


We Belong – Community Engagement Officer- London

	Role Description
Role	Community Engagement Officer
Reporting to:	CEO
Organisation purpose:	<p>We Belong exists to ensure young migrants living in the UK are treated equally and fairly in the society they call home. We Belong works with and for young migrants to hold those in power to account and advocate for reform within the immigration system.</p> <p>We do this by breaking down barriers through direct advocacy, strategic litigation, campaigning and equipping young migrants to be leaders setting the agenda within the migration sector. We also provide support by giving accurate information on student finance rules, providing opportunities through casework and making referrals to organisations for young people to get the legal advice and extra support they need.</p>
Context	<p>We Belong team is comprised of seven staff members based in London and Manchester. The team works with young people who have migrated to the UK and support young people who are impacted by hostile immigration policies and empower young people to speak out and be inquisitive about their rights. In 2021, after four years of campaigning we secured a major policy win on the Ten-Year Route to settlement, this win will benefit the estimated 330,000 children and young people living in the UK with precarious status.</p>
Role purpose:	<p>The Community Engagement Officer will develop We Belong’s community outreach in London and the southeast, working with staff to identify target boroughs, initiate partnerships and collaborations with local councils, community and grassroots organisations. Outreach is crucial as We Belong disseminates information on the recent ten-year route policy win, reaching young migrants and informing them of their rights and entitlements. The Community Engagement Officer will be trained in issues of race, equality and community organising models essential for the role. They will have oversight of group of Co-Producers, these will be young activists embedded in their community who will work alongside staff to attend community outreach sessions, delivering information and training sessions. In addition, the Community Engagement Officer alongside the team of Co-Producers will inspire young change agents with lived experience of social injustices and upskill them. Where necessary the Community Engagement Officer will make referrals into We Belong or signpost to external organisations where young people require additional support.</p>
Key accountabilities	Key activities/tasks
Outreach work and external communications	<p>Providing high quality community organising support to young people and raising awareness of and support for the work of the project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing and communicating with a network of young people to build the youth

	<p>movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a programme of training using the train the trainer model to empower We Belong Co-producers as they engage in community outreach • Supporting, training and developing young people to become leaders • Planning, organising and delivering training events and other group activities • Communicating with external organisations and stakeholders in a clear and professional manner • Supporting all relevant communications activity across online and offline media.
Working with clients	<p>Upholding a positive, empowering approach to work with young people, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working respectfully and non-judgementally to engage young people in We Belong work • Encouraging participation when appropriate • Maintaining appropriate, bounded relationships with young people • Developing an understanding of issues young people are facing • Mapping opportunities for young people engaged in social change • Acting on safeguarding and risk information in line with We Belong policies and procedures.
Partnership and team working	<p>Maintaining effective liaison with colleagues working across We Belong and external organisations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with local councils, community youth groups and grassroot groups to share information and collaborate on campaigns and advocacy • Attending and participating in team meetings and other events including training days • Identify cases where policy and campaigning work could be undertaken • Contributing frontline experience to We Belong campaigns and sector change work • Networking and building relationship with external professionals and agencies supporting young people.
General responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending and participating in internal meetings as required • Being a positive, cooperative and constructive team member, upholding the values of We Belong, complying with We Belong’s monitoring and recording requirements • Representing and promoting the organisation’s work positively • Carrying out all work with due regard to We Belong’s policies and procedures, including safeguarding and staff safety • Promoting Equality and Diversity principles in all aspects of work.
Other duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying out any other duties which fall reasonably within this role.

	Person Specification	
	Essential	Desirable

	(must have in order to carry out the work)	(not essential but preferable)
Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the principles and practice of youth participation • Knowledge of social justice issues affecting young people • Knowledge of other organisation working in the sector • Understanding of community organising 	<p style="text-align: center;">X X X</p>	X
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of providing information and guidance • Experience in developing youth participation • Experience working with young people 	<p style="text-align: center;">X X X</p>	
Qualifications and training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant qualifications/training to the post 		X
Skills and abilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to develop relationships with and relate to a diverse range of young people • Skills in providing information, and assistance • Excellent verbal and written communication skills • Ability to plan, record and organise work • Ability to create effective working relationships with other professionals • Ability to understand relevant legislation and policy • Ability to represent We Belong at external meetings. 	<p style="text-align: center;">X X X X X X X</p>	
Qualities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energetic, self-motivated and organised individual who is prepared who leads with empathy and shares power with young people • Willingness to delegate and work collaboratively and uphold our mission, vision and values • Creative and enthusiastic thinker that is able to support their team to examine cases and identify options that will enhance opportunities for young people • Resilient, emotionally intelligent individual who understands the nature of working with young migrants and is able to work in a professional manner 	<p style="text-align: center;">X X X X</p>	
Other requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared to work out of hours occasionally • Willing to attend training 	X	X