

'We Give Our Time' – your chance to get involved

**Want the chance to network online with key Macmillan staff and professionals?
Like to communicate with others who do similar roles to you?
Need to find information relevant to your area of involvement?**

Following feedback from volunteer research and focus groups, Macmillan is introducing 'We Give Our Time', a new and exciting online space as part of the [Online Community](#) (please note you won't be able to access the space just yet even though you might already be a member of the Community).

'We Give Our Time' will help you to network and communicate with other people who volunteer and give time to Macmillan and with Macmillan staff/professionals. It will make it easier for you to find relevant information, help you work together, share ideas, swap tips and hopefully "meet" other like-minded people.

Of course there are many more ways to network and communicate than via the internet, but this new space will work alongside more traditional ways of communicating. It will be especially useful for those who work remotely or those who need to network with Macmillan staff/professionals.

'We Give Our Time' is still at pilot phase because we need to test how well it will work before we open it out to the whole of Macmillan's giving-time network. **We are looking for a group of approximately 200 people who give time to Macmillan, or to a Macmillan service, to participate in the pilot scheme from 13th December 2011 – 31st January 2012. Would you like to take part?**

Your role would involve the following types of activities:

- Contributing to group discussions by posting information, links, news, ideas, suggestions.
- Introducing new discussion topics that are relevant to your role/area of involvement.
- Accessing and using information relevant to your role/area of involvement.
- Evaluating usefulness and accessibility of the online space.
- Shaping the future of 'We Give Our Time' by offering your feedback, suggestions and comments.

Don't worry, there's no need to be a computer whiz or a technical expert! And it won't take up all your time either – even a few minutes a day is enough to share some tips or access a useful link! All you need is willingness to network and communicate online, an interest in sharing information with others and basic knowledge of how to use the internet and email.

By getting involved, you'll help us understand whether 'We Give Our Time' will enable people who give time to Macmillan to network and communicate with each other and Macmillan staff/professionals. You'll also play a key role in getting the online space up and running.

In return, you'll be able to access a valuable networking tool which will help you feel part of the Macmillan team. You'll be able to find information relevant to your role, make new contacts and work together with others.

If you're happy to take part in the pilot scheme we would love to get you signed up and ready. Please contact **Helen Aivazian, Volunteer Networking & Communications Project Intern** (details below) stating your role at Macmillan or with a Macmillan service. Participation will be on a first come first served basis, so make sure you confirm your involvement as soon as you can!

We're really looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

Helen Aivazian

Volunteer Networking and Communications Project Intern

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