



Services Support Officer (Information and Advice)



Welcome from the CEO

I am delighted that you are interested in the role of Services Support Officer (Information and Advice) at the Limbless Association. This is a fantastic opportunity for the right person to make a positive impact on our community. We are a small, supportive team who work closely together, despite being a National Charity and based across the UK.

Most amputees have experienced isolation, anxiety and depression due to their amputation and have often struggled with their mobility and additional health conditions. This has been exacerbated by the COVID19 pandemic, making the need for connectivity with people in similar situations more important than ever.

Our projects and reach are growing with our support never more needed and as such we are looking for a highly organised and efficient person with considerable experience and expertise in a service user support service

Our helpline is an integral part of our service offer and is getting busier. As well as ensuring that our service users receive first class support, advice and signposting, this post will play a key support role to our delivery teams across all of our projects.

A positive, empathetic and friendly disposition as well as a can-do attitude to all tasks is an absolute must. Frontline advisory experience is essential and we would love to find someone who has experience of the amputee community and sector.

We positively welcome applications from candidates with personal experience of limb loss. We would also love to hear from those with experience in healthcare, welfare rights and/or mental health.

If you are passionate about providing guidance, advice and support to people who need it most and you thrive on your work making a direct difference then I really look forward to hearing from you.

Deborah Bent

CEO



About the Limbless Association (LA)

The Limbless Association is a long-standing national charity based at the Essex Prosthetics Centre, Mayflower Community Hospital, Billericay, Essex. Through its stakeholder networks the LA extends its reach as an organisation operating and connecting nationally. The LA aims to support amputees, whatever their non-medical needs, from the point of consultation and preoperative assessment through to post-operative recovery and rehabilitation. Our core services include a dedicated support line, direct access legal advice, peer to peer support through our membership, Volunteer Visitor and outreach programmes. The LA's two key projects are the Support and Connect Hub outreach programme and Volunteer Visitors (peer mentors). The loss of a limb or limbs, through accident or illness is a devastating and life changing experience that affects the individual and their families. Consequently, issues can be multiple, complex and severe. Here at the LA we champion lives without barriers and believe that all amputees should have unparalleled support to lead independent and fulfilled lives. Our key message is that *No Amputee Need Cope Alone*.

The LA operates with a small friendly team working out of the Billericay office HQ and remotely, along with a dedicated Trustee Board and an army of volunteers.



Job Description

Salary:	Salary c. £23k per annum pro rata depending on experience.
Hours:	14 hours per week
Days:	Usually to be worked in 2 days Tuesday and Wednesday (Requirement to work flexibly where at all possible with the Services Support team to ensure the helpline is covered across the week. Occasional flexibility to work weekends and out of hours, for which there will be no payment, however, a time off in lieu policy is in operation).
Type of contract:	Permanent
Reporting to:	Team Leader – Services Support
Holiday entitlement:	25 days leave plus 8 bank holidays pro-rata.
Place of work:	Office based. Some occasional travel within the UK according to the needs of the role, e.g. events, meetings.

The Services Support Officer, Information and Advice, (SSO) is a key role in our organisation, with responsibility for the administration and coordinating of the LA's advisory service to all stakeholders, as well as supporting other roles and projects. As the initial point of contact within the organisation, the SSO will support our information support line and aim to service and grow the LA's membership, providing all our stakeholders with excellent customer service at all times. The SSO will also support coordinating of the LA's peer mentoring service. You'll be joining a passionate and caring team of currently 3 team members delivering the LA's advice and information support.

Main Duties

- Working collaboratively with the services support team to run the LA support and information line, LA enquiries/support inbox
- Support the Volunteer Visitor Service Coordinator and the project teams to raise the profile and build productive and professional relationships with all key stakeholders
- Develop and maintain a signposting directory ensuring that the directory is updated regularly
- Holistically support service users and members with a multi-agency approach where identified
- Work collaboratively with the Services Support team to share knowledge and information to best support service users and members
- Contribute to the implementation of effective systems to record, retain and analyse stakeholder information using the LA's CRM system
- Record details of enquiries and action a follow-up procedure where necessary
- Identify service gaps which the LA can look to fill
- Provide excellent and efficient support and customer care to service users and existing and new LA members
- Promote the LA membership offer



- Represent the charity at external events and meetings (as identified by the Services Support Team Leader), in person and virtually
- Support the Volunteer Visitor Team in administration, coordinating and developing the peer support (Volunteer Visitor) service
- Support the VV team to support volunteers in their role and onward development
- Ensure a high standard of customer service and positive experience for volunteer enquirers and applicants
- Contribute to volunteer recognition initiatives such as Volunteer Week and relevant awards both local and national
- Support the implementation of systems to enable effective monitoring and evaluation of volunteering and the service user experience
- Such other duties at a comparable level of responsibility as determined by the Services Support Team leader.

General

In addition to the specific duties and responsibilities outlined in this job description, Limbless Association employees should be aware of their specific responsibilities towards the following:

- Follow all health and safety and fire regulations and to co-operate with the Charity in maintaining good standards of health and safety.
- Uphold ethical and professional standards and not behave in a manner that is likely to bring the Charity into disrepute.
- Promote and sustain a responsible attitude towards equal opportunities and diversity within the Charity.
- Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing registration requirements or any national professional or occupational standards associated with the role.
- Demonstrate a commitment to ongoing learning and development and to participate in any training relevant to the role.
- Limbless Association is committed to encouraging volunteering throughout the organisation and as such the postholder will be expected to support and respect volunteers, and may be asked to work alongside or supervise a volunteer as part of their role whilst working at Limbless Association.

This job description is not exhaustive. It merely acts as a guide and may be amended to meet the changing requirements of the charity at any time after discussion with the post holder.

The LA is a small national charity with significant aspirations and plans to grow. We currently operate as a small team whereby any team member who shares our vision will be offered the support and scope to develop within their role and be encouraged to grow with the charity to take advantage of further opportunities as they arise.

Person Specification

Job Title: Services Support Officer (Information and Advice)

Criteria	Essential	Desirable	How Assessed
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Client advisory support experience in a healthcare setting - Minimum of two years administrative support experience - Have frontline advice-giving experience in one of the following areas; welfare rights, mental health and counselling, limb loss. - - Experience of engaging with a wide variety of stakeholders - Experience of multi-agency working - Representing an organisation at external events and meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience of limb loss - Specialist advisory knowledge - A healthcare background - Experience of supporting and coordinating the work of volunteers 	Application Interview References
Qualifications & training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educated to GCSE standard or equivalent with a good pass in English and Maths. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Advice Support Qualification* - An Administrative/ customer services qualification* <p>*or working towards a relevant clinical qualification</p>	Application/ Certificate of qualification Test (as applicable)
Skills & abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excellent communications skills - Operational experience of working with a CRM/enquires/membership/ database - Excellent written and spoken English 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excellent interpersonal and networking skills - Able to think creatively and develop new approaches 	Application Interview Presentation References

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good organisational and time management skills with a systematic approach - Able to build and maintain productive and professional positive working relationships with all stakeholder groups - Able to prioritise, plan and organise own workload - Excellent IT skills, in particular: Microsoft word, excel and outlook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding of health and social care related issues - Able to work to targets, plans and budgets 	
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health and/or social care - Knowledge of organisational policy, review and implementation - Knowledge and understanding of the limb loss sector and the challenges of being an amputee 		Application/ Interview/ Presentation
Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commitment to self-development and willingness to undertake training (CPD) - Self-motivated - Creative and Resourceful - Enthusiastic - Team player - Tenacious - Adaptable and flexible - Comfortable with change - Calm and unflappable - Sensitive and empathetic - Diplomatic and professional - Ability to relate positively to people of different cultures, backgrounds and experiences 		Interview References

Other requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to transport and able to travel extensively across the UK as required - Satisfactory enhanced DBS check required - Adaptable and flexible - Willing to work unsocial hours if necessary (TOIL policy) - As we are a national charity, the postholder might be required to attend events and meetings across the UK where overnight stays will occasionally be required. 		Application References
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Recruitment timetable

Activity	Date
Closing date for applications	Midday Friday 19 th August 2022
Informal discussions about the role via Zoom	TBC
Final interviews via Zoom	TBC
Start date	To be negotiated, but ideally ASAP

How to apply

Should you have any queries or wish to have an informal discussion about this role, then please contact deborah@limbless-association.org, quoting **Services Support Officer**

If you believe you have all the essential criteria required and wish to apply for this role, please **complete an application form** which should clearly explain how your experience and skills fulfil the essential requirements of the person specification. Please address all the essential criteria in your application.

You should give the names, positions, organisations and contact details of at least two referees, one of whom should be your current/most recent employer. Referees will not be contacted without your prior approval.

Applications should be emailed to deborah@limbless-association.org (quoting **"Services Support Officer"** application in the subject heading).

Freephone Helpdesk: **0800 644 0185** support@limbless-association.org
limbless-association.org

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