



## Growing Together volunteer role Community Engagement

<b>Time commitment</b>	One day per week (Monday to Friday) from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm
<b>Period commitment</b>	6 months
<b>Link Worker</b>	Senior Community Outreach Officer
<b>Location</b>	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 Black and Ethnic Minoritised survivors.

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 Latin American and other BME women and children to end violence and achieve self-determination.

### 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 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. It takes place in the third month of the placement.

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 BME 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 ethnic minoritised 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 Black and Minoritised Ethnic Women. We encourage applications from Black Latin American women as well as LGBTQ+ women.