Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad

Community Foundational Economy Developer (Internship)

**Job Description – Rhondda Digital Stories Community Leader**

Salary - £Real Living Wage

Hours –37.5 per week.

Holidays – 25 days plus Bank holidays.

Reports to – James Hall, Project Manager, People & Work (line manager)

The line manager will provide day to day support and monthly professional supervision

This is a post for 12 months from January 2021

The successful candidate will receive safeguarding training and be required to undergo an enhanced DBS (police) check

**Job Purpose:**

This is an opportunity for someone to spend a year working with people in Rhondda to map the impact of Covid-19 on the local foundational economy. The foundational economy is about all the day to day things that every community needs – such as food, housing, electricity, health and care, and transport. These are things that have to be locally available and that, increasingly, need also to be sourced locally.

The Rhondda Digital Stories community leader will work with local people interested in film-making, digital storytelling and social media to map Rhondda’s experience of Covid-19 and its impact over 12 months, capturing the insights of businesses and services in the foundational economy and the people who rely on them. The community leader will work with local young people to capture the impact of a pandemic as it affects one of Wales’ most iconic areas. The record of personal and community insights will help inform those working in the foundational economy and those responsible for public policies affecting it.

The successful candidate will also take part in training provided by the Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad programme and attend meetings with partners during the year.

**Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad**

Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad is a partnership of nine organisations working in different communities across Wales. The partnership has come together to explore ways to support and grow the local economy and community. The aim is to support local people who have ideas they want to test out that might:

* Bring local people together to do something for the area
* Strengthen links between local businesses and people in the area
* Develop a new social enterprise

The partners are looking particularly at the foundational economy. There are lots of examples of how, with the right opportunities and skills, people are helping to build a strong local economy. Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad wants to work with people to develop local ownership and commitment to the foundational economy.

**Time to Shine**

In addition, the successful candidate will join the Rank Foundation’s Time to Shine programme, which will involve attending three national training events and four action learning sets with other interns from across the UK and the eight other Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad interns. It is a requirement of the post to attend these events (all expenses will be paid). Obviously, as a result of Covid-19, some of these events may be accessed online.

The intern will also be required to provide reports for the Rank Foundation.

**Person Specification:** for this work you need to be familiar with digital story telling techniques, such as film-making, editing, audio recording, social media planning and/or marketing. In addition, you will:

Enjoy working with all kinds of people in the community and communicate well with others

Be able to motivate yourself and sustain motivation under pressure and be willing to work hard towards goals

Enjoy taking on challenges – with support

Have an understanding of digital media and technology

**Stage 2**

If you are successful as a candidate the employment would begin in January 2021,

subject to funds being released by the Rank Foundation and the National Lottery Community Fund. Following a stage 1 interview with People & Work in September 2020, there will be a stage 2 interview involving the candidate, the line manager from People & Work and the funder in October 2020.

**Contact for a chat and further information and to be sent an application form:**

James Hall, Project Manager or James Watts-Rees, Project Leader

James.Hall@peopleandwork.org.uk

James.Watts-Rees@peopleandwork.org.uk

07800 957512 or 07392 072115

Or via Facebook @ [www.facebook.com/pawu1984](http://www.facebook.com/pawu1984)

**Deadline: Friday September 18th**

Initial interviews on Tuesday and Wednesday September 22/23 in Pentre. Rhondda

**Appendix:** The role in context and some background

**Time to Shine – People & Work 2021**

**Mapping Rhondda’s foundational economy 2021**

**Rhondda Digital Stories Project Leader**

We are looking for people who have ideas they want to explore or develop to help strengthen the foundational economy in their community. This is an opportunity for someone to work for a year with People & Work as part of Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad (Slate, Coal and Countryside areas in Wales).

The Rhondda Digital Stories Community Leader will engage, excite and enthuse local young people interested in film-making, digital storytelling and social media to map Rhondda’s experience of Covid-19 from the personal and professional perspective of those involved in the foundational economy. Young people will be supported by the Time to Shine Leader (as part of a partnership project between People & Work and Spectacle Theatre) to shape this collection of insights into the once-in-a-century experience of a pandemic as it affects one of Wales’ most disadvantaged areas. The Time to Shine leader will work with James Watts-Rees, our Rhondda Project Leader, and the many young people with whom he works, to develop a youth-led perspective on mapping Rhondda’s foundational economy – including people’s fears, strengths, what’s been lost, what’s been gained and how people wish to build back. This will involve the TTS Leader supporting young people to film in places of work and in community settings, learning how to deal appropriately with people who may have been through extremely challenging circumstances and to reflect their stories as honestly as possible. It will also involve gaining consent to use film and social media publically (e.g. via social media and YouTube) as a means of reflecting back to society in Wales and beyond what life has been like on the ground in Rhondda. Obviously, we would share links to any digital media via RankNet (Rank Foundation’s internal social media), too.

At the end of the year, there will be a collection of personal and community insights into the economic life of Rhondda which will help inform those working in the foundational economy and those responsible for public policies affecting it. There are many public and third sector organisations mapping the effects of Covid-19 on life in Wales but most are doing this at a county, national or organisational level. We want to understand how those whose livelihoods are tied up with a former coalfield area’s economy (which was already struggling pre-Covid-19) have changed as a result and how those of us in the community sector can help ‘build back better’. We are already sensing that many community members are thinking differently about their local businesses and services, especially following a long period in Wales when most people were not allowed to travel more than five miles from their homes (except for emergencies). This forced many people in Rhondda to access everything locally, apart from services or goods which could be delivered to the house (e.g. supermarket food deliveries).

People & Work has strong links with many community groups and some businesses in Rhondda (including the support of the chamber of Trade in Rhondda’s largest town – Treorchy) and, to help the third sector become more effective in rebuilding society post Covid-19, we need to listen to the stories of those most affected in the foundational economy and elsewhere. People & Work is a founding member of an informal third sector network in the valleys: Stronger Rhondda Gryfach. This mapping project would work with the network to draw on their understanding and feedback insights to support groups engage with post Covid-19 reality.

During the first year of the Llechi, Glo a Chefn Gwlad project in Rhondda, our Time to Shine Leader has helped us consolidate the vital importance of the digital economy to local life via digital events and code clubs. This is continuing online and is about to start back in physical spaces (with due regard to the appropriate risk assessments) with support from a range of partners. Whilst we continue to develop this, we would like the next Time to Shine leader to concentrate on using digital media to capture what matters to people in Rhondda now. We have talked with a Rhondda-based arts organization with whom we have been working for many years – Spectacle Theatre (http://www.spectacletheatre.co.uk/) – about collaborating on this project as they have over 40 years’ experience of participatory community theatre and developing community arts as a way of exploring local issues and helping community members to unpack what’s important for them and finding an authentic voice. The Time to Shine leader would be supported by Spectacle Theatre and People & Work to develop their understanding of community arts and how to use film and digital media to capture authentic voices from Rhondda.