

Vision:

To play our part in reducing inequalities that exist within society.

Job Description

Job Title: Community Connector

Location: Chelmsford & Braintree District (Essex).

Closing date: 22nd May by 1700

Responsible To: Head of Coaching

Accountable To: Operations Director

This role is hosted by Sport for Confidence and supported by Active Essex.

Contract	Fixed Term
Time	22.5 hours per week, 7.5 hours per day (9-5). Monday, Thursday & Friday. Flexibility available.
Salary Range	£24,000 - £28,000 FTE depending on experience
Location(s)	Chelmsford Community, Braintree District and surrounding areas including Witham & Halstead + Office Space in Chelmsford Town Centre as a base.
Annual Leave	Pro rata 33 days annual leave (Full time equivalent including bank holidays)
Employee Benefits and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An opportunity to make a real difference and impact to people’s lives locally in your community! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Occupational sick pay ○ Enhanced parental leave & family friendly benefits ○ Excellent training opportunities including two specific dedicated weeks to CPD annually <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flexible working ○ Two volunteer days yearly ○ Dog friendly office ○ Eyecare scheme ○ Free flu vaccination
Closing date	22 nd May at 1700

Purpose:

Each Community Connector role will cover a defined area (district/s or quadrant), thereby creating a network to support for the Find Your Active campaign across Essex (excluding Thurrock and Southend).

The role will provide the eyes and ears on the ground for Active Essex, Essex Wellbeing Service and wider Public Health team to help formulate a picture of the level of physical activity opportunities engaged with and the barriers people face.

They will work with United in Kind, Essex Wellbeing Service partner organisations and external groups, individuals and organisations to map existing and increase physical activity provision, including connecting people, organisations and groups to activities and will provide help individuals with accessing organised and informal physical activities, including directly supporting those requiring more hand-holding to be able to access these.

Support will be via telephone, email or face to face. Connectors will work with Active Essex Relationship Hub teams, sharing knowledge and helping build an infrastructure of community support through Find Your Active delivery organisations and ambassadors.

The role will be hosted by Sport for Confidence, and as such, the role will work with both teams from Sport for Confidence and Active Essex, working collaboratively to support capacity and capability within the local community to increase access to physical activity, especially for individuals who face barriers to being active.

Sport for Confidence

Sport for Confidence CIC is a pioneering and award-winning Social Enterprise which has the strategic aim of addressing inequalities in sport and physical activity participation. We want to tackle inequalities that marginalised groups encounter when seeking to be physically active, through creating inclusive community spaces and opportunities to be active, which promote empowerment, choice and independence.

Leisure Centres are community assets that should be accessible to everyone, as a focal point of community-based engagement. In its simplest form, the existing Sport for Confidence model is concerned with placing Occupational Therapists directly into leisure centre environments, with the overall aim of improving the experiences and opportunities for people facing barriers to participation in sport and physical activity. Making these reasonable adjustments helps to create inclusive sporting opportunities for people who face barriers to participation, including those with learning disabilities, mental health issues, people living with dementia, autism, physical impairment or disability, homelessness, and many other complex health needs.

Occupational Therapists at Sport for Confidence use physical activity and the wider leisure centre environment as a therapeutic tool to support individuals to work on identified performance skills. Interventions are varied and creative with a focus on occupational outcomes which are transferrable to the individual's daily routine and home life.

Coaches will improve a participant's experience of sport and physical activity by providing specialised support and guidance aligned to their individual needs. All of our coaches follow the professional standards set out by [CIMSPA](#) and work in partnership with our Occupational Therapists.

Key Responsibilities:

Community Connector

- Promote Find Your Active campaign, raising awareness in organisations and communities, working with communities, Active Essex hubs, local networks and existing organisations (including local groups and clubs and community leaders), to enable wide engagement in the campaign.
- Map existing activity and create networks to support the campaign. Create and connect local networks and opportunities to support Find your Active and increase opportunities for individuals to find the activity that suits them.
- Facilitate local physical activities help individuals and communities to find their active through asset-based community development. Be the catalyst for establishing new groups or growing existing ones using the network of partners and assets in the area.
- Identify, recruit and mobilise volunteers for Find Your Active, including Ambassadors to support the campaign and increase uptake of activity.
- Capture and provide case studies and measures of impact to be shared with the programme management team, Essex Wellbeing Service and social media.
- Work with communities, networks and organisations (including within Essex Wellbeing service and beyond) to identify and understand the challenges people face in being more active and accessing those opportunities.
- Work with the Active Essex relationship hub team and the local district wide network of partners including Local authority public health leads, non-clinical Primary Care staff such as social prescribers and health and wellbeing coaches to promote the campaign and local opportunities for residents to engage.
- Attend community events to promote the campaign and support the work of Active Essex and United in Kind in the community.
- Link with and support the Essex Wellbeing service and the Essex Public Health Lifestyle contract deliverers including Community Agents, Weight Management service and Health coaches.
- This a new role, and the job description will adapt over time dependent on need and opportunity.

Other responsibilities

- Promote service within the local area through networking.
- To attend relevant organisational meetings with Sport for Confidence staff.
- Take part in supervisions and mandatory & CPD training requirements
- Liaise and connect with the national Sport for Confidence team
- To contribute to service development through innovative ideas and creation of resources
- Advocate and influence the effects of sport and physical activity
- To complete participation numbers for statistical purposes through registers.
- To participate in audits, data collection, research and evidence-based practice.
- Be involved/supportive when presented opportunities through our specialist provision department.
- Keep outlook calendar up to date.
- Supervise students when appropriate

- To comply with policies and procedures regarding annual leave, sick day and time owing.

What impact are we looking for?

- Participation by organisations, individuals and local networks in Find Your Active campaign. Attendance at relevant group or organisation meetings/events to promote campaign.
- Increased participation in physical activities by individuals. That may be through sign posting local activities or introducing individuals to a local activity, or the creation of a new activity (extension of existing).
- Recruitment of volunteers to support the campaign. These individuals will support the campaign and drive/deliver activities and initiatives that fit with Find Your Active.
- Increased number of physical activities available to individuals locally and increased engagement of residents.
- Good working relationships with Active Essex Relationship Hub teams, United in Kind Coaches for area, partners and individuals/communities.
- Attendance at local hub meetings and completion of recording on Active Essex CRM. Monthly monitoring form completed and submitted to Community Engagement and Service Manager.
- Relevant training attended by Connector and volunteers. Uphold the values and messaging of the campaign.

Our Values



Person Centred



Inclusive



Passionate



Innovative



Caring

Person Centred – adopting a person centred approach with every participant we support to promote choice and independence and by involving the voices of the participants with service development ideas.

Passionate – we are passionate about people and passionate that sport and physical activity has the power to make a difference in people's lives.

Innovative – it's in our nature to think differently and use our collective intelligence to be innovative in our models of practice.

Caring – we commit to creating a culture of kindness, a caring and respectful environment for our participants, employees and providers.

Inclusive – we strive to design and embed an inclusive blueprint throughout the whole organization which creates opportunities for all individuals to participate in physical activity and accomplish personal goals.

Who are we looking for?

Someone brilliant, kind, and confident!

Ideal Criteria

- Understanding of local knowledge
- Experience working with physical activity, and understanding of its power to support overall health and well-being
- A great communicator and individual that matches our values.
- Passionate, enthusiastic and innovative!
- Dynamic and brave!
- Experience of connecting and collaborating with organisations
- Able to use initiative, good organisational skills and strength with autonomy

Desirable

- Experience with working with disabled people and or those with long term health conditions
- Ability to travel across the identified areas
- Keen to develop and learn more about the power of physical activity as a promotion tool for good health and prevention tool for ill-health.
- Knowledge of proportionate universalism
- Thorough knowledge of the role the Active Partnership play – Active Essex

Apply!

If you are interested in the role, please do get in touch through our careers@sportforconfidence.com email account.

We would like to see a CV and cover letter, but also open to video entries and or other accessible means of declaring an interest!

If you would like to discuss the job over the telephone, please contact:

Jake Turner, Operations Director, 07566200070.

Hollie Wood, Relationship Manager, 07738885121.