

Employment Support Service Volunteer

STAMMA's Employment Support Service started as a pilot in 2022, working with individuals and organisations on issues related to stammering at work. Through the pilot, we've developed our ways of working and we'd now love to get some volunteers involved in the service, so that we can benefit from your skills and experiences and you can help the service reach more people. If you think you might be interested, read on to see how you could make a difference for people who stammer!

Basic information

Hours	Ideally 4 hours per week (split between a Monday afternoon another day of your choice)
Day and time	2 hours on Monday afternoon + 2 hours on another day at a time that's convenient to you (can include evenings)
Location	Home-based
Supported by	Kirsten Howells (STAMMA's Services Director)

What does the role involve?

Working within our Employment Support Service, we're hoping you'll feel comfortable to:

- Respond to email contacts to the service
- Hold one-to-one Zoom meetings exploring concerns, and providing information and signposting for individuals raising concerns about stammering at work
- Write supporting letters to help people get adjustments to standard recruitment and work procedures to make them more stammer-friendly
- Help us develop new resources and information for employers and individuals around issues related to stammering at work

If you're interested in doing so, you can also get involved in facilitating training sessions and workshops on related issues for employers, organisations and employees/jobseekers.

What support would you get?

You'll get one-to-one training and will be supported by Kirsten Howells (STAMMA's Services Director). You'll begin by shadowing Kirsten and other volunteers within the team as they deal with emails, lead one-to-one meetings with people seeking support from STAMMA, and deal with any post-meeting administration.

Gradually, you'll begin to co-facilitate. As you start to feel more comfortable within the role, you'll begin to take the lead on some emails and meetings, but checking in with Kirsten before and after sessions.

There would be the opportunity for a weekly planning meeting with Kirsten and other volunteers on Monday afternoon at 2pm.

Who might enjoy this volunteer role?

You're likely to enjoy volunteering in the Employment Support Service if you:

- have good administration skills
- are able to understand written and spoken English
- are good at writing emails and documents in an easy-to-read style
- have a genuine curiosity about people and their experiences
- enjoy listening and talking to people
- are comfortable speaking and using the chat function in Zoom (or on other videocall platforms)
- are passionate about making the world of work a better place for people who stammer

It's not essential to stammer if you are interested in volunteering with us, but you may particularly enjoy this role if you do. Your personal experience of stammering can be very useful!

Other information

You will need a quiet place where you can work in relative privacy and not be overheard during Zoom calls. If you have access to your own computer or laptop, that would be brilliant.

As a volunteer you can, of course, step back from the role at any time. However, both you and the service are likely to get most out of the opportunity if you're able to volunteer with us for 12 months or more. By gradually learning and developing your confidence in the role, you can have the biggest impact.

This is a volunteer role and is unpaid.

For more information

If you have any questions, or to express an interest in volunteering in STAMMA's Employment Support Service, please email us at employmentsupport@stamma.org or phone Kirsten on 02045 824 130. We'd love to hear from you!