

Sustainable Futures Co-ordinator (Volunteer Role)

- Voluntary position
- 3 days per week, including 5 days “leave”.
- For 4 months
- Two professional qualifications in energy efficiency and solar energy offered as part of the role
- Based 2 mins from Greenwich Station with some travel into Lewisham and other SE Boroughs

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 17th May 2019 with interviews taking place on Friday 24th May. To apply please send a CV and covering letter to giovanna@selce.org.uk

Are you looking for hands-on practical experience of working at a grass roots community level to promote sustainability, energy efficiency and tackle fuel poverty? Want to gain professional qualifications that will enable you to provide energy advice and promote community solar? If the answer to any of these questions is ‘yes’ then our new role could be just what you’re looking for...

South East London Community Energy (SELCE) is an award-winning social enterprise that identifies innovative grassroots ways to address climate change and fuel poverty in practical, tangible ways. You are invited to be part of our pioneering work.

SELCE works to enable those most who are at risk of fuel poverty to access grant-funded home energy improvements that reduce their costs and carbon footprint. We’re also launching a new energy efficiency advice service for those who can pay for home energy improvements. We’re also working to install six new community financed solar arrays on six local sites. Your role as our Sustainable Futures Volunteer will be provide support across all areas of our work

As part of your role at SELCE you’ll do two professional qualifications in energy efficiency and solar energy. Benefits (that include travel and subsistence costs) are valued at over £2000

It’s a big and varied challenge and we are keen to find the right person, so if you have any questions or queries about the job, feel free to contact us before the deadline of Friday 17th May to find out more contact Giovanna Speciale on 020 8269 4882 or giovanna@selce.org.uk

About the Sustainable Futures Co-ordinator (Volunteer Role)

This role will involve working to support a range of projects. These include, community solar and Energy efficiency work

SELCE currently owns and operates 326KWp of solar across 7 local schools that are owned and operated by SELCE on behalf of our 186 members who have all invested in the project providing finance to cover the cost of the installation. These are win-win initiatives that reduced carbon emissions as well as the cost of electricity to schools. We’re working towards installing more community financed solar over the summer. But we’ll need to get the word out about the opportunity to become a member of SELCE and to raise finance to cover the cost of solar install.

- Support the CEO to co-ordinate outreach and communications
- help to draft online and information,
- Support social media
- Help to organise a share offer launch

In partnership with Lewisham Council, Retrofit Works and Happy Energy, SELCE are working to combat fuel poverty while addressing climate change. The ECO Project aims to identify hard to reach individuals who have health, financial and wellbeing issues as a result of living in a cold -hard to heat home. We work to get funding for energy efficiency measures such as loft and cavity wall insulation for their homes. This service actively seeks out and offers support to these members of the community, connecting them with financial and advice services in south east London. This multi-sector collaboration maximises the strengths and benefits of each organisation to create a self-sustaining needs-lead approach to tackling fuel poverty.

Your role will be to support the Outreach Officer to arrange community workshops, stalls and other events to connect with people. You'll also work to support some big volunteering days in which we do street-based outreach work in deprived communities. You'll work with the Project Manager and Outreach Officer to support with administrative aspects of the project. Your responsibilities will be as follows

- organise and deliver community outreach, including: targeted door-knocking, workshops with community groups, other outreach events such as one off energy advice stalls/cafes
- working with front line staff (such as health visitors or community workers) to enable them to appropriately refer clients to the project
- Help to promote these through selective use of social media (and other community media channels)
- Assist in liaising with clients and support them through the retrofit process. This will involve follow up calls with potential clients to check if they are eligible and to book home visits for the Project Manager.
- Liaise with the ECO Project Manager, Outreach Officer and other members of the team
- Help with any other admin needed for the project

SELCE are launching a new social enterprise: a service that provides a service targeted at 'able to pay' customers providing advice on how to best improve the energy efficiency of properties. The service will make use of innovative thermal imaging technologies developed by the C.H.E.E.S.E project (<https://cheeseproject.co.uk/>) in order to engage the resident in an analysis of the thermal efficiency of their home. It will be combined with an EPC and thorough home energy audit. Should clients wish to proceed with work they will be referred to contractors that are members of Parity Projects (Retrofit Works) who will undertake the works. Our ECO Project Manager will undertake the surveys and lead on the technical development of the service. Your role will be to help us to recruit, train and support local champions to promote the service. You will also help us to get the word out about the service through print and social media

- help the Greener Homes Project manager in delivery of the project
- Support with champion recruitment and training / workshops including prep of resources
- Support with admin and logistics for bookings for home visits
- To attend team meetings and work to improve refine and develop the project
- Help with producing home visit reports
- Support with evaluation of the project

Benefits for You

- City and Guilds Level 3 Award: Energy Awareness 6281-01
- The European Centre for Technology Solar Photovoltaic Qualification.
- All travel and subsistence costs will be covered.
- Gain a range of skills from working on several exciting projects,
- Learn about how community energy organisations work

Role Commitments

- Volunteering 3 days per week
- For a minimum of 4 months
- Study in your own time to gain qualifications
- 5 days “leave”
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Person Specification

Essential

- Demonstrable experience or interest in sustainability or tackling climate change,
- Demonstrable experience or interest in community outreach and engagement work.
- Proficiency and interest in using social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram
- Good organisational skills and methodical approach to tasks
- Competent in the use of IT including proficiency in Microsoft Word and Excel,
- A ‘can-do’ approach
- A strong commitment to personal integrity, empathy, respect and sensitivity to different cultures, genders, religions, race, nationalities, abilities and ages. (As you’ll often be working with some very vulnerable.)
- Flexible and adaptable to a variety of working arrangements with proven experience working in teams, independently and with multiple stakeholders.
- A willingness and ability to travel across SE London ideally by bicycle or a combination of bike and public transport.

Desirable

- Some experience organising events
- Some experience working on campaigns or marketing

About SELCE

South East London Community Energy (SELCE) was formed in February 2014 by a group of Greenwich and Lewisham residents. Aware of the need to tackle climate change and to support people struggling to pay their energy bills, we formed SELCE to enable us to take action on energy locally. We believe that everyone, regardless of financial resources, should have access to the affordable energy and to stay warm and well in their homes. We collaborate with residents, businesses and organisations to reduce fuel poverty, and develop financially, socially and environmentally sustainable projects to reduce energy costs for low income households, increase energy efficiency and produce local renewable energy

SELCE has received business and innovation awards by both The Royal Borough of Greenwich and London Borough of Lewisham, received a national (Community Energy England) award for energy saving work in the community. We combine a focus on sustainable business with a commitment to meet the needs of our community.

There are an estimated 450,020 households who cannot afford to heat their homes in across Southwark, Lewisham, Greenwich and Bexley. Living in a cold home has far-reaching consequences: it effects physical health and mental health. Cold homes particularly effect older people, those with disabilities and young families. These issues are compounded by a lack of awareness about energy efficiency, the new energy markets, and financial illiteracy. Low income households often pay more for their energy than do wealthier households because they do not pay by direct debit and are often forced to use pre-payment meters. The charity, Save the Children UK, estimates that low-income families may pay up to £250 more per year for energy. SELCE is committed to supporting low income households to stay warm and well in winter

How to Apply

- Send a CV and covering letter to giovanna@selce.org.uk
- In your covering letter outline why you feel you would be the best person for this volunteer role. Please refer to all the points in the person specification
- The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 17thrd May 2019
- Interviews will take place on Friday 24th May.