



P/hop VOLUNTEER

London-based
Minimum of six months
Start immediately

Like knitting, crochet, fibre arts, making things with sticks and string? Adore social media? Love life-saving humanitarian work and want to make a difference?

P/hop: A fun, dynamic and knitting-tastic fundraiser - Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) needs you!

Please note: It is best to job share this role between 2 people as there is a lot to cover! This gives us room for more than one applicant.

What is P/hop?

P/hop raises vital funds for international medical aid organisation MSF. Generous knitting and crochet designers have donated patterns to p/hop that knitters can download from the p/hop website. All we ask is that they make a donation based on how many hours of pleasure they think they'll get from knitting/crocheting it (or, retrospectively, how much pleasure they gained). P/hop = pennies per hour of pleasure.

However, that's not all; there is also p/hop swapping, events, competitions etc. You can read all about it on www.p-hop.co.uk.

Over seven years, and thanks to an amazingly committed and generous network of knitters, p/hop has evolved from two downloadable patterns to a project that has helped to raise massive amounts of awareness about MSF's work and over £60,000 in funds.

This knitterly magic doesn't happen by itself so we need a dedicated volunteer to help our woolly fundraiser grow and reach more knitters and crocheters.

What is MSF?

MSF is a leading international independent medical relief organisation, dedicated to providing expert medical relief to vulnerable populations at times of conflict or disaster. In over 70 countries worldwide, MSF provides both life-saving emergency relief and longer-term assistance to make healthcare services available to the most vulnerable or excluded communities.

MSF's aim is to provide impartial assistance, on the basis of need alone, regardless of ethnic origin, gender, creed or political affiliation. To maintain its independence from political interference, MSF relies on donations from individuals around the world for at least 90 percent of its income. This private funding gives MSF the freedom to respond to the greatest needs as fast as possible.

As medical professionals, MSF volunteers have a duty to try and protect their patients from violence and abuse. MSF often chooses to speak out about gross violations of humanitarian law against civilians in conflict, refugees, unaccompanied children and other vulnerable groups, in an attempt to bring abuse to world attention.

The mandate of the UK section has traditionally been to provide technical, human resources, financial and communications support to field operations. That support has now evolved towards taking direct, medical and operational responsibility for specific project development.

The role

What will you be doing?

You will be mostly self-sufficient, with support from the knitting community and access to the MSF UK communications and fundraising teams. You will be responsible for:

- Managing, maintaining and promoting the p/hop blog, including writing posts, managing comments, sourcing images, sharing on social media
- Co-ordinating, editing and publishing new p/hop patterns from designers
- Promoting p/hop, new patterns, competitions via social media
- Staying in touch with the p/hop online network to keep abreast of p/hop developments, encourage supporters, raising awareness of cool things knitters are doing to raise money and raising awareness for MSF
- Encourage the community to take more active role in p/hop
- Press work to promote the project (both knitting and non-knitting press)
- Organising p/hop stands at knitting festivals and events
- Finding and co-ordinating volunteers to run stands at events

What do you need?

- Computer literacy to a high standard
- Confidence with internet and online technologies, especially social media, and willingness to learn new skills.
- Basic Wordpress skills to update the p/hop website / blog
- Ability to work with minimal supervision and use initiative
- Good eye for design and attention to detail
- Genuine interest in and commitment to the humanitarian principles of MSF
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Friendly and willing to speak with people at events and shows
- Lots of energy and a fair amount of time to give
- **Ability to knit and/or crochet would be really good!**

Commitment

- At least two days a week, approximately 8 hours a day.
- Minimum 6 months
- **This role would be suitable for a job share between 2 people (or even 3). This guarantees no-one is setting up a stall on their own or solely responsible for the whole project.**
- When organising knitting events these days may run consecutively so occasional weekend commitment is needed
- Organising events will take a minimum of 1 day (8hrs)
- Availability to travel to knitting shows outside of London
- Start immediately

Benefits

This is an unpaid position but travel and lunch expenses will be reimbursed.

More information

If you'd like to know more before you apply, please contact p-hop@london.msf.org

How to apply

Please send your CV along with a letter of motivation to p-hop@london.msf.org, stating clearly the position you are applying for in the subject of your email.

We would also like you write a plan for promoting a shawl pattern which has been donated to p/hop.

Application checklist

CV:

Letter of motivation:

Plan for promoting a shawl pattern: