

CASE STUDY: GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Background

The Girls Friendly Society is a national youth work organisation established in 1875 that supports girls and young women through the transition from childhood to young adulthood to enable them to fulfill their potential and live as independent women. In County Durham, there is a development worker who oversees supporting volunteers to set up community based youth clubs for younger girls providing them with a safe place to go and encouraging positive female role models. There are currently 25 / 30 volunteers across the county who must undergo an induction, safeguarding and leader training.

Support from DCA with managing volunteers

The development worker regularly attends the County Durham Volunteers Coordinators Forum which she finds to be very useful as it provides the opportunity to network with others in similar roles and has also led to meeting other contacts. The organisation have also successfully completed the County Durham Kite Mark quality standard awarded to organisations that can show how their volunteering programmes endeavour to overcome barriers to volunteering. They find the process of registering volunteering opportunities through DCA easy and feel confident to contact DCA with any volunteering related queries.

"It's very easy to work with DCA; the staff are knowledgeable and supportive. Attaining the Kite Mark was a great achievement for us and DCA were gently challenging which helped us to improve our offer for volunteers, and in turn the girls and young women we support."
Helen Morrell,
Development Worker

