

St Helena Volunteers

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title	Volunteer Chaplaincy Team
Department/Shop	Chaplaincy
Location	Colchester / Tendring & surrounding areas
Reporting To	Chaplain

Volunteering at St Helena

We ask that all volunteers are sympathetic to and be able to project the philosophy, vision and values of St Helena.

The benefits of being a St Helena volunteer include:

- The opportunity to develop new and existing skills and gain experience in the workplace
- The opportunity to make new friends in your local community
- The satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference to people facing incurable illness or bereavement
- Full support of a specified line manager within a dedicated team
- Volunteering has been proven to help improve mental health and wellbeing and is therapeutic by keeping you active
- Regular news and updates about what's happening at St Helena so you feel part of the team
- Gives you a sense of purpose – the feel good factor!

Role summary

The role involves working as part of a team to support the Chaplains in meeting the spiritual, religious and pastoral care needs of patients and their families.

Days and hours – various as agreed

Main duties of the role

- To visit patients in the community as directed by the Chaplains.
- To provide spiritual care to people of all faiths and none.
- To pray with and for people as appropriate
- To assist with memorial services.
- To maintain a record of patient contact.
- To assist with Chaplaincy related activities in the hospice.
- To facilitate a time of reflection if requested, marking the death of a patient within a group.
- To maintain professional boundaries at all times and adhering to the hospice's guidelines for socialising with patients and families.

For Qualified Ministers of Religion only

- To provide chaplaincy cover for the Inpatient Unit under direction of the Chaplain.
- To administer the rituals of your religion (i.e. Holy Communion)
- To assist with services in the hospice

Training & supervision

- As a volunteer who will be in contact with vulnerable adults you will need to complete a DBS check before starting.
- The hospice run a full induction programme including
 - Chaplaincy team induction
 - Hospice induction
 - Mandatory training via e-learning (repeated annually)
- All team members are required to attend regular team meetings and supervisions for on-going professional development, support, and communication.

Experience & qualifications required

- Recognised qualification in spiritual or pastoral care.
- To be a member of a recognised faith/worshipping community and to have their support providing a reference where required.
- Experience in pastoral / spiritual care preferred.
- Team members all need to be able to drive to various locations in the North East Essex area

Personal attributes

- Passionate about St Helena
- Good listener
- Caring and supportive
- Non-judgemental
- Able to respectfully provide spiritual support to people of all backgrounds and beliefs whilst remaining firm in own spirituality.
- Able to nurture own spiritual life and take care of own wellbeing.
- Ability to work as part of a team and individually.
- Able to maintain professional boundaries at all times and adhere to the hospice's guidelines.
- To have a self-awareness of own sense of loss, grief and mortality.