Can I be a Citizen Reporter?

Yes! For more information, visit leonardcheshire.org/changemakers or email changemakers@leonardcheshire.org

We are currently operating in four locations – Belfast, Manchester, Glasgow and Swansea.

The benefits of being a Change Maker

- Something great to add to your CV
- Meeting new people
- Building your confidence
- Building your digital, reporting and campaigning skills
- Developing a deeper sense of community spirit
Change Makers is a new citizen reporting programme for young people aged 16-25. Providing training in how to become a Citizen Reporter, you will have the opportunity to create campaigns and make change in your community.

During your six months on the Change Makers programme, you will learn more about:

- Highlighting important issues
- Telling people about the things that affect you in your local community
- Getting your voice heard

What is citizen reporting?

Citizen reporting focuses on everyday people using the tools they have in front of them to report on everyday life. Traditionally, news was reported by journalists – citizen reports are created and reported by people like you!

As a Citizen Reporter you will:

- Identify issues for change
- Share your story
- Work as part of a team
- Gather evidence on the change that needs to happen
- Talk to local media outlets
- Make change happen

Using different campaigning tools, you will pull all your reports together and create a message that can be shared with your community, letting them know about the change you want to make.

This can then be shared across our social media platforms to raise more awareness of the issues within your community, helping us connect with influencers and decision makers who can make the change we want to see.

Identifying the issues

Working with other Citizen Reporters in your group, you will meet new people and raise awareness of issues in your community that matter to you. For example, you might focus on the accessibility barriers or inequality you face.

Once you have decided what you would like to report on, you will have the chance to try out different ways of reporting. These will include interviewing people and recording your own experiences using video/audio devices, or writing about the things that have happened to you.

Creating your campaign

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