

Dedham Therapy Farm CIC

Mill Lane,
Dedham,
Colchester,
Essex.
CO7 6DH

Do you enjoy gardening and want to use your skills but don't have the time for a full allotment yourself. Would you like to help us support children and young people to engage in meaningful activity? At Dedham Therapy Farm CIC we support individuals with diverse needs, to overcome barriers to daily living using animals and outdoor activity. We are a small close knit Occupational Therapy team working collaboratively to provide a person centred service to people of all ages and ability.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Gardening Volunteer to join our friendly team. We are seeking one or more individuals to volunteer their time to help us maintain our allotment and garden. We grow vegetables and plants with our children and young people, but need help maintain it! Your help and expertise would be invaluable to our team and make a real difference to our young people.

You can have the opportunity to work alongside our sessions to share your knowledge or work entirely independent, and benefit from our beautiful setting, knowing your time has been of great benefit to our young people. We would be happy to share an agreed proportion of the crop with anyone that commits to volunteering, in exchange for your help.

Vision: To empower people to develop, recover, or maintain their wellbeing through nature, animals and meaningful activities.

Mission: We provide bespoke, person-centered therapeutic services using nature, animals and occupational therapy to anyone who would benefit. We improve people's physical and mental health using Animal Facilitated Therapy and farming activities.

Values: Person centred, Collaborative, Inclusive, Open - minded, Diverse.

Role Gardening Volunteers

Hours – Flexible (We can work around you!) This could be a shared role that multiple people share e.g 1 hour a week each or 1 person does 3 or 4 hours a week.

Closing Date n/a

Person specification

Category	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Safety • Manual Handling • Gardening/horticulture (not required if you have experienced!)
Experience/Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confident in various gardening duties including growing flowers and vegetable • Health and Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working as part of a team.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have gardening skills to support the growth of our plants and vegetable plot • Ability to prioritise, and organise • Physical stamina to carry out various gardening duties • Be able to take direction. • Able to use own initiative. • Team work 	
Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motivated. • Ability to work autonomously and take responsibility for own actions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of not for profit organisation. • Attention to detail.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive risk approach. • Ability to work collaboratively • Develop good working relationships with others. 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be willing to share the garden space with our team and young people 	

Job Description

The post holder will

- To support the team by helping us maintain our vegetable plot
- Adhere to all policies and procedures.
- To collaborate with the team to ensure the team are able to participate in maintaining the garden space/vegetable plot
- To water the plants, pot seeds and plants, general weeding, harvesting crops when required.
- To advise the operations Co Ordinator on jobs in the garden that could be done each week/fortnight (sessions can be planned by our therapeutic team with jobs required in mind)
- Work within risk assessments to ensure safety of all.
- Work collaboratively with the rest of the team.
- Work autonomously, seeking advice when appropriate.
- Be motivated.

What can we offer you?

- A friendly working environment.
- Variety in your working day.
- Paid DBS
- Opportunity to work alongside and contribute to sessions with therapeutic staff/sessions if the candidate wanted to, or to work completely independently in the garden and just help us keep up with the gardening duties in our allotment space.

- Candidate can take an agreed amount of crops away from the allotment as a thank you for your help!

If you require any further information about our service, please contact us.