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APPENDIX 5



Sefton CVS

Supporting Local Communities

Tag: include-it mersey



Include IT Mersey: Volunteers needed to help improve local people's computer skills

by SeftonCVS – 04/08/2017

New Liverpool City Region project Include-IT Mersey seeks volunteer digital champions to work in local communities.

Include-IT Mersey is looking for volunteers to encourage local people to improve their digital skills by accessing free training across Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and the Wirral.

Volunteers will support participants to access digital training and raise awareness of the benefits of getting online in a variety of community centres and locations across the region.

“Digital Champions don’t need to be experts in IT and computing, but will need to be friendly and comfortable in working with the public” said Lauren Jones, Volunteer Coordinator for Sefton, Liverpool and Knowsley.

“The project aims to help 750 participants to renew their motivation to learn and progress in life and gain, what will in many cases, be their first qualification”.

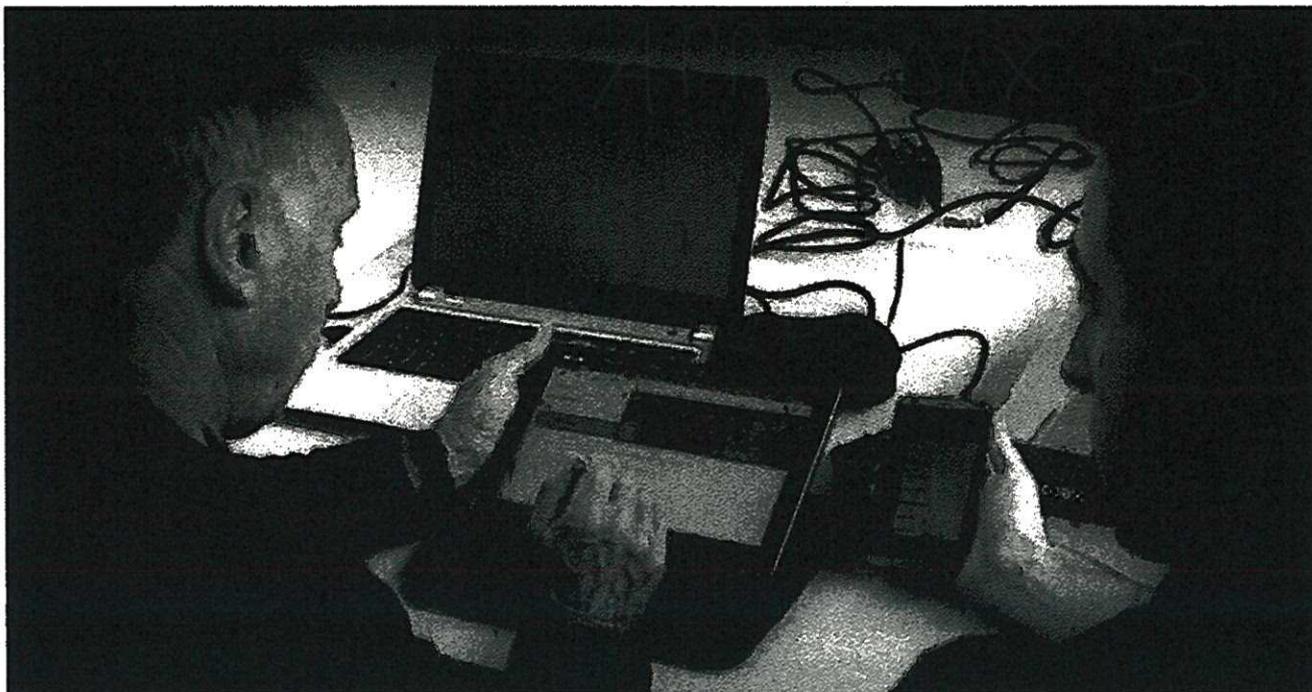
Include-IT Mersey volunteers will not be directly involved in delivering the training programme, but will have the opportunity to help project organisers at Digital Surgeries across the region and will provide hands-on support to learners.

“By volunteering with the Include-IT Mersey project, Digital Champions can build their own confidence and self esteem whilst helping participants to build theirs too!” said Sally Dobbing, Volunteer Coordinator for Halton, St Helens and the Wirral.

“This opportunity is a chance for volunteers to help members of their local community, and the role is flexible around your own availability”.

The Include-IT Mersey project is funded by The Big Lottery and European Social Fund, and is lead by Sefton CVS in partnership with VOLA consortium and partner organisations throughout the Liverpool City Region.

For more information on this role, or to find out where your nearest training venue is, please contact Sefton CVS on 0151 920 0726 or for those online, email includeitmersey@seftoncv.org.uk. Full details are also available online at www.includeitmersey.org.uk.



New 'Include-IT Mersey' project aims to get people online

by SeftonCVS – 26/04/2017

Include-IT Mersey Digital Inclusion project offers IT skills training and employment support for local, unemployed people, especially those aged 45 and over.

Include-IT Mersey is a new project, jointly funded by the European Social Fund and the Big Lottery Fund as part of its 2014-2020 Building Better Opportunities Programme. The project will provide a personalised package of support to digitally excluded residents of the Liverpool City Region that are out of work to help improve their IT and online skills, confidence in using and practical access to digital technologies and, ultimately, support them towards and into employment.

The project will be delivered by a partnership of 23* not-for-profit and public sector partners spanning the six boroughs of Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens, Halton and Wirral, with specific target areas in each borough.

Led by Sefton CVS, in collaboration with VOLA Consortium members, local Housing Associations and Local Authorities, this innovative multi-agency partnership is founded on partners that really care about their local communities. It will ensure that those in need of support to help develop their IT skills, access to online services and digital technologies will receive the best possible service, whatever their

starting point. In addition to IT skills development, assistance will include employability and personal skills development to support people into or closer to employment.

Angela White, Chief Executive of Sefton CVS said:

“We are delighted to have been awarded this funding and it is an honour to be leading such an innovative partnership, spanning the voluntary, public and social housing sectors. The online agenda is increasingly prevalent in people’s every day lives and can present an additional barrier to those people that are not online, not just in terms of their employment prospects and access to job opportunities, but in their private and social lives too. Developing IT skills and getting online can open up a whole new world to people in many different ways! We very much look forward to working with our partners to offer this vital service to across the city region and to make a real difference to local people and communities”.

The project is currently being set up and hopes to start being able to offer services to people from May 2017, and more details will be announced in the coming weeks. For those already online, you can find out more and sign up to receive updates at www.includeitmersey.org.uk.