



Growing Together volunteer role Community Engagement

Time commitment	8 hours per week (Monday to Friday)
Minimum commitment	8 months
Link Workers	Senior Community Outreach Officer Community Engagement Coordinator
Location	LAWA's Offices in Hackney, London

About LAWA

Latin American Women's Aid (LAWA) is a community-based organisation led by and for Latin American women and children in London, working to end violence against women and girls (VAWG) since 1987.

We provide a range of different supporting services: we manage the only refuge accommodations for Latin American women and children in the UK and Europe. Likewise, we run a VAWG Advice Centre to provide support and advocacy for women from the Global Majority¹.

In addition to this, we offer crèche, English classes, counselling, a Change Maker empowerment programme, a housing policy project (WAHA) and children and young people's services.

Our mission is to work together with women and children from the Global Majority to end violence and achieve self-determination.

¹ By Global Majority we refer to the population groups that have been widely referred to as "ethnic minorities". We recognise that people of African, Asian, indigenous or mixed origin are not a minority and that, in concrete reality, the experience of whiteness is not the norm for majorities on the planet. The use of this term is a political response to the social, political and economic marginalisation of groups that, from a colonial perspective, have been treated as "minorities".

Volunteer role description

The Growing Together programme was born 4 years ago with the aim of helping women over 50 to overcome loneliness and isolation. During this time, it has become a place that provides women with a sense of belonging and kinship. Together, they hold knitting, IT and English classes, agricultural gatherings, community lunches and picnics, among other activities.

The Growing Together volunteer is internet savvy, a good facilitator and able to take their own initiative. She is flexible and approachable and supports the group participants with patience, kindness, and assertiveness. This role includes reaching out to women, informing them of LAWA's workshops, and providing weekly IT and English classes to the group members.

This role also involves supporting other community engagement projects run by the Community Engagement Coordinator, as well as delivering embroidery workshops for the Growing Together members (if within the volunteer's knowledge).

This volunteer role is subject to an enhanced criminal record (DBS) check paid for by LAWA.

Tasks and Responsibilities

Within the first month:

- To attend a one-day induction, which is mandatory to start volunteering.
- To carry out all assigned trainings at Atlas Citation.
- To attend Lamplight training, carried out by the LAWA Development Officer.

From the second month ahead:

- To assist the link worker in the planning and delivery of group activities.
- To deliver 4 hours a week of IT (computer and smartphone) classes.
- To plan and deliver 4 hours a week of English classes in an engaging, friendly, and lively way.
- To maintain up-to-date records of activities developed and of group members' information in Lamplight.
- To assist group members with translation/interpretation if needed.
- To attend the mid-term supervision with the Volunteer Coordinator.

Standard practice:

- To work within the confines of confidentiality, ensure that professional boundaries are always maintained when working with service users, staff and external bodies, and work within LAWA's Code of Conduct.
- To ensure that the security of sensitive information is maintained.
- To work within and implement all LAWA's policies and procedures, especially those on Safeguarding, Confidentiality, Individual Support, User Involvement, and Health and Safety.

Person specification

- Fluency in Spanish and English.
- Come from a Latin American or Global Majority background.
- Be patient and have the ability and interest to work with the elderly.
- Have a non-judgemental attitude.
- Be able to empathise with people.
- Have good listening skills.
- Have a proactive attitude/ability to take her own initiative.
- Have an active interest in the community and be passionate about community engagement.
- Be committed to guaranteeing and defending women's rights.

Benefits of volunteering at LAWA

- Gain experience and be involved in various aspects of third-sector service provision.
- Learn about gender, intersectionality, and women's issues, through day-to-day work and training opportunities.
- Develop bonds and integrate with fellow Latin American and other Global Majority women in the UK.
- Increase your professional experience and enhance your CV.
- Access to community events and social engagements, both organised by LAWA or enabled through LAWA's facilitation.
- Food and travel allowance (within a limited budget).

LAWA's volunteer programme is open **exclusively** to Latin American and other women from the Global Majority. We encourage applications from Black Latin American as well as LGBTQ+ women.