

CONNECTING YOU AND YOUR CHARITY

CharityChoice

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NEWSLETTER

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True philanthropy

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True Volunteer Foundation enables people to fit volunteering around their own lives, whether in the field or from the comfort of their own home

Why become a True Volunteer?

True Volunteer Foundation (TVF) is a registered charity that encourages Corporate Social Responsibility in the UK and worldwide. TVF has created five charitable brands focusing on children (LifeCycle), environment (GreenCycle), micro-finance (PhoneCycle), the elderly (SeniorCycle), and animals (AnimalCycle).

It has recruited over one hundred volunteers who donate as little as five hours per week performing a range of administrative and professional services from their own homes, TVF's offices or in the field, helping individuals to achieve their PSR goals. TVF works by partnering with corporations to whom they offer tailored CSR solutions, enabling the organisations to fulfil their CSR objectives. For the companies and causes, this is a win-win situation; especially as TVF do not charge for these services which are made possible by TVF's key principle Pay to Work.

TVF's current focus is to recruit more housewives, retirees, the unemployed and students, who may have a relatively high level of free time. Each True Volunteer is instrumental to the success of TVF, and either works for a specific charitable brand or for a department providing services across the entire foundation (e.g. marketing).

Making a difference

TVF has no paid staff and is totally reliant on its True Volunteers. The foundation is currently running projects across 28 countries and benefitted over 75,000 people last year alone. The Pay to Work ethos behind TVF means that volunteers are not only un-paid, but they must also cover their own expenses.

Changing times

True Volunteers Henry Edu is recently retired. He enjoyed a sparkling career



Over 4,000 volunteer hours were donated to the Gampaha Regeneration programme in Sri Lanka

including management, international development and advisory positions with the Ghanaian government, councils in the UK, the Agricultural Development Bank and the Citizens Advice Bureau. His volunteering with TVF couldn't be more different to his old methods of giving back to the community: "Volunteering used to mean I would have to get a flight to a village and help out where I could for a week during my holidays."

Henry now volunteers 15 hours a week from home, managing a global micro-finance programme using TVF's secure Extranet. This connects all the True Volunteers, corporate donors and other partners, giving home-workers access to all the resources they need including internal directories, document libraries and company guidelines. This fits perfectly into Henry's life: "Now I am not at the coalface, but I am helping implement vital projects from my home in my spare time and the magnitude of this contribution is immense."

Every little helps

Working mother of two Sarah, 44, was yearning to 'give something back' but

could not find the time. She is now a Partnership Manager for TVF, and is responsible for recruiting and managing partners providing pro-bono services for the charity. True Volunteers can specify how much time they want to dedicate, giving greater flexibility and having a big impact on the running of the foundation. Sarah explains: "I can easily spare 5-10 hours to fulfil specific duties. This might not seem like a lot, but when you have over 100 people all doing their bit, suddenly you have an organisation making a real difference."

Looking to re-skill?

TVF can also help people get back into employment. Furqana moved to the UK a few years ago and hoped to find work as a graphic designer, but the struggling economy proved too much, and jobs weren't available. She decided to keep herself busy by volunteering with TVF and in February she was promoted to Head of TVF's Graphic Design team and has now managed to gain full-time employment.

Network for the future

TVF's IT Manager, Keith, began volunteering with the charity while he was studying at university. He has been central in developing TVF's Extranet – a fundamental tool for all TVF home-workers.

True Volunteers can log on from home, and sit in comfort whilst editing a video or drafting a proposal, making volunteering easier and more convenient. The amount of involvement each volunteer has is entirely down to the individual, and it is these work ethics, and new mass market technology, that enable people like Henry, Sarah and Furqana to volunteer in their spare time.

GET INVOLVED!

It's so easy to become a meaningful part of TVF. Our network is constantly getting bigger which means we are able to help more people. New volunteers are always welcome, and TVF will offer full induction and training. To become a True Volunteer email hr@truevolunteer.org or call the HR team on 020 7617 7787.



True Volunteer Foundation

True Volunteer Foundation is an international NGO helping companies implement Corporate Social Responsibility programmes at zero costs for companies and high net worth individuals.

www.truevolunteer.org

