

Volunteer roles in health and social care settings identified by Volunteering England

- Administration helper / medical records assistant
- Administering eye drops to post operative cataract patients in the community
- Advocacy
- Ambulance first responder
- Anti-coagulant assistant
- Artist
- Arts & crafts (knitters, blanket maker, art therapist)
- Audiology Visitor (helping people use their hearing aids)
- Befriending / buddying (in-patients and community)
- Benefit advice
- Birds of prey (volunteers bringing birds to children's units)
- Breast Feeding Peer Mentor
- Carer support
- Chapel organist
- Chapel service helpers
- Chapel service singers
- Chapel services names collector
- Chaplaincy (pianist, lay preacher)
- Chaplaincy Visitor
- City guides (guides who conduct hospital tours)
- Clerical helper
- Clinic assistant (baby/well-being etc)
- Counsellor
- Curtain matcher (collecting odd curtains in hospital and putting them in pairs for re-hanging)
- Dental Complaints Service volunteer panel member
- Dining Companion
- Discharge lounge assistant
- Drama assistant
- Entertainment
- Events helpers
- Exercise to music
- Expert patient
- Fish tank maintenance
- Focus groups for research
- Flower arrangers / flower care on wards
- Fundraising
- Games players (e.g. chess player companion)
- Garden (including pond maintenance)
- GP patient participation group member
- Governance & Trustees
- Hairdresser for In-patient & Day Care units
- Hand holders (for surgery etc.)
- Hearing Aid Service Volunteers

- Home care
- Home escorts for vulnerable patients
- Hospital radio presenter
- Hospital radio request collector
- Information/leaflet checkers
- Information provider (e.g. in epilepsy clinic)
- Interpreter
- Interviewer
- IT volunteers (database work)
- Knitters for premature babies
- Lay assessor (for the Quality & Outcome Framework)
- Letter writer
- Librarian
- Magazine delivery
- Massage and aromatherapy massage
- Medicinema
- Meet and greet / welcomer
- Menus - help patients choose their meals
- Musicians
- Occupational therapy activities assistant
- Packs (making up maternity packs, patient emergency toilet kits)
- PALS volunteer
- Palliative care
- PAT dogs/ animal visits
- Patients council representative
- Pastoral
- Peer educators (various projects)
- Pharmacy
- Physiotherapist assistant
- Plain language volunteers (to de-jargon written materials)
- Playing board games
- Playroom helpers
- Post room assistant
- PPI forum member
- Print room
- Reading newspapers to people with poor sight
- Reception/Information/Enquiry desk/Welcome desk
- Recruitment & selection of staff
- Recycling assistants
- Reflexologist
- Run current affairs discussion groups
- Run singing groups
- Runner (of errands in and out of hospital)
- Running a book group
- Running music appreciation sessions
- Running poetry sessions
- Security

- Shop helper (food, clothing etc)
- Shoppers (for patients)
- Skin camouflage
- Social events organisers /helpers
- Speech and language volunteers
- Sport companions for mental health service users (e.g golf buddy)
- Sport organisers for mental health service users (e.g angling groups)
- Support groups for specific health conditions
- Taxi escorts
- Tea bar / café / bar
- Teacher helping with schoolwork on children's ward
- Theatre (drama)
- Trainers (e.g. life saving technique)
- Therapeutic hand care
- Transport (drivers)
- Trolley service (meals, drinks, toiletries, newspapers etc)
- Visitor screening helpers
- Walking companions for people recovering from knee and hip operations
- Ward and Department volunteers (various, including A & E, Outpatients, Occupational Health, X-Ray etc)
- Wheelchair pushers
- Yoga teacher
- Youth group helpers