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**Volunteer Role Description**

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| Role title | Hospice in your Home community companion |
| Responsible to | Hospice in your Home Team Leader/Volunteer Coordinator |
| Location | Patient’s own home |
| Purpose of role | The volunteer will visit patients and families experiencing life limiting illness in their own homes to provide time for carer to support their own wellbeing, companionship and emotional support to patients and practical support with light housework.  The volunteer will be expected to work alone but will be provided with training, support and supervision and will have telephone access to a trained Hospice in your Home Nurse throughout the duration of the visit. |
| When role to be carried out | Approx. 2-4 hours per week by negotiation |

**Pre-Recruitment checks**

You will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Character references will be required.

**Main Responsibilities**

* Visit patients in their own homes to provide time for carer to support their own wellbeing, companionship and emotional support to patients and practical support with light housework e.g. making a light lunch or washing up
* Offer patients diversional activities such as crafts, boardgames, jigsaws, reading etc.
* Immediately following each visit provide a verbal update to the Hospice in your Home Coordinator via telephone.
* To strictly adhere to the Hospice Confidentiality Policy: ensuring that patient, family and carers details remain confidential at all times.
* To act responsibly at all times and work within the specified guidelines of the Hospice in your Home service and Hospice policies and procedures
* Role model the Hospice core values of Compassion, Accessibility, Respect and Excellence.
* Maintain professional boundaries with all patients and their families
* Access available training, support and supervision opportunities
* Maintain professional boundaries with all patients and their families

**Training and support**

* Undertake the necessary mandatory and essential training provided for this role.
* Attend 3 monthly volunteer support meetings.
* Participate in monthly telephone / teams 121 with HIYH coordinator

**Personal skills**

* Caring, empathetic and compassionate nature
* Have a calm disposition and be friendly and approachable
* Understand the sensitive needs of patients and their families dealing with life threatening illnesses
* Trustworthy, reliable and patient
* Good listening and sensitive communication skills
* Be confident and have the ability to use own initiative
* Must be able to travel independently to fulfil this role (expenses will be met by the Hospice)