

Volunteer with BeLonG To Youth Services

We are looking for enthusiastic, reliable and fun volunteers to commit to between 4 and 6 hours per month working with young LGBT+ people engaged in our direct Youth Work Services.

About BeLonG To Youth Services

BeLonG To Youth Services is the national organisation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT+) young people in Ireland between the ages of 14 and 23. BeLonG To was established in 2003 and has grown to become Ireland's largest LGBT+ organisation.

Vision

BeLonG To's vision is a world where LGBT+ young people are equal, safe, and valued in the diversity of their identities and experiences.

Mission

Our mission is to work with LGBT+ young people as equals to achieve our vision through youth work, changing attitudes, and research.

Values

- Welcoming, inclusive, supportive, safe, and fun.
- Integrity, honesty, openness, and respect.
- Promoting human rights, social justice, solidarity, and intersectionality equality.
- Collaboration and youth participation.
- Being a better, and a learning organisation.

Model of Youth Work Practice

Our youth work practice is adapted from the Critical Social Education model.

- Critical – LGBT+ young people thinking for themselves.

- Social - Pro society and working together as a group.
- Education – Youth work values guide the education process.

We are looking for volunteers who:

- Bring their own skills and experience of working alongside young people.
- Enjoy interacting and engaging with young people.
- Support young people to get involved.
- Are able to build positive professional relationships with young people.
- Work consistently with the wider team of staff and volunteers.
- Are able to follow organisational procedures/expectations.
- Are 24 and older.

What's involved in these roles?

- To work alongside the youth worker in engaging young people in the programme of activities.
- Getting to know the young people, and building a professional, positive and supportive relationship with them.
- To actively listen and engage with the young people where they are now.

What day/times?

- Groups are held every second Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday evening between 5.30 and 8.00pm, and every second Sunday afternoon between 3 and 6pm.
- Volunteers will be expected to sign up for 2 shifts per month.
- These are also positions involving volunteering on Sat afternoons.

Volunteers can select days and times to suit their availability on the application form.

What skills are required?

- Experience of working with young people with complex needs.
- Knowledge of/empathy with the issues young LGBT+ people face in their lives.
- A willingness to engage with and support young people through various issues they may face.
- Knowledge of the work practice of the BeLonG To Youth Services.
- Patience, enthusiasm, reliability, adaptable, honest and respect for young people's confidentiality.

Benefits of Volunteering?

- Be part of an organisation that enacts social change for young LGBT+ people.
- To share your educational/life learning skills with young people in a fun and relaxed youth space.
- Experience facilitating groups.
- Learn basic youthwork skills.

Support, Supervision and Training

Volunteers who are successful in their application will attend compulsory 2 day induction training, child protection training, and will be Gardai Vetted before entering into active service. Once volunteers are in their roles they will be supported by the volunteer coordinator and the youth worker to which they are assigned. Group supervision will be conducted every 6 month.

If you are interested in these volunteer roles please log onto www.belongto.org, complete the application form and it send to glenn@belongto.org. Closing dates for applications is the 18th September 2017. Only those shortlisted for interview will be contacted. Interviews will take place in early October.