

Volunteer Role Description

Small Media Review Volunteer

GMFA's vision and mission statement:

Vision – GMFA wants a gay community where individuals are able to make informed choices about their health, and a society that embraces equality and respects the right of people to make informed choices.

Mission – Improving gay men's health by increasing the control they have over their own lives.

Role

To work with the small media Project Manager and volunteers to review the draft content and design of small media resources (e.g. postcards, booklets) and provide feedback.

Specific responsibilities

Review volunteers are required to provide comments and feedback on the draft content and design of new small media resource so that necessary improvements can be made. Review volunteers must have a clear understanding of the aims of the small media resource and provide feedback which will help to ensure that those aims are met.

Experience and Requirements

Small media development volunteers must have a basic understanding of how small media works. Volunteers must be able to work productively within groups. Health promotion, creative thinking, proofing skills and an ability to express constructive criticism are all useful for reviewing small media, though not essential requirements.

Commitment required

Creating a small media resource at GMFA usually takes 3 - 6 months. Review volunteers are required only towards the end of this process and meet as a group to review resources over one or two meetings. Some small media resources require no attendance at meetings as the review process can take place via email. Volunteers will be expected to honour any commitments that they make to the group.

Authority

Where possible, small media review groups work by consensus so authority will normally be with the group reviewing the intervention.

Benefits

Working on small media resources will develop a range of health promotion, communication, creative and reviewing skills, and increase knowledge.

Potential Frustrations

An individual's suggestions may not be used. The resources may require additional amendments as it goes through the approval processes and so the suggestions from the review team may be altered to meet contractual requirements.

Potential Satisfaction

GMFA's small media review volunteers usually feel a strong sense of pride in, and ownership of, published resources. Results from the gay men's sex survey shows that men prefer written interventions over face-to-face interventions and so volunteers feel that they are working towards something that the target audience wants.