



Our volunteering story



We wanted to show how volunteering had been a part of some of the CCVS staff members journeys to where they are now.
This is Ellie's story

Volunteering has been a big part of my life since I was 15 years old. I have volunteered in many different projects in my home country Italy, in Serbia and in the UK. Every experience has greatly enriched me, and I loved everyone of them.

On arriving in Cambridge I got involved with many groups, from projects supporting people with learning disabilities and mental health challenges, to befriending schemes, to fundraising, and I loved every bit of it. It was the best way to get to know my new home, learning about local community spirit and the empowering creativity of the third sector.

Amongst all my experiences the one I hold dearest was when I volunteered with my son, helping in an art group for adults with learning disabilities.

It was an amazing opportunity for which I will always be grateful. It gave me a very powerful boost of confidence at a time in my life when I needed it. It helped me build stronger bonds with my little boy. It created long lasting and meaningful friendships. My son who was only 3 at the time and I had fun, we learned new things, we felt less isolated after having recently moved.

Most importantly I love the fact that my son has grown into a very sensible, open minded and generous little person, and I know it is due to the fact that he had the chance to feel useful and part of his community from a very young age.