**Welfare Squad Volunteers**

Remember how overwhelming it could feel to be a Fresher during Freshers Week? If so, you might want to help new students who are experiencing this to have the best possible start to their time at RGU. By joining the Freshers Welfare Squad, you can help make sure they’re safe, able to get home, and know they have someone looking out for them.

This role would suit a Social Work student or similar, or any student with a particular interest in issues around welfare and mental wellbeing.

The Welfare Squad will be coordinated by Stephen Fiddes, RGU:Union’s Student Advice Coordinator, and will be made up of around 16 volunteers in total, providing support during evening/night-time events where required.

General Tasks for Welfare Squad members:

* Providing welfare-focussed support to Freshers students, assisting with any queries or issues in this category
* Being aware of all the support services on offer through RGU:Union, RGU and the ResLife team, and directing students to these support services where appropriate
* Being based in venues for evening/night-time events during the Freshers period, distributing water, providing information and looking out for the welfare of Freshers
* Making sure Freshers are able to get home safely after a night-time event
* Acting as an ambassador for RGU:Union and RGU
* Undertaking training prior to the Freshers period
* Working to direction from RGU:Union staff
* Working alongside the Freshers Team
* Adhering to the RGU:Union policies on Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety
* Due to the pastoral nature of the work, Welfare Squad volunteers on duty will not be permitted to drink before or during their shift

Benefits:

* Training will be provided which will improve the ability of volunteers to deal with vulnerable students and challenging situations
* Being a Welfare Squad volunteer would naturally lead to other welfare-related volunteering opportunities, such as Nightline and the Student Buddy scheme

Hours:

* Variable, but focussed on night-time events (11pm-3/4am)
* Ideally, candidates should be available from 9th-23rd September, to cover the Freshers period
* Training will take place on Friday 8th September
* We will be operating a night-on, night-off policy for volunteers, meaning you would not be expected to volunteer on consecutive nights, contributing a maximum of 7 shifts in total.