



A DIFFERENT TOMORROW STARTS BY CHANGING TODAY.

Spark a
Change

OUR COMMUNITY.
OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

About Spark a Change

Spark a Change is a digital volunteer platform that hosts a wide range of opportunities across Somerset and matches individuals looking to volunteer, together with organisations including charities and community groups. This guide is to help you get the most out of the platform as a volunteer.

Discover organisations in your community



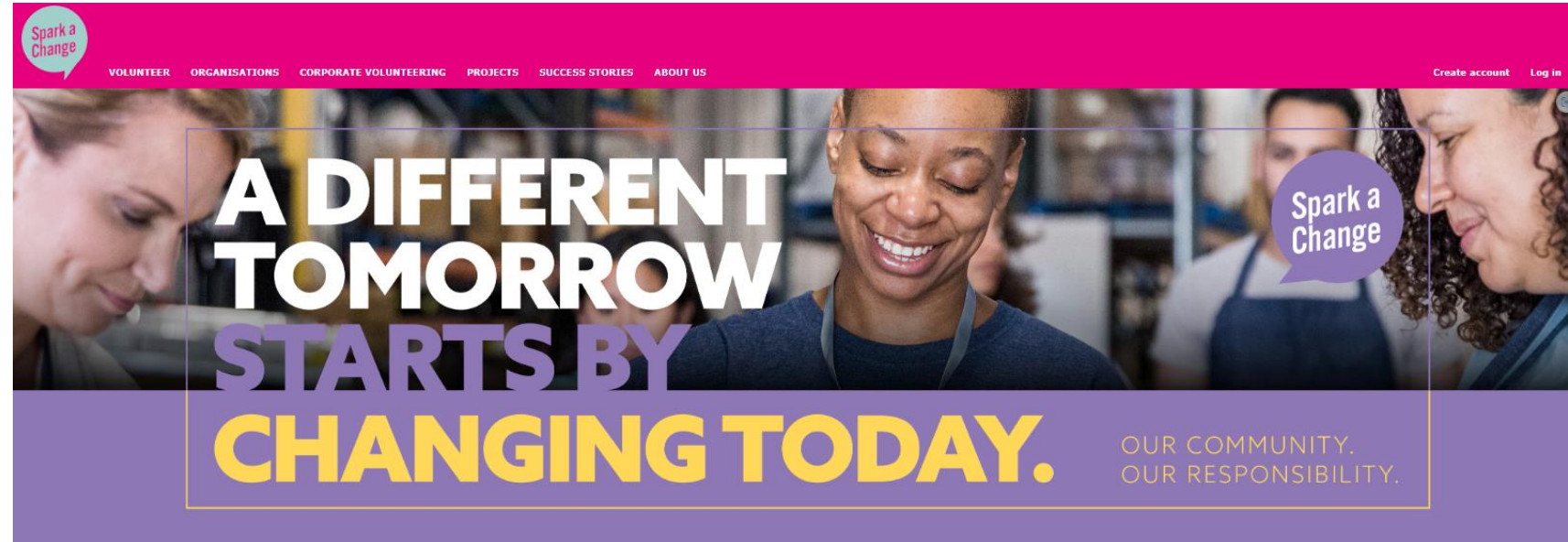
We have a number of organisations on Spark a Change. No matter what your interest is, there is something for everyone!

Take a look at the organisations that are on Spark a Change and the sorts of opportunities you could get involved with here-

<https://www.sparkachange.org.uk/volunteer/organizations>

How do I create an account?

To register on Spark a Change, click on 'Create account' in the top right-hand corner. You can choose to sign up using Facebook or do so via email- [Join Spark a Change](#) | [Spark a Change](#)



1. Enter your first (and last) name
2. Enter the email address you'd like to receive notifications on
3. Set up a password
4. Agree with the Terms and conditions to continue
5. Optionally: Give communications consent
6. Press on the "Create account" button
7. You will now receive an e-mail to activate your account. Click on "**Activate account**" to activate your account.

Search for volunteering opportunities

Now you have created an account, you can search and apply for volunteering opportunities-
<https://www.sparkacchange.org.uk/volunteering/opportunities>

You can search by location, type, cause and activity (circled in black in the picture to the right).

You can read more about what the types of opportunities mean in the slide below.

The screenshot shows the Sparkacchange website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: VOLUNTEER, ORGANISATIONS, CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING, PROJECTS, SUCCESS STORIES, and ABOUT US. Below this is a search bar with the text "Search" and a dropdown menu showing "Taunton, Somerset". To the right of the search bar are filters for "Type", "Cause", "Activity", and "More Filters". The "Activity" filter is circled in black. Below the search bar, it says "Opportunities in Taunton 114 results". On the right side of the results area, there's a "Sort by" dropdown menu set to "Suggeste..." and a map search bar that says "Search as I move the map". The main content area displays a grid of volunteering opportunities. Each opportunity includes an image, a title, a description, and the posting organization. The opportunities shown are: Hearing Voices Group Volunteer Taunton, Emergency Response Volunteer, Somerset Health Walk Leader, Family Friend, Design Artist, Host Home, Volunteer for the Coroners' Court Support Service at Taunton Coroner's Court, Puppy Raisers, Job Seeker Mentor, and Volunteer Buddy. On the far right, there's a map of Taunton showing the location of the opportunities.

Search filters (circled in black): Search, Taunton, Somerset, Type, Cause, Activity, More Filters.

Opportunities in Taunton 114 results

Sort by: Suggeste... ☐ Search as I move the map

Opportunity 1: Hearing Voices Group Volunteer Taunton
ORGANISATION ROLE · 1-2 HRS/WEEK
Taunton
Posted by Mindline Somerset

Opportunity 2: Emergency Response Volunteer
ORGANISATION ROLE · 12 HRS/WEEK
Taunton
When there is a fire, flood or severe weather, we're among the first to respond to help deliver the essentials required at that time.
Posted by British Red Cross

Opportunity 3: Somerset Health Walk Leader
ORGANISATION ROLE · FLEXIBLE HOURS
Taunton
As a volunteer walk leader, you would be helping people in your community to get active and healthy.
Posted by Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership (SASP)

Opportunity 4: Family Friend
ORGANISATION ROLE · FLEXIBLE HOURS
Taunton
Family Friend volunteers work directly with local families to provide practical and emotional support, or remotely via phone calls.
Posted by Safe Families

Opportunity 5: Design Artist
PROJECT ROLE (TEMPORARY) · FLEXIBLE HOURS · FOR AROUND 8 WEEKS
Taunton
We are looking for a volunteer artistic designer to look at our Brand and improve it to co inside with the launch of the station moving to DAB broadcasting
Posted by AppleFM Taunton

Opportunity 6: Host Home
ORGANISATION ROLE · FLEXIBLE HOURS
Taunton
Host Homes provide regular or emergency respite for children overnight or take children out during the daytime.
Posted by Safe Families

Opportunity 7: Volunteer for the Coroners' Court Support Service at Taunton Coroner's Court
ORGANISATION ROLE · 7-14 HRS/WEEK · STARTING FROM 13 MAR 2023
0.3 mi
Volunteer for the Coroners' Court Support Service at Taunton Coroner's Court TA1 4AQ
Posted by The Coroners' Court Support

Opportunity 8: Puppy Raisers
ORGANISATION ROLE · 35 HRS/WEEK
0.3 mi
You will be providing a puppy with a vital foundation for its future role as a guide dog with someone with sight loss. This is a full-time volunteering role.
Posted by Guide Dogs South West

Opportunity 9: Job Seeker Mentor
ORGANISATION ROLE · 1-4 HRS/WEEK · STARTING FROM 17 MAY 2021
0.3 mi
Work-Wise is a Taunton charity offering free support to job seekers. We offer a variety of volunteer roles- mentors, hospitality, IT, Social media
Posted by Work-Wise

Opportunity 10: Volunteer Buddy
ORGANISATION ROLE · 1-2 HRS/WEEK
0.3 mi
We are looking for people to befriend and help our clients to develop the confidence to tackle everyday tasks and activities.
Posted by Arc

What kind of opportunity would you like to undertake?



Task

- Short term one-time activities that DON'T need to be done at a specific place and/or a specific time. Tasks should not require more than 16 hours of work.

Event

- Short term one-time activities that need to be done at a certain place and/or a certain time.

Project role (Temporary)

- One-time tasks or roles with a clear end date or ending condition that require longer term commitment.

Organisation role

- Recurring tasks or fixed roles without a clear end date or ending condition that require longer term commitment.

Apply for volunteering opportunities

Once you find an opportunity you like the look of, click on it and it will take you directly to that organisations page. **Note-** you can browse other opportunities with that organisation by clicking on 'Opportunities'.

If you want to ask the organiser a question about the opportunity, you can do so here.

The screenshot shows the 'Open Mental Health Champion' application page. At the top, there's a yellow banner with the 'Open Mental Health' logo and an illustration of two people. Below the banner, the title 'Open Mental Health Champion' is prominently displayed. A green bar indicates the opportunity is 'Published' and provides instructions to promote it on social media or by email. A row of action buttons includes 'Archive', 'Mark as filled', 'Edit', 'Suggest opportunity', 'Duplicate', 'Delete', 'Find potential volunteers', 'Invite', 'Extend for 30 days', and 'Print'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Info', 'Applications' (with a count of 4), and 'Activity reports'. The main content area shows details about the role: 'Project role (Temporary) · Flexible hours · Starting from 2 Jan 2023', location 'Somerset, England, United Kingdom', and categories 'Wellbeing' and 'Community & family'. It also includes a checkbox for 'Open Mental Health Alliance' members and a list of people going (3) and on the wait list (3). At the bottom, there's a 'CONTACT PERSON' section for Helen Fielden, with a button to 'Ask Helen a question'. On the left side of the page, there's a sidebar for 'Spark Somerset' with a navigation menu including 'About', 'Opportunities' (with a count of 17), 'People', 'Teams', 'Photos', 'Notifications', 'Settings', 'Messages', 'Forms', 'Search potential volunteers', 'Files', 'Analytics', 'Data', 'Website', and 'Leave organisation'. Social media sharing icons are also present at the bottom of the sidebar.

Once you've read through the description and about the organisation, if you would still like to apply click on 'Join'.

You will need to fill in a little bit about why you are interested in the opportunity. Once completed click 'Send application'. The organiser will then receive your application and will get back to you as soon as they can.

The Volunteer Pool function



What is the volunteer pool?

Joining the volunteer pool allows organisations to contact you when they have opportunities that match your interests. To join the pool, you create a full profile and list the types of opportunities you may be interested in. It's a great way to ensure you don't miss out on the perfect opportunity for you!

You can find out more about how to register for the volunteer pool here- [How do I register for the volunteer pool? | Help Centre \(deedmob.com\)](#)

How else can Spark a Change help you?



- Volunteers in Somerset Facebook page to search for more volunteering opportunities- [Volunteers in Somerset | Facebook](#)
- If you're interested in volunteering but don't have any success on Spark a Change, contact the volunteer team at volunteer@sparksomerset.org.uk
- Corporate and employee supported volunteering- talk to your employer and check if they allow time off for volunteering or if volunteering can form part of a team building activity. Ask them to get in touch and we can help

The Spark a Change journey so far

If you are a volunteer who would be willing to share your volunteering journey, please do let us know! You can read some success stories from other volunteers [Blogs | Spark a Change](#)



3784 volunteers registered
(As at April 2023)



479 organisations registered
(As at April 2023)