-of-activities/>

For service-user referrals to free weekly drop-in groups and taster session bookings please email [admin@edgetc.org](mailto:admin@edgetc.org)

* To find out more about   
  Royal Opera House events & activities: [Georgia.Sinclair@roh.org.uk](mailto:Georgia.Sinclair@roh.org.uk)

Resonate Arts - Creative Befrienders working with people living with dementia in Westminster. Contact: [sofi@resonatearts.org](mailto:sofi@resonatearts.org) for volunteer opportunities and referrals

1. **Possible topics to be covered in the future network meetings:**

To discuss in detail the five main sections of Vision for Volunteering (see Point 2) including:

* Awareness and appreciation of volunteering
* Power
* Equity and inclusion
* Collaboration
* Experimentation

1. **Next Volunteer Co-ordinators meeting:**

Will be held in October 2022 (date to be confirmed) either online or in person.

***List of attendees:***

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Display Name | Email | Organisation |
| Holly Henry | hollylouisehenry@outlook.com | Grand Junction |
| Alice Begu | alice.begu@churcharmy.org | Marylebone Projcet (CHURCHARMY) |
| Loris Konaizeh | loris.konaizeh@mewso.org | Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisation |
| Anna Porta | annaporta@westwayct.org.uk | Westway CT |
| Hannah Williams | admin@edgetc.org | Outside Edge Theatre Company |
| Beatrice Pocini-Fearfield | bpocini-fearfield@westminster.gov.uk | Westminster City Council |
| Sofi Mogensen | sofi@resonatearts.org | Resonate Arts |
| Theophilia Shaw | theo@wanduk.org | Womens Association for Networking and Development |
| Afshan Javed | afshan@wanduk.org | WAND UK |
| Paola Pagliarin | p.pagliarin@onewestminster.org.uk | One Westminster |
| Mahbuba Khan | mkhan1@westminster.gov.uk | Westminster Libraries |
| Jackie Rosenberg | j.rosenberg@onewestminster.org.uk | One Westminster |
| Georgia Sinclair | georgia.sinclair@roh.org.uk | Royal Opera House |
| Olivia Rawnsley | olivia@doorsteplibrary.org.uk | Doorstep Library |
| Ms Andrea Smith | andrea.smith@cwc.ac.uk | City of Westminster College |
| Clara Pereira | volunteering@stmarylebone.org | St Marylebone Parish Church |
| TONI MCSHERRY | toni@hswestminster.co.uk | Home Start |
| Valerie chang | vchang@westminster.gov.uk | Wesminter connects |
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