

Volunteer role description

This is an outline of what your role will involve – you will have the opportunity to discuss this in more detail at your recruitment meeting.

Role Title	
Marie Curie Companion working with Abbeyfield homes.	
Location	How often
Community based	Approximately 3 hours a week
How long	Minimum age
Minimum of 12 months	18 years
Disclosure checks	Is driving essential for the role?
Yes	No –is an advantage

Why we need your help

Marie Curie and Abbeyfield homes have joined together to offer a service to support people at the end of life.

Spending time with residents and/or their relatives, we're looking for volunteers to provide emotional support, a listening ear, practical support, short breaks for carers, and help with signposting for information/support.

What we need you to do

Your role will include some of, but is not restricted to, the following tasks:

- Support residents in line with agreed boundaries and procedures
- Spend time listening and talking with residents, family, friends and carers.
- Starting conversations with residents about Advance Care Planning, as appropriate
- Signpost families and friends to other services, as appropriate
- Write and submit a brief report to the Service Manager after each visit
- Keep the Service Manager informed of any changes or significant happenings regarding the resident, either in person or by telephone
- Be an active part of the team of Marie Curie Companions and Abbeyfield
- Attend regular group support and development sessions for Marie Curie Companions
- Attend individual sessions with the Service Manager, as required.
- Accompanying residents to an appointment or a social group, or taking short trips out
- Driving clients to pre-arranged health or social care appointments
- Help with other related tasks when necessary

What skills or experience do you need?

- Friendly and sensitive - a good listener
- Self-awareness and emotionally strong
- Respect for confidentiality
- Willingness to learn and operate within set boundaries
- Reliability - keep commitments and appointments
- Respect for individuals regardless of their race, gender, culture, religion, disability, sexual orientation and marital status
- Good humoured with a mature perspective on life and death

What we can offer you:

- An excellent opportunity to build on your skills in a charity environment
- An induction, training, support and supervision in your role
- Agreed reasonable out-of-pocket expenses

What we ask of you:

- To provide two references from non-family members and other relevant documents related to the role
- To keep to all the charity's policies and guidelines
- To complete an induction and any training related to the role
- To operate within Abbeyfield policies and guidelines, particularly regarding confidentiality

Marie Curie is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of patients and their families and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Marie Curie will treat all volunteers fairly and with respect. We will not discriminate on the basis of disability, ethnicity, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, sex (i.e. gender), sexual orientation, religion or faith, or gender reassignment. We will not discriminate on the basis of age, unless the responsibilities of a role require us to do so in order to safeguard our volunteers and/or service users.

For more information or if you have any questions regarding this volunteer role, please contact the Volunteer Operations Centre on volunteering@mariecurie.org.uk or on **0800 304 7032**.

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