



INTERPRETER VOLUNTEER ROLE

Interpreters are crucial to good understanding between our clients and caseworkers, making it possible for us to prepare good quality cases and give people the best chance.

We are currently working in partnership with Positive Action For Refugees and Asylum Seekers (PAFRAS) around volunteering and new volunteer interpreters approaching either organisation are asked to join a shared database where they can be contacted by staff from either organisation to assist with interpreting.

AS AN INTERPRETER YOU WILL:-

- Attend legal meetings between clients and caseworkers or pro bono lawyers at Manuel Bravo Project
- Attend meetings between PAFRAS caseworkers and clients working on issues of destitution and wellbeing
- Attend PAFRAS drop-in on Wednesdays to assist with interpreting if / when available and happy to do so
- Interpret between English and the preferred language of the client
- Interpret precisely what is said by caseworker and client and limit all conversation to this. An interpreter must not try to give advice to the client or have other conversations with them in a case meeting
- Agree that your details will be added to a database of volunteer interpreters shared between MBP and PAFRAS to be called upon as needed
- Always inform the Volunteer Manager, Legal Assistant or whoever booked you in good time if unable to attend for an agreed appointment
- Attend any interpreting training provided at the project

TIME COMMITMENT

No regular time commitment required. Interpreters are called upon as needed to attend appointments and not expected to always be available. Some may also choose to attend the PAFRAS drop-in to assist there on Wednesdays 9:30am – 1pm.

We ask that all volunteers commit to volunteering for a minimum of 6 months.

HOW YOU WILL BE SUPPORTED IN THIS ROLE

Supervision will be provided by the Volunteer Manager, including identifying any training needs or development interests

Induction and basic interpreting training is given in-house, and links to external training is provided, including levels 1 and 2 Community Interpreting (Level 2 is an accredited qualification)

Wellbeing support is provided and interpreters are encouraged to contact the Volunteer Manager if impacted by a session. Further support can then be discussed

Employability support and references will be provided after a minimum of six months volunteering

WE NEED PEOPLE WHO:-

- Are passionate about supporting people in the asylum process
- Are fluent in English and at least one other language that is spoken by our clients
- Reliable and punctual
- Have great communication skills
- Are willing to attend basic interpreting training and ideally pursue accredited interpreting qualifications when the opportunity arises if not already qualified