



**community  
food and health**

(scotland)

## Community Researcher Information Sheet

***(Add your community organisation or project)*** are participating in a research project into *(add the topic of your research project here)*. We wish to recruit a team of volunteer Community Researchers to help us to explore this topic. Are you in touch with people in your community? Are you a good listener? Do you have an interest in working as part of a team? Are you interested in gaining new skills? Training and expenses will be provided. For more information, contact .... *(add contact details)*

### **The research topic**

*Add your research topic – what you want to find out about. You may already have some key questions that you want to explore or involve the Community Researchers as one of their first tasks together. Note that you can also use this approach for an evaluation of your project. What is important is that the answers to your questions are gathered from local people by local people.*

### **Why community researchers?**

To assist in this research project we have created a new role for Community Researchers who will play a key part in carrying out the research. As well as bringing their insight and experiences, Community Researchers will be crucial for encouraging the involvement of local people. This is a great opportunity:

- To contribute to important local research.
- To develop research skills and to build confidence through using them for real.
- To be part of a team.

### **The Community Researcher role involves:**

- Taking part in training to develop the research skills needed.
- Designing the questions and choosing research methods.
- Collecting information from people from your community.
- Participating in the review and analysis of the information collected.
- Contributing to the final report of your findings.

### **Who can be a Community Researcher?**

Community Researchers may be volunteers or committee members or individuals active or interested in *(Add your community organisation or project or the local community)*. What is important is that you have knowledge and experience of your community; that you are keen to take on a new role, and that you have the time to commit to the project. Don't worry if you have no experience of research, we will provide training and support throughout the process.

### What's in it for me?

Community Researcher is a voluntary role and offers the following benefits:

- Free training in action research techniques, data collection, analysis and reporting.
- All expenses will be covered.
- *(Add in any additional incentives that you want to give such as vouchers etc.)*
- On successful completion of the project, you will receive a record of your involvement

### Training and support

Community Researchers will be provided with training to develop research skills and to build their confidence in the role and activities involved. The training will cover: designing questions, choosing methods, collecting information, analysing information and reporting the findings. Once the training is complete, and the data collection is underway, ongoing support will be provided. There will also be an opportunity to evaluate and review your experience of being a Community Researcher at the end.

### What is the commitment to being a Community Researcher?

The following timetable provides an overview of what's involved and also gives you an idea of how these tasks are spread over the next 6 months.

Task / activity	When	Time commitment
Training		
Information gathering		
Review and Analysis		
Report writing		

If you are interested to be involved in this project or want more information, please contact .....