

New Member Zoom Volunteer

Role Description

Role:	New Member Zoom Volunteer
Location:	Any location
Commitment:	Time commitment for the shared rota – discussed and agreed every two months
Duration:	No fixed term * <i>please see notes</i>

This is an ideal role for anyone who has an interest in helping new members connect through online discussion.

The global pandemic taught us new ways to stay connected. While many members enjoy face-to-face events, others find these challenging to attend for various reasons (time, money, travel, childcare, confidence etc.). New Member Zooms have proven to be an invaluable tool to help new members connect up and down the country and to offer help and support in the early days of their membership.

WAY volunteers have said they took on the role to 'give something back' after WAY has helped them so much. This is what WAY is all about – members coming together to support and guide each other.

Ideally, volunteers in this role will have a knowledge of the current WAY website, as new members may need support in navigating this and be able to listen to and sit with raw grief. Some of the new members who join these sessions may be very early in, not only their WAY journey, but also in their bereavement journey.

The time commitment for these sessions is on a rota basis, set every two months. Sessions currently run on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Most volunteers offer their time for 1-2 sessions per month. The length of the sessions currently seems to be 1.5 to 2 hours long, although this can be dependent on the number of participants and the engagement.

Key Tasks for an Online New Member Zoom volunteer

- Commit to agreed regular sessions to co-host (usually with one other volunteer) New Member Zooms.
- Post events on the WAY website and on the closed members-only Facebook group (if a Facebook user) – *currently done by WAY's Volunteer Manager*
- Attend volunteer meetings regularly for training and networking purposes.
- Keep up to date with WAY Widowed and Young events and news to enable you to respond to queries effectively.

Relevant Skills, Competencies and Expectations

You must:

- be a current member of WAY
- have access to the internet



- be able to post an event on the WAY website (training for this can be provided)
 - have an understanding of peer-to-peer support
 - be able to communicate effectively (**both listening and talking**) and feel comfortable participating in online meetings
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- have a duty of confidentiality to WAY and its members in line with our policies and procedures.
 - advise us, with as much notice as possible, if you do not wish to continue in the role so that alternative provision can be made.

To support your role, WAY Widowed and Young will:

- provide all necessary information, support and guidance to enable you to fulfil the role effectively and confidently.
- send timely notification and links for meetings
- have a website area for volunteers where key information can be found
- provide regular WAY updates to all volunteers.
- provide training and support for any aspect of the role which you are unsure about.
- value the opinions of our volunteers and will be committed to developing consultation and representational procedures to ensure our services meet members' needs.

Benefits of Volunteering

- The opportunity to use your skills and experience to contribute to the success of WAY Widowed and Young.
- The opportunity to meet new people and help others to connect
- References to add to your CV.
- Increase your confidence and gain new skills.

Most importantly, you will be a valued member of WAY's volunteering community, helping to support our local members to get the most they can out of WAY.

For further information please contact:

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