

a guide to involving young disabled people as volunteers

CAN Do!

volunteering

Creating opportunities with disabled people
LEONARD CHESHIRE 

RUSSELL
COMMISSION

scepe

About cerebral palsy.
For disabled people achieving equality.

Leonard Cheshire and Scope: Working together to tackle disablism

Disablism *n.* discriminatory, oppressive or abusive behaviour arising from the belief that disabled people are inferior to others.

Danielle Moore
Youth Volunteering Officer, Scope

Stephanie Fishlock
Volunteering Projects Officer
Leonard Cheshire

2006

introduction

‘Can do volunteering’ is aimed at organisations that involve volunteers and is useful for:

- Volunteer managers
- Fundraisers
- Funding organisations

This guide focuses on how to involve young disabled people (aged 16–25) in volunteering programmes. It is recognised that involving young disabled people as volunteers is part of a wider issue of inclusive volunteering and where possible, links have been highlighted.

The guide has been produced by the UK’s two largest disability charities, Leonard Cheshire and Scope, in co-production with young disabled people, with funding from the Russell Commission.

our thanks

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Scheme

Mencap

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National Centre for Young
People with Epilepsy

National Trust

Outset Youth Action

RNID

RSPCA

Sense

Skill

Snaps

Solent Youth Action

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Surrey Community Action

Surrey Museums

Volunteering England

West London YMCA

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Advice Bureau

Winchester District
Advocacy Project

Woodcraft Folk

WRVS

Youthnet

Volunteer Centres:
Canterbury Volunteer
Centre

Bexley Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Centre Bolton

Gosport Voluntary Action

Volunteer Centre
Greenwich

Volunteer Centre

Kensington & Chelsea

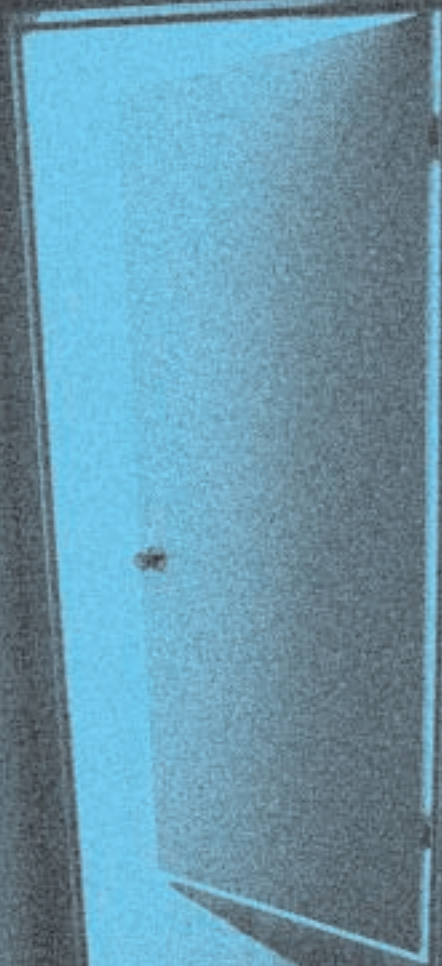
Norwich Volunteer Centre

Voluntary Services Surrey
Heath

Volunteer Centre Watford

“As a volunteer I have a lot to offer.

I could build a website for your charity, I could train your clients in how to use a computer or I could install vital anti-virus software.”



“Yet many organisations would turn me down as a volunteer, just because I am disabled.”

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Name Robert Andrews

Address 23 Sencroft street

Kenington

London

Telephone 020 7582 4454

Postcode SE11 5UG

Disabled

REJECTED!

“Would yours?”

Does your organisation:

Offer volunteer roles that would appeal to young people? Yes No

Offer information about volunteer opportunities in a range of formats? Yes No

Have premises that are accessible? Yes No

Provide disability equality training for staff? Yes No

Offer to reimburse volunteer travel expenses? Yes No

Offer support to complete forms? Yes No

“If you answered no to some of these questions, you might end up excluding me from volunteering.

Your organisation would miss out on my skills and expertise.

I would miss out on gaining valuable work experience and on giving something back.

Shouldn't I have a right to volunteer, like everyone else?”

