

Worcestershire Dementia Community Support Services

Volunteer Role Description

Would you like to help a person with dementia live a fuller and happier life? If the answer is **Yes** then this is a role within the charity that you may wish to be involved in.

This is an outline of what your role with the charity may involve. You will have the opportunity to discuss this in more detail at your meeting with our coordinators.

Where, when and how often?

Where – Dependant on the local situation in regard to COVID 19 you could support a person with dementia to do the following - go to their local park, the garden centre, pick up an old hobby, try a new leisure activity or just stay at home and chat. There is also an option to provide telephone support, where you can chat over the phone to the person with dementia if they require this.

When – throughout the day, Monday to Friday.

How often - a level of commitment is expected, e.g. 1 hour per week from you to support a person with dementia to continue to stay active and involved in society. And minimum of 6 months commitment once relevant checks has taken place.

How does the role make a difference?

Volunteers will provide agreed support to people with dementia this could be either by visiting them in their home, enabling them to stay active, taking part in appropriate social and recreational activities in their community or simply just having a telephone conversation, whichever they require. Your involvement aims to help people to feel less isolated enabling the person to focus on their strengths to remain active and confident.

What will I be doing?

- Enabling a person with dementia to maintain active involvement in their own home or community
- Providing one to one support to enable people with dementia to continue with their hobbies and interests as agreed during the assessment process carried out by our coordinator
- Creating / facilitating opportunities for participation in leisure and social activities
- Enabling a person with dementia to engage with activities in a safe and enjoyable environment
- Maintaining accurate written updates
- Liaising with and reporting to the coordinator on a regular basis, including changes or concerns regarding the service user, as well as discussing personal learning and development needs
- Keeping up to date with the charity's policies and procedures.
- To telephone people with dementia, if they require, at an agreed time on a regular basis

This role does not provide personal care.

Is this role for me?

The role may be suitable if you:

- Want to help people with dementia stay active
- Are passionate about supporting people with dementia to improve their quality of life
- Know about, or are willing to learn about dementia and its impact on people
- Have good verbal communication and listening skills, especially face to face
- Are happy to volunteer remotely, yet understand you are part of a team
- Recognise the importance of confidentiality, and show this in practice
- Are prepared to undergo an induction into the role and attend necessary training and similar learning activities to help you in your role
- Are keen to provide a high standard of service
- Have satisfactory literacy skills
- Have the ability to volunteer within service boundaries
- Are comfortable to follow policies, procedures and guidance
- Are committed to inclusion, treating people from all backgrounds with dignity

What do I have to do before I can start?

- Complete a volunteer registration form
- Take part in a recruitment meeting
- Provide two satisfactory references
- Undertake an enhanced DBS.
- Participate in agreed induction, training and development for the role.

How will I be supported during my volunteering?

You will be supported by the coordinator and or a manager specified locally. You will receive one-to-one or group support. Agreed out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed in line with our Expenses Policy, for example travel mileage and activities agreed in the assessment of the person with dementia

What's in it for me?

You will have the opportunity to:

- You will develop / build on your skills and experience in the Health Social Care and Community context
- Learn new skills and receive training and inductions to support you within this role
- You will have the option to partake in peer learning and development opportunities
- You will support a person with dementia to live more independently
- Enable a person with dementia to enjoy a better quality of life
- Sharing your enjoyment from activities with others
- Enhance and expand your CV
- Partake in a new and exciting service.
- Reduce the impact dementia has on the lives around you
- Pioneer change and dispel the stigma of dementia

Our Values

Always informed by the needs and experiences of people affected by dementia, we:

- are **inclusive**, making sure that we reach out to and involve people from every group and community
- **challenge** ourselves and others to question the status quo, be pioneering, and embrace change
- aspire to **excellence** in everything we do
- always act with **integrity** and treat everyone with respect, dignity and fairness
- **enable** others to make a meaningful contribution and realise their potential.

What should I do now?

Please complete our volunteer application form enclosed with this role description.