



Research and Policy volunteer role Women Against Homelessness and Abuse (WAHA)

Time commitment	One day per week (Monday to Friday) from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm
Period commitment	6 months
Link Worker	Advocacy, Community & Learning Director
Location	Hybrid

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 Research and Policy volunteer supports the research and policy components of the Women Against Homelessness and Abuse (WAHA) project. WAHA is an initiative that aims to address Black and Minoritised Ethnic women's intersecting pressures of

poverty, homelessness, and gender violence through promoting changes in housing policy and practice in the UK using a rights-based approach.

This role also supports the development of tools and resources to help front lines workers in their advocacy in the area of housing.

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 support in the write-up of case studies and reports.
- Analyse data from LAWA systems to generate evidence that supports advocacy for LAWA and our partners of the OYA consortium. This could involve, for example, turning key casework material into checklists and templates that advocates can use in their day-to-day practice supporting women.
- To support partners in turning new policies and legislations into easy-to-read resources that frontline workers and policy workers can use to guide their work.
- To support Community Engagement and Policy staff in other ad-hoc tasks as 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

- Excellent written and spoken communication skills both in English (advanced) and Spanish or Portuguese (advanced).
- Come from a Latin American or BME background.
- Excellent IT skills, including a working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications, business information systems and database management.
- Attention to detail and methodical approach to collect and accurately communicate all relevant information.
- Have a proactive attitude/ability to take her own initiative.
- Able to work collaboratively with staff members.
- 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.