

# Let's hear from an employee volunteer!

Patrick is a HR Advisor at Horwich Cohen Coghlan Solicitors.

## **Patrick applied for a volunteering role with Breakthrough UK to offer support around employability.**

Breakthrough UK is a charity led by disabled people, supporting other disabled people to work and live independently. This ranges from support to get active in the community, to steps towards employment.

### **What were your first thoughts?**

*"Like most people, I was a little apprehensive about attending the volunteering day, however as soon as I arrived, I was warmly welcomed by Rhonda the course leader who explained the day's activities. She was extremely pleasant and introduced me to all the attendees. I was really impressed with the space for the course and the facilities provided a safe and constructive environment for all attendees."*

### **Tell us about your day...**

*"On the day I attended, the course centred around developing CVs through a mixture of workshops and group activities. The group activities encouraged the individuals to discuss the process of creating CVs and their uses, along with the benefits of using positive language."*

***"I was able to provide 1-1 advice to some of the attendees which I really enjoyed."***

*"Within the workshops, I was able to provide some 1-1 advice. This is something I really enjoyed, as I was given time to listen to their interesting stories and help them tailor their CV to their own job goals."*

***"At the end of the session I was left with an overwhelming sense of admiration for everyone involved in the course. From the care and positive attitude of the course leaders to the individuals on the course who are keen and eager to work, who throughout whatever barriers are in their way, continue to pursue their own dreams. It was truly inspiring!"***

*Patrick*



## Let's hear from the group!

Our Pathways courses are custom-made to help disabled people to develop essential skills for the future. Our Pre-Employment Pathway course is more directly focused on pre-employment skills and getting ready to enter the workplace.

**Rhonda is the Pathways Co-ordinator for Breakthrough UK**



**Tell us about your day...**

*"Patrick joined our interactive Pathway Pre Employment CV workshop to share his expertise on producing a CV to match skill sets and aspirations."*

***"This was a fantastic opportunity for course participants!"***

*"Patrick shared from his HR background and expertise about what makes a great CV. This was a fantastic opportunity for course participants to be able to ask specific questions about their CV's and other general HR questions about the recruitment processes."*

***One of our participants, Jordan, said: "Patrick was really down to earth and gave us some great advice. He helped me to think about the importance of keeping my CV concise. I hadn't thought about some of the other things that he mentioned to improve CV's but it all made a lot of sense. It helped me a lot!"***

*"As a group, we really appreciated the time and support given by Patrick. His expertise around employability and recruitment processes added an extra dimension to the course and gave our participants the opportunity to ask all sorts of HR related questions, as well as being able to get 1-1 support".*

*Rhonda*