

[View this email in your browser](#)



Minibus Drivers required – evenings and weekends

£10.50 - £12.00 per hour

Community360 is an independent charity formed in 1968. We are committed to a vision to build “thriving local communities”. Situated at the heart of the local voluntary and community sector since 1968, Community360 is an independent, charitable infrastructure organisation whose aim is to inspire groups to seize opportunities and become more enterprising and sustainable.

Reporting to the Team Leader, the Out of Hours Driver is responsible for transporting patients who have been discharged from hospital and require transport either direct to their home; care homes, or indeed any destination dictated by the hospital within North East Essex. The job holder is required to use one of our minibuses and ensure all safety guidelines are followed at all times. Additionally the Driver will be responsible for liaising with the schedulers ensuring that all information is recorded accurately. MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) training is provided and a DBS check will be required.

We need experienced minibus drivers to help us fulfil this role. An empathetic, caring nature is paramount the ability to recognise if other support services could be suggested or are required.

The Ideal Candidate will:

- Possess prior experience of driving a minibus
- Have excellent customer relationship and communication skills and the ability to engage with people at all levels
 - Hold a full clean UK driving license
- Be aged 25 years or over in order to be covered by Fleet Insurance
 - Have a good knowledge of the local area
 - Be willing to go the extra mile

This role is a Zero Hour contract so the hours that you are required to work each week will vary.

[Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

**Nationally recognised qualification in Volunteer
Management**

This one day course taking place 16 January 2018 between 10:00 - 16:30 is aimed at anyone responsible for recruiting volunteers to work in their organisations. The course explores the role of volunteer workers within organisations and looks at the processes for successful recruitment.

You'll feel much more confident in your ability to recruit volunteers after this course and in addition to the training, you will also have the opportunity to meet and network with other individuals, share ideas and gain valuable support.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Community360 launches new minibus at

Christmas Party

Community360 (C360) hosted a Christmas Party bringing together Community Transport and Timebank members at Greenstead Community Centre on 13th December to witness the launch of a new minibus for the transport scheme in Colchester.

Vital to providing door to door transport to the most vulnerable members of our community, the minibus could not have been purchased without funding from Essex County Council's Community Initiative Fund; Colchester Borough Homes Community Fund and generous donations from our Community Transport members and local businesses including Cala Homes, Scrutton Bland and Waitrose.

[Read more.](#)

Council crackdown on dog fouling with 'We're Watching You' campaign

Braintree District Council has joined forces with environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy in a bid to reduce dog fouling by thoughtless dog walkers who don't scoop the poop.

The 'We're Watching You' campaign sets its sights on irresponsible people who walk their dogs, with recent research showing that they are more likely to pick up after their dogs when they think that they are being watched.

Feedback from Keep Britain Tidy also suggests that dog fouling tends to occur at night time and during the months with shorter days as some dog owners feel that they can't be seen 'under the cover of darkness'.

The 'We're Watching You' signs and bin stickers will be visible after dark in dog fouling hotspots in **Braintree, Great Notley, Halstead, Hatfield Peverel, Shalford and Tye Green** as part of the targeted campaign.

The campaign follows successful pilots by Keep Britain Tidy in various areas which saw an average reduction of 46% in the levels of dog fouling, with up to 90% reduction in some areas since.

[Read more.](#)

Volunteer befrienders urgently needed in

Basildon, Loughton, Walton on the Naze and Colchester

The Volunteer visitor is the most popular role undertaken by volunteers and this is due in part to its flexibility and the satisfaction it gives. This role involves anything from dropping in on an older person for a coffee and a chat, checking that someone is alright or arranging a trip to the local shops.

Some of the older people need more support, others less so. As a volunteer visitor you will be matched with an older person living near you and you can fit your visits around your other commitments and responsibilities.

Please find below links to Befriending volunteering opportunities:

www.volunteersex.org/opportunities/telephone-befriender-9240

www.volunteersex.org/opportunities/volunteer-befrienders-9344

www.volunteersex.org/opportunities/visitor-for-an-older-person-4295

www.volunteersex.org/opportunities/volunteer-befriender-9505

Reaching Communities - pause in applications

In England, the application process for Reaching Communities is changing. This is an important part of the ambition to make it easier for groups and communities to apply for National Lottery funding, and to help improve the ability to make the best funding decisions possible.

In order to deliver this, **there is a temporary pause on the submission of Reaching Communities applications between Monday 15 January and Monday 2 April**. This will enable time to train-up new team members and embed new ways of working before reopening the offer. All applications received before 15 January will be processed in the existing manner.

If your current grant is coming to an end soon and you are working on an application for continuation funding, or if you have any other questions, please contact the Big Advice team on **0345 410 2030** or email general.enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk

More patient appointments across north east Essex this winter

Clinicians across Colchester and Tendring are responding to calls from patients by improving access to local GP services this winter. They have been working with practices to increase the number of appointments that will become available to patients between Christmas and the new year.

It follows feedback received during the CCG's recent urgent care review and Big Care Debate in which many patients expressed their frustration at not being able to get a timely appointment. Findings have also revealed that some GP practices faced challenges themselves often associated with demand and those patients who fail to turn up for appointments.

Colchester GP and chair of the CCG, Dr Hasan Chowhan, said: "Improving patients' access to primary care services is a priority for us and that is why we have reviewed the current way services are

provided. If patients experience problems accessing GP services it can have a knock-on effect across the whole of the local NHS system. For instance, it can result in more people going to A&E or calling the out-of-hours service, when their condition could have been dealt with in the GP surgery or with advice from a pharmacist or self-care.

[Read more.](#)

Community fund makes a splash

Voluntary organisations to receive an early Christmas present from the Essex & Suffolk Water Community Fund.

Grants totalling nearly £9,000 have been awarded from the Fund to seven charities and voluntary organisations in Essex, Suffolk and East London. The Fund is managed by Essex Community Foundation (ECF).

Essex & Suffolk Water established their community Fund with ECF in 2003, to give support to a wide range of local projects and organisations now and in the future. The Fund has since awarded over 125 grants, totalling more than £95,000.

Some of the organisations to benefit from the 2017/18 round of grants are:

- **BATIAS Independent Advocacy Service, Basildon** - £1,800 to run monthly information mornings on personal safety for people with learning disabilities, helping them to live independently.
- **Melbourne Project, Chelmsford** – £1,000 to support a homework club for local children and an older people's club.

- **Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, Maldon** - £1,000 towards a new permanent heritage exhibition focusing on the role of women in WWI.

[Read more](#)

2017 Community360.

You are receiving this email as you are a stakeholder of C360 or a volunteer

Our mailing address is:

Community360
Winsley's House
High Street
Colchester, Essex CO1 1UG
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)