



Devon Partnership
NHS Trust

Supporting you to live well

Volunteering at Devon Partnership NHS Trust



www.dpt.nhs.uk

About the Trust

We are an NHS organisation that supports people with mental health and learning disability needs across Devon and Torbay (excluding Plymouth).

We also provide a range of specialist and secure services for the wider south west region and nationally. We are passionate about promoting good mental health and wellbeing and challenging discrimination and stigma which people with mental health issues often face.

We strive to use the expertise and resources within our organisation, and through our partnerships, to deliver high quality services that are safe and focused on people's recovery.

Who we support

- Adults and older people with mental health issues or learning disabilities (inpatient and community services)
- Older people with memory problems or dementia
- Children and adolescents with mental health issues
- People who have come into contact with the criminal justice system and require a secure inpatient environment
- People with autism or ADHD (assessment and diagnosis only)
- People with eating disorders (inpatient and community services)
- People with issues around their gender
- People with a personality disorder
- New mums with serious mental health needs (inpatient and community services)
- Students at the University of Exeter with mental health issues
- People in Torbay with drug and alcohol addiction issues
- People wanting to get back into employment or struggling to stay in employment because of their mental health
- People in the county's main hospitals with physical health issues who also need support with their mental health or have learning disabilities

Value of volunteering

We recognise the important role volunteers play in complementing the work of our staff and we welcome the varied and unique contributions they make to patients, carers, the public and our staff. If you volunteer with us you will:

- Learn new skills and gain new experience
- Feel more confident – it's good for your own wellbeing!
- Make new friends
- If you are currently studying and thinking of a career in health, volunteering can give you a unique insight into the sector
- If you are retired but not quite ready to put your feet up, we'd really value your experience and time
- If you are looking for work or want to get back into it after a break, volunteering is a great way to show potential employers that you are reliable and we can support you to develop your skills and confidence.

What do volunteers do?

Our volunteering roles are varied, interesting and rewarding. Volunteers help with a wide range of tasks including:

- Ward buddies – befriending, talking and listening to patients
- Recreational activities with patients such as arts, crafts, reading and playing games
- Breakfast Club support
- Horticultural support
- Pets as Therapy
- Reading group
- Pastoral and spiritual care
- Administration
- Carer engagement
- Charity fundraising events and campaigns.

How do I become a volunteer?

Search for our current volunteer vacancies on our jobs website:

www.jobs.dpt.nhs.uk/jobs. Type 'volunteer' in the search box.

You do not need experience in the health sector. You will need to:

- Complete an application form, occupational health form and provide the names of two people willing to give you a reference
- Be willing to attend an informal interview, with an opportunity to visit and find out more about the team you hope to work with
- Depending on your role you may be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Scheme (DBS) which checks criminal records – NB: not all convictions prevent you from volunteering
- Attend a Trust Induction and complete any relevant training that is required for your role
- Maintain communication with your Line Manager and report any concerns immediately
- Adhere to the Trust's policies and procedures.

There is no cost to the volunteer applicant for any of the checks or training.

Please see our jobs website for a list of our current vacancies (type 'volunteer' in the search box) www.jobs.dpt.nhs.uk/jobs

If you are interested in volunteering or have any other questions about volunteering, please contact:

Practice Education

m: 07974 562 929

e: dpn-tr.DPTVolunteers@nhs.net

For further information and an application form, scan the QR code below or visit <https://jobs.dpt.nhs.uk/volunteering>.



Contact information

If you require this leaflet in a different format or language please ask a member of our staff.

If you would like to provide feedback about our services please contact:

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Devon Partnership NHS Trust
Wonford House
Dryden Road
Exeter
EX2 5AF



01392 675686



dpt.pals@nhs.net

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