

LOCAL ORGANISER

32 hours/week. £32,000 Pro Rata. 2 Year Contract.

Do you want to see an end to the need for foodbanks and feel driven by the need to organise and campaign for change to reduce and eliminate poverty?

Are you passionate about making a positive impact for a local charity with a Christian ethos?

If so, we have an exciting opportunity for you to join York Foodbank as our Local Organiser.

York Foodbank is dedicated together with Trussell, to reducing and ending the need for Foodbanks as a response to poverty. As our Local Organiser you will be equipped with the support and training provided by Trussell, to develop and deliver our local organising programme, gathering people with lived experience of poverty to identify areas where change is needed and organise campaigning to secure positive change. In doing so you will spearhead York Foodbank's participation in the national organising programme alongside Local Organisers in Trussell foodbanks across the region and the wider UK.

Working Hours:

Four-day role @ 32 hours/week.

Main location of work at York Foodbank Office, Unit 5, Bleriot Way, Clifton Moor.

Flexible working available. Working hours negotiable.

The initial contract will be for two years. A third year may be possible subject to available funding.

Key Dates in 2025:

Applications from individuals with notice periods extending into April 2025 will still be considered.

- Extensive programme of training starts 14th April 2025.
- Two-day residential with the whole of the new cohort scheduled in May 2025.
- National Lobby Day, 18th June – Foodbanks from all around the UK coming together in Westminster to lobby MPs and raise awareness of the Essentials Guarantee.
- Campaigning Festival, 9th and 10th June, London – All the Organisers from the 100 foodbanks on the Organising programme come together to celebrate, learn and be inspired.

Application Deadline:

To apply, please complete and submit the application form (email submission preferred). The application deadline is 5pm on 10th March 2025. Interviews are scheduled for Monday 17th March 2025.

We welcome informal queries to Adam Raffell via manager@york.foodbank.org.uk / 07871610894. Thank you for your interest in joining the York Foodbank team.

LOCAL ORGANISER - JOB DESCRIPTION

This job description outlines the key accountabilities of, and output required from, the post holder.

Role in brief:

York Foodbank's Local Organiser is responsible for developing the Foodbank's capacity to organise and campaign for change. You will do this by building the skills and confidence of foodbank clients, volunteers and staff to campaign locally. Local Organisers build relationships in foodbanks and with people in the wider community to identify some of the issues driving poverty in the community and to bring people together to take action on those issues.

You will develop and lead a volunteer campaign team to create a campaign strategy and lead on the delivery of the strategy to win change, whilst supporting the members of your campaign team to become leaders. This role is funded by Trussell as part of their Organising Programme, and you will be part of a network of Local Organisers around the UK doing this work. You will be the link between your food bank(s) and the Organising and Local Mobilisation team at Trussell, as we build a movement to end the need for food banks.

Reports to: York Foodbank Development Manager; York Foodbank Trustees; Trussell Organising and Local Mobilisation Manager.

Direct Reports: Local leaders and teams recruited within the Organising Programme.

Key Outputs (in no priority order):

- Build trusted relationships with food bank clients and members of the community.
- Hold 1-2-1 conversations and group activities to identify potential campaign issues and build their skills and capacity to campaign alongside you
- Develop and manage a team of volunteers, building and distributing leadership across the team within York Foodbank to work on local influencing and campaigning to reduce poverty and the need for food banks.
- Explore and understand the experiences that are bringing people to need the food bank's support, working with food bank staff and volunteers, through listening activities and/or research.
- Map out and build relationships with the food bank's partners, referral agencies and local anti-poverty organisations, and to engage them in identifying the local drivers of poverty.
- Identify a local issue or issues driving poverty, build a campaign team and develop a strategy to build power and win change, working with food bank staff and volunteers.
- Deliver, with the campaign team, the local campaigning strategy working with food bank staff, volunteers and clients.
- Work with the Organising and Local Mobilisation team in Trussell and engage with the available training and support.
- Work with other Local Organisers in the Trussell network.
- Engage in Trussell's central priority campaign activities.
- Involve York Foodbank, partners and local community to take agreed action on national campaigns.

Others...:

- Developing resources and inventory to facilitate Local Organising campaign activities.
- Maintaining records and working within agreed budget.
- Collaborating with York Foodbank church partners, agencies, staff and volunteers as needed.
- Contribute to the positive Christian Ethos of York Foodbank.

This list is not exhaustive and other duties may be required as directed by the role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Key Skills:

- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to build relationships and gain trust of people with lived experience of poverty or using food banks.
- Confident in communicating, able to seek and balance a range of views and stakeholders, influencing where required.
- Strong organizational skills and ability to manage multiple tasks effectively.
- Proficient IT skills, including experience with Microsoft Office applications and the ability to quickly learn new software.

Qualifications:

- GCSE grades A-C in Maths and English (or can demonstrate equivalent competency).

Desirable Experience:

- Campaigning or organising to achieve a change.
- Working alongside people with lived experience of poverty.
- Facilitating groups and organising engaging group activities.
- Managing and working with volunteers.
- Community outreach in the local area.
- Working effectively within a variety church settings.
- Good project management skills, able to balance a range of priorities.

Personal Attributes:

- Values and respects all individuals who come into contact or work with York Foodbank, promoting inclusivity and dignity.
- Alignment with and support for the Christian ethos and values of York Foodbank and the Trussell.
- Ability to work independently and self-motivated, demonstrating initiative and taking responsibility for tasks.
- Capacity to handle pressure and work within deadlines, maintaining a focus on efficiency and accuracy.
- Demonstrates honesty, integrity, and a high level of ethical conduct.
- Ability to handle sensitive and confidential information with discretion.
- Ability to work collaboratively as part of a team, fostering positive working relationships.