

### SWAY youth work/training opportunities 2019

The most southern part of England – South Wight – an area of outstanding natural beauty and peace.

Blackgang Chine, Dinosaur fossils on Compton beach and big skies overhead – who would not want to work in this area! South Wight is a place of wide open spaces and clean air and some of the most amazing beaches on the Island. South Wight Area Youth Partnership (SWAY), a Christian Charity, is a partnership between Niton Methodist and the Five Anglican Churches around Brighstone. SWAY also works alongside Youth for Christ on the Island, wherever possible. SWAY was set up in October 2014 to support young people and was successful in bidding for a grant from Isle of Wight Council to provide youth activities across the South Wight Area following the County's withdrawal of county run youth clubs.



SWAY is an innovative youth project aimed at 11-19 year olds and their families in and around the South Wight. We are looking for an enthusiastic person/s or student/s who are willing to get involved in a forward thinking youth charity reaching out to churched and unchurched young people. The successful applicants will be based within the area and work alongside SWAY as well as getting involved in island-wide events. SWAY is interested to hear from anyone who may have six months or a year to spare, or someone who may wish to study Christian youth work alongside this placement.

Regular activities may include:

- Planning and running weekly youth activities, where you will receive support and be given opportunities to grow and develop as a youth leader.
- Supporting young people in volunteering, mentoring and working towards chosen accreditations.
- Attending team meetings giving you the opportunity to meet and build relationships with other Christian youth workers and plan monthly worship and Island wide events.
- Working closely alongside SWAY's project manager to evaluate and plan.
- Meeting regularly for pastoral support with an experienced & suitable local Christian.
- Taking appropriate time out to enjoy Island life, reflect, study and grow.
- Taking part in school work in upper primary years & high schools.

SWAY applicants may also have the opportunities .....

- To help/ lead local church service's and speak at local events.
- To develop new youth projects using your ideas and talents.

- To Support SWAY's social enterprise working with NEET young people from across the island giving them and yourself opportunity to grow and develop in self-confidence & self-esteem while supporting the charity to develop its own income to support the growing youth work whilst working towards sustainability.

### **SWAY & Current Activities:**

**SWAY Social Enterprise** :SWAY are in the process of creating a social enterprise which may be able to offer opportunities of work experience and, hopefully in the future, employment to young people that are struggling through the transition to young adults. This is a great opportunity to develop confidence and skills through supported experience and will assist the young people involved to achieve their true potential while supporting them to achieve qualifications in the work place.

**Chale:** A facility on a housing estate in Chale giving local young people a place to play games, have discussions, meet with friends and just hang out. Each week will have a particular theme & activity.

**Niton and Brightstone youth groups:** We have 5 youth group across the area all are held locally. These are growing youth groups with a mixture of Church and non-Church young people. The nights include various activities, planning trips, games, discussions, how we can serve our community and of course, food!

**Cell group/Youth Alpha** : The evenings are about 'Getting to know God for teenagers', having discussions around pizza, homemade cake and hot chocolate/milkshakes, as we explore who God is together and grow in our faith.

**Young Leaders Program:** We encourage leadership amongst our older young people and run a Young Leaders' Programme over year which involves residentials and working towards a credited qualification.



This is a pretty full menu, as you can plainly see, but an exciting one! We are positive about the future in South Wight and looking for someone to share this vision with us for young people. The successful applicant may be able to access a gap year or YFC YTP scheme if interested. This scheme includes a host family, cost towards your course and reasonable expenses. Any applicants searching for part time work should talk to SWAY to discuss the opportunities. Please do speak to us if you feel this is an area that interests you. To find out more information about what's involved visit our website [www.southwightyouth.org](http://www.southwightyouth.org) and please contact SWAY lead Youth Worker Andy Dorning on [sway.exchange@mail.com](mailto:sway.exchange@mail.com)