Growing volunteer leaders: A case study

with Rebi Gilby, Nottingham Women's Centre
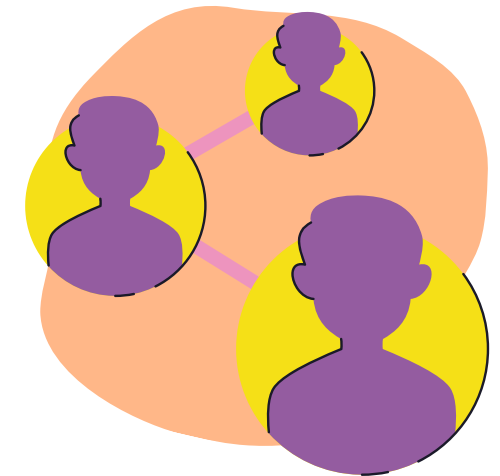
A supportive space to connect

NCVS has been an integral part of my volunteer coordinator journey. The Leaders of Volunteer Network meetings run by Dave and his team, are a great opportunity to meet other people who are working with and supporting volunteers. We learn so much from sharing our own experiences and are always looking to improve the experience for our volunteers, who are our priority and the heart of our organisations. It is invaluable to make that space to be together to discuss the national picture and share how that is being reflected in our day-to-day challenges in Nottingham (the biscuits are pretty good too!).

Staying strong through the pandemic

This was especially relevant during the Pandemic when everyone's volunteer programmes were turned upside down. We all had to be creative, adapt and continue to offer flexibility and understanding. Throughout, NCVS offered up to date guidance, ideas and coordinated spaces to problem solve as a group, so you weren't isolated and were connected as a community.

Trusted training and advice

I have accessed the fantastic training provided, from Conflict in the Volunteer Programme to Volunteers and the Law. It's great to have this resource and knowledge to tap into. There have been many times over the years that I have run ideas or more complicated scenarios past Dave, and have always felt reassured and clearer in the way forward.

Creating pathways to volunteering

We have also been working together, running drop-ins from Nottingham Women's Centre as part of our Coffee and Chats. Women can sit down with an advisor, and look at what opportunities to volunteer in the community are out there. They can discuss barriers and apprehensions they may have and have support with connecting to organisations that they are keen to support.

> **Dave always helps make things clearer - even with the tricky stuff.**

The next ones are:
Tuesday 8 July and Tuesday 10 September 2025 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Find out more about the Leaders of Volunteers Network

VCQA Volunteer Centre Quality Accreditation

150 YEARS