

Notes from Meeting

Welcome, Introductions and Update from attendees:

- Chris – [The Reader](#)
- Hannah – [Breakthrough UK](#)
- Rachel – [Back on Track](#)
- Jonny – [L'Arche](#)
- Jenny – [DISC/Humankind](#)
- Emma – [University of Manchester](#)
- Ian – [Manchester Carers Forum](#)
- Anabelle – [British Red Cross \(Flourish\)](#)
- Scarlett - [MAHDLO](#)
- Wendy – [Step together](#)
- Jenette – [Longford Centre \(MCC\)](#)

Presentations / Updates:

- **Rebecca – Jewish Volunteers Network**
 - Volunteering brokerage service newly established in Manchester – has been very successful in London.
 - Open for all types of volunteering opportunities and potential volunteers
 - Has an app that can be downloaded to smartphones
 - Offers training to volunteers e.g. First Aid, Safeguarding, GDPR Training
- **VCM / Macc update**
 - **New Active Community Team at Macc**, which includes Volunteer Centre, Skill Givers Project (physical activity employer supported volunteering project) and Greater Manchester Older People's Network. Bringing together the front-facing elements of Macc and supporting people in Manchester to do more good and useful things together.
 - **Our People Volunteering** - the Volunteer Centre Manchester are working with Manchester City Council and Manchester Health and Care Commissioning to match their employees, who get 3 days volunteer leave each year, to organisations who need support. This could be those 'wish list'

tasks which organization would like to do but may lack the time, or skills in house e.g. web development, social media support, information systems management, bid writing. We are also working with these organisations to deliver training on such skills so get in touch with [Shanna at the Volunteer Centre](#) if you are interested in finding out more or have any suggestions for training.

- **Volunteer meet ups** – these are similar to Volunteer Coordinators forums but for volunteers. Giving volunteers chance to network with other volunteers and speak to the volunteer centre in a relaxed environment. We'll circulate dates, please share these with your volunteers.

Volunteers Week 2018 – Volunteer Centre Manchester / All

- [Discussed the events coming up for Volunteers Week 2018](#), thanks the organisations that supported the planning and delivers and offered an open invitation to everyone be on the planning team next year.

NCVO Updates/Points of Interest

- Links to resources mentioned:

[UK Civil Society Almanac](#)
[Volunteering Round Up](#)
[Stepping into Volunteers' Shoes](#)
[NEW Volunteers' Week website](#)

- **Festival of Aging:**

- Ambition for Aging are co-ordinating a festival promoting positive images of aging, working with partner organisational across Greater Manchester 2nd – 15th July 2018. [Find out more here](#)

- **General Opportunities / Resources / Training & Development**

- [Wild Apricot Webinar: Four Tech Trends You Need to Know](#)
- **Barclays Tea and Tech** - As part of Barclays Bank community work they want to organise on-going sessions where people can attend (Tea and Teach) and receive help with any digital Tech. This is not restricted to Barclays Customers only but anyone who wishes to pop in and learn anything that they are having issues with such as setting up email or using eBay etc. They can also come out to groups and support and do want to connect more with the community. If you want to find out more contact asif.mussa@barclays.com

- **Refugee Week: 18th – 24th June** - British Red Cross (Flourish) are holding an event in Alberts park in Salford for more information e-mail [Annabelle at British Red Cross](mailto:Annabelle@britishredcross.org)

Discussion:

Crowdsourced common issues to tackle discuss at future forums:

- Time and money to reward and recognise volunteers
- Embedding deep and meaningful partnership working in voluntary projects
- Competition for volunteers – how do we move away from this
- Keeping volunteers engaged during recruitment (while waiting for DBS checks or other delays to official recruitment)
- How do we create flexible opportunities/responding and developing opportunities (micro-volunteering, skill sharing, family volunteering, matching and developing volunteers, turning no-one away)
- What is volunteer management – how do we make sure our role is valued
- Monitoring volunteer hours and soft outcomes
- Managing multifaceted roles (face-to-face managing/strategy/other responsibilities)
- 'Branding Volunteering' – is volunteering the right word? Does it put certain people off?

Also suggestion of a **Manchester Volunteer co-ordinator non-conference** (like a VCF but a whole day)

Next Meeting(s): Tuesday 31 July 2018 @ MM Union – We'll be breaking in teams to problem solve some of the common issues arising when working with volunteers generated at this meeting (see above)

Keep in touch:

info@volunteercentremanchester.com

Twitter: @VolunteeringMCR

Facebook: VCMOfficial