

Role: Gingerbread Group Lead (Delivery Partner)

Gingerbread is the leading national charity working with single parent families in England and Wales. We want a society in which single parent families are treated equally and fairly and have the support they need. To get there, we provide information to help single parents support themselves and their family through our information pages, digital community and Gingerbread friendship groups both in the local community and workplaces. To create lasting change, we campaign for policy change to reduce stigma against single parents and make services more accessible to all families.

Group leads are essential in the running our Gingerbread Groups, which ensure single parents have the space to build a community, share coping strategies and build lasting connections.

Role Title	Gingerbread Group Lead
Role Summary	<p>As a group lead, you'll play a vital role in creating a welcoming, supportive space, both in-person and online where single parents can connect, share experiences, and access valuable resources.</p> <p>Your role is to set up and run a group within your organisation, facilitating monthly in-person meetups and ensuring ongoing engagement with group members through the online Gingerbread community. You will also encourage members to access other Gingerbread services such as our wellbeing workshops. You will maintain regular communication with Gingerbread, promptly raising any safeguarding concerns and sharing information about the group for Gingerbread's monitoring and evaluation needs.</p>
Purpose of the Role	<p>Groups leads (delivery partner) support single parents within an organisation to make meaningful connections and friendships.</p> <p>The main activity to achieve this is to hold in-person and/or online meetups. Gingerbread recommends that Gingerbread groups meet for an hour once a month as a minimum. The format, frequency and location should be decided by the group lead to suit the needs of group members.</p> <p>Groups leads (delivery partner) will also need to engage with group members within the online Gingerbread community by welcoming new members, answering questions, signposting to relevant information and sharing upcoming Gingerbread events.</p>



	<p>The aims of a Gingerbread Group are to increase the wellbeing of single parents through developing meaningful connections and friendships and facilitating access to peer support through sharing experiences or coping mechanisms and accessing our online community.</p>
<p>Where and when?</p>	<p>In-person or digital meetups with a format, frequency and location to suit organisation and Group Lead. <i>Gingerbread recommends meeting for an hour once every month.</i></p> <p>Creating engagement within the group on the Gingerbread Community, such as posting relevant information, welcoming new members, answering questions and signposting to monthly workshops and sessions on themes such as wellbeing; mindfulness; CV building; self-compassion; parenting; relationships; and finances</p> <p>After the initial set-up of your group there would be a 1.5 hours per month time commitment depending on your group size and frequency of meetups (1.5 hours is based on a 45-minute monthly meeting with 45 minutes of admin time).</p>
<p>Supported by</p>	<p>At Gingerbread:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Groups Manager (Emily Marshall) will be your main point of contact at Gingerbread • You will be offered coaching and peer support opportunities, with a one-to-one support sessions available every 4 months • Group leads are encouraged to give each other support through an online space dedicated to group leads and to share best practice with similar sectors <p>At the delivery partner:</p> <p>The group sponsor* will be your main point of contact at your organisation (delivery partner) (<i>*this is dependent on the model your organisation decides to follow</i>)</p>
<p>Description of tasks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Gingerbread Group on the App using Gingerbread templates • With support from the Gingerbread, adapt the Gingerbread Group Model to the needs of your specific single parent community using a coproduction approach • Undertake induction, safeguarding training and any further training as required • Promote the group to single parents within the delivery partner • Welcome new members into the group • Arrange and promote meetups, either in-person or online • Share information from Gingerbread to group members

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- Promote engagement and communications between single parents - including facilitating regular online connection through the App, encouraging members to attend Gingerbread workshops
 - Signpost group members to Gingerbread information pages for any formal information, advice or guidance
 - Follow your organisation's safeguarding policy. Share safeguarding concerns with the Groups Manager at Gingerbread when they arise.
 - Maintain communication with the Groups Manager at Gingerbread, informing them of your activities, any concerns or support needed
 - Attend drop-in support sessions and/or online national volunteer meetings (optional)
 - Share monitoring and evaluation data every 2 months with Gingerbread and participate in occasional focus groups
 - Contribute to the promotion and sharing of best practice with the wider sector in occasional reviews and/or sector meetings organised by Gingerbread
 - Follow our policies as outlined in training and toolkit (bar Safeguarding which should be your internal procedure): [Code of Conduct](#) ; [Community Guidelines](#) ; [Confidentiality Policy](#) ; [Equity and Inclusion Policy](#) ; [Health and Safety Policy](#) ; [Safeguarding Policy](#) ; [Whistleblowing Policy](#)
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Skills, experience and qualities needed

Being a group lead suits someone who is:

- Enthusiastic
 - Enjoys talking to people
 - Empathetic and understanding of single parents' experiences
 - Willing to take part in an induction, safeguarding training and additional training opportunities
 - Ability to use online platforms such as email, Teams and social media
 - An inclusive and non-judgemental approach
 - Reliable, well-organised and collaborative
 - Passionate and enthusiastic about creating a fairer and more inclusive society
 - Able to embrace Gingerbread's values
 - Able to commit 1.5 hours a month to running a Gingerbread group
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What you will gain

- The opportunity to share or develop new skills such as leadership, facilitation, communication and organisational skills
 - Continued Professional Development through supporting the implementation and piloting of a Gingerbread Group within your organisation
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- The opportunity to support people in your organisation and make a real difference in the lives of single parents
 - Knowledge and experience of partnership working in the charity sector
 - The opportunity to engage in Gingerbread workshops
 - A platform for building confidence and enhancing your wellbeing
 - Being part of an enthusiastic and dedicated team
 - Building your CV or giving examples to talk about on application forms or in interviews
 - Ongoing support, networking opportunities and access to best-practice reflection meetings

Things you need to know

- We will discuss the option of a DBS check for this role with your organisation. Please note, having a criminal record does not necessarily prevent you from volunteering with us.
- Volunteers must agree to follow the Volunteer Agreement including following Gingerbread's relevant policies and procedures, and acting in accordance with our values and expectations
- We welcome applications from people from all backgrounds and from people with disabilities

How to sign up to be a Group Lead

- Please contact if you have any questions peersupport@gingerbread.org.uk
 - Please fill in the application form on our website on the Delivery Partner page
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