

Who else can help?



This question is important because...

Programmes are more likely to be successful when they become a part of the community they are working with. The more people and organisations that know about you, the more support your programme and your participants will get. You may be able to get help with promoting and/or running your sessions.

We use the 'who wants to be a millionaire' lifeline analogy when thinking about how we support our participants.

Our participants have a range of needs and may come to us for one thing but need support in different ways, and if we don't have the answers or don't know what additional support our participants need we 'Ask the audience', 'Phone a friend' and work together '50/50'.



ASK THE AUDIENCE

Don't be afraid to ask participants what kind of support they will find useful, chances are this will give you an indication of what friends to call!



PHONE A FRIEND

Don't try to do everything, there are other services that can help.

Research

The report produced by the University of Strathclyde suggests that volunteers can be a valuable resource for your project and can have a key role in sustaining it. First, they can form part of the recruitment process, either directly through their own social networks, or indirectly as role models. Second, they can be important welcoming faces for new participants. Finally, they can demonstrate a path which current participants might be able to follow.

Key messages

- ✓ For help with reaching potential participants, try contacting:
 - social work
 - housing associations
 - paid and unpaid carers
 - health professionals
 - community groups
 - public services
 - family and friends
 - front-line support workers
 - organisations with links to your target group (eg age, health condition or location specific).



Who else can help? (continued)



- ✓ Recruit volunteers through your local Volunteer Centre, schools, employers, colleges and/or by promoting the opportunity locally. They may be able to help you promote or run sessions.
- ✓ Include the training and development of volunteers within your programme design and any funding applications.
- ✓ Involve past or current participants as buddies or champions who encourage people to join in, welcome and reassure new recruits and/or lead the social element of the session.