RRSG is looking for 3 research assistants with lived experience as a refugee/ asylum seeker who are interested in working with a University of Reading team of researchers. The research assistants will receive both training and work experience.

The team is doing a study of caring relationships, inequalities and wellbeing amongst families from migration and refugee backgrounds living in the UK and other European countries. Your role will be to listen to, audio-record and collect the stories of families in the Berkshire area.

We are looking for a person who speaks English and one or more community language:-

The post is part-time February-July 2022 and is based in Reading.

**Job description and person specification**

**Job Title:** Research assistant x 3

**Pay:** Hourly paid rate at £10.00 per hour

**Responsible To:** Alison McQuitty(RRSGTFEProject Coordinator)

**Responsible For:** individual andteam-based work with fellow research assistants and University of Reading team

**Contact Hours:** This is a fixed term contract over 12 non-continuous days for a total of 96 hours. The hours are flexible and will be decided by the research assistants and the research team. For example, in 1 month there may be 3 days work and the next month 5 days.

**Job Length:** Target start date is mid-February 2022 and completion is July 2022.

The team is doing a study of caring relationships, inequalities and wellbeing amongst families who have sought sanctuary in several European countries. Your role will be to listen to, audio-record and collect the stories of families in and around Berkshire.

We are looking for a person who speaks English and one or more community language. Before you interview families to collect their stories, you will receive training from the University team on the various ways in which the stories can be documented, how the information is stored as well as the ethical issues you need to take into consideration.

**Main duties and responsibilities:**

1. Participating in training workshops provided by the University team;
2. Working with the RRSG team as well as the University team and other research assistants from the Reading Community Learning Centre. You will sometimes work alone and sometimes in pairs or as part of a small group;
3. Helping the University research team to identify 2-3 families in your community in the Berkshire area whose stories you will collect, and the best way of collecting those stories;
4. Explaining to families what the project is about and gaining their confidence and trust in the project as well as collecting their stories as accurately as possible;
5. Ensuring that the information collected is handed on to the University research team using the methods they outline.
6. Regularly meeting with the other research assistants and University research team to share experience of the research, helping to provide cultural understandings of the information and to see any patterns or connections in the stories gathered.

**Selection Criteria:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Education/Training** |  | * Good overall education but no formal qualifications required.
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| **Relevant skills and experience** | * Good social networks and links within your community;
* Good listening skills and non-judgemental attitude;
* Good interpersonal and communication skills in English and in one or more of the other languages listed above;
* Able to communicate with different age-groups and generations within the community;
* Able to work with others in a team;
* Capacity to collect information accurately;
* Capacity to put information together ready for storage and analysis;
* Ability to keep confidentiality;
* Good time-management.
 | * Some background of working or volunteering in the local community;
* Be able and willing to work some unsocial hours when required.
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At the end of the project, the University team will provide a certificate giving details of the training you have done and of your role as research assistant.

**Conditions of Employment:**

Expenses: travel expenses to/from meetings, training and family interviews will be reimbursed by RRSG. Mobile phones and costs will be provided by RRSG. All other equipment necessary for the interviews will be provided by the University of Reading.

Location: Meetings and training will be held at the RRSG offices in London St., Reading, Reading Community Learning Centre and/or the University of Reading. Family interviews will take place in community venues and/or the family homes as appropriate. The research assistants will be expected to meet the policies and practices of all users/staff of RRSG.

**Applications must reach Alison McQuitty at alison1@rrsg.org.uk or be left at RRSG offices no later than Friday 28th January 2022. Interviews will be held in the second week of February 2022.**

**For an informal briefing please contact Alison via the above email or tel: 07384 540839.**