



Software Engineer Developer Volunteer - Ad Hoc. Occasional (e.g. per project)

About the opportunity

Summary

Get involved in our therapeutic service, and you'll gain satisfaction from knowing that you're helping children, young people, and their families to continue to safely explore their experiences by making a real difference to our sustainability.

Description

This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in the ongoing development of Cocoon Kids - Creative Counselling and Play Therapy CIC. Our vital not-for-profit therapeutic service for priority children and young people, and their families depends on our financial resilience. By volunteering as Software Engineer or Developer Volunteer you can help our CIC grow and develop to our next stage by ensuring that we have the funds to sustain and develop the service, and help us to realise our ambition of being a service for our community and beyond.

We're urgently looking for a Software Engineering or Developer Volunteer, responsible for contributing to software design and software development of our web based mental health and wellbeing app. We need help on a one-off and/or per project basis (or more regular if preferred) with:

- Creating secure and reliable software solutions
- Collaborate with our team to develop our current Minimum Viable Product
- Updating and maintaining our website
- Developing applications (coding, programming)
- Debugging and testing code
- Documenting and testing new software applications
- Researching, investigating and fixing a wide range of technical issues
- Collaborating with our team to meet a brief
- Approaching problems and creating solutions
- Proactively learning about any new technologies that may be useful for the web app, and/or, other areas we can develop in
- Potential to supervise less experienced Volunteers and Interns (depending on time commitment)

Make this role your own - we're a responsive organisation, we'll be glad to listen to your great ideas

What impact will you have?

You'll have the opportunity to make a real and tangible difference to the lives of priority children, young people and families. You'll make sure families can access fully-funded and appropriate longer-term sessions- for as long as is therapeutically right for them, providing long-term positive mental health equity and outcomes and improved social mobility. Ultimately, you'll be ensuring our long-term sustainability beyond the challenges of Covid-19 and the cost of living crisis, growing our service from local, to regional and beyond.



We'll also acknowledge your support and champion you and your service on our social media and website (provided you'd like us to do this).

About the volunteer

Why apply?

Join us, and you'll be part of our small, friendly team. You'll be able to organise your time around your own schedule, whilst making a real and immediate difference to children, young people and families in difficult times.

What are we looking for in a volunteer?

We would love a volunteer who:

- Has the ability to quickly understand the needs and challenges faced by our organisation
- Can quickly understand our children, young people and families' main concerns
- Has accurate and up to date knowledge and experience of a range of software, e.g. GitHub, Vercel, AWS
- Is aware of/is willing to inform themselves of the latest software packages and coding developments
- Can help us get to grips with relevant options, approaches and strategies, and discuss next steps
- Can collaborate well with other Volunteers and Interns in the role
- Will follow up with any further questions or outcomes
- You may already have established key relationships with others in this field.

Skills

- Computer Science, Software Engineering, DevOp or related area background
- Experience with various programming languages
- Able to work on your own initiative
- Self-motivated and results-oriented
- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Strong problem-solving abilities and organisational skills

Specific skills and experience

We expect all of our team to have knowledge and experience in the following areas:

- Mental health and wellbeing challenges and its impact
- Living with or have experience of socio-economic deprivation and/or marginalised communities
- Understanding of the impact that housing insecurity may bring to a child, young person and their family's mental health and wellbeing.



Where and when

About the location

For this role, you can work entirely from home and we can consider **remote** candidates from across the UK.

Travel Limit

This role can be completely remote.

Volunteer availability

- As this role is remote, you can structure it to suit your day
- Contactable by phone/email/Zoom
- Ideally, willing to attend occasional meetings, workshops and forums, where necessary for the role.

Time commitment

- 5-7 hours a week, where possible

Duration commitment

- Allow time to research, ask any questions and write code
- Commitment to being involved in a project from start to finish not essential (but welcomed)
- NB. We're open to short term offers/sharing this role with another volunteer(s).

Application details

Application deadline: ongoing

Application instructions

Please apply through Reach in the first through your instance, by detailing why you are interested in this role and your relevant experience.

Please contact us via email with any questions. Interviews will be an informal Zoom chat with our Directors.

We look forward to hearing from you, Helene and the Cocoon Kids CIC team.