



ODIHAM COTTAGE HOSPITAL Befriending Service

Thank you very much for your enquiry concerning voluntary work for the Befriending Service. Please find attached some information that will tell you about becoming a befriending volunteer with us.

The West Hart community benefits greatly from volunteer befrienders supporting people with life limiting illness and/or palliative care needs. We therefore look for a good cross section of people with a variety of skills and interests.

Befriending is a 'professional' relationship made between the volunteer befriender and the client and each befriender is trained, supported and monitored by the OCH Befriending Manager.

Due to the sensitive nature of the work not all who apply will be suitable. We therefore ask each applicant to complete and return the attached application form to myself at OCH.

You will then be invited to meet up or attend a virtual meeting and discuss your application in more detail. If accepted and following satisfactory references and a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) enhanced check, you will be required to complete induction, together with regular ongoing supervision meetings.

With best wishes

Una Tilt

Una Tilt
BEFRIENDING MANAGER

AIMS OF THE OCH BEFRIENDING SERVICE

The OCH Befriending Service, supported by the Rural East Integrated Community Care Team, aims to enhance the quality of life for adults living with a life-limiting illness and/or palliative care needs, i.e. the most vulnerable groups, within the West Hart community.

The service offers patients/clients the opportunity to reduce social isolation and to form a trusting relationship with volunteer befrienders, which in turn may enable the patient/client to:

- acquire a greater degree of self-confidence and emotional growth
- enhance their capacity to make use of their own resources, as well as resources available to them within the community, i.e. other voluntary organisations/statutory agencies
- cultivate and maintain relationships with others

What is expected of a Volunteer Befriender?

- attend regular support & supervision sessions
- respect and adhere to policies and procedures
- be reliable, consistent and dependable
- understand and maintain confidentiality & boundaries
- provide written report of each client visit and feedback any issues
- be accountable
- No imposing of own values, beliefs, or opinion

What qualities are essential?

- warmth, an ability to engage in relationships
- non-judgemental, accepting a person for who they are
- respecting others as being of equal worth
- good interpersonal skills, in particular listening skills
- an ability to handle a level of stress
- ability to work on own/use initiative/common sense

***“Friendship is a private, mutual relationship.
Befriending is a service***

Befriending Service

Odiham Cottage Hospital
 Buryfields
 Odiham, Hook, RG29 1NE
 Tel: 01256 393609
 Email: befriending@odihamcottagehospital.org.uk
www.odihamcottagehospital.org.uk



The OCH Befriending Service supports those in the West Hart community (Odiham, Hook, Hartley Wintney & Old Basing) who are living with a life limiting illness and may be lonely and/or isolated.

VOLUNTEER BEFRIENDER APPLICATION FORM

Personal Details

Surname:	Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/other:
Forename:	Date of Birth:
Address:	
Postcode:	
Home Telephone:	Mobile Telephone:
Email address:	
Do you own your own car?	Do you hold a current full UK driving licence?
Emergency Contact Name / Relationship to you:	Emergency Contact Telephone Number:
Current or previous occupation(s):	
Have you suffered any bereavement within the last 2 years? Yes / No	Do you have any medical conditions that we should be aware of? (<i>Volunteers are not required to complete a medical form but we ask that you provide any relevant information</i>) Yes / No

Volunteering at Odiham Cottage Hospital

Why do you want to become a Volunteer Befriender?

Do you have any experience of Befriending / working with adults or other volunteering?

What are your hobbies and interests?

What are your preferred days and times to volunteer?

How did you hear about the role of Volunteer Befriending?

References

Please give the names of two people from whom references can be obtained. These should not be relatives and preferably should have known you for at least 2 years.

Name (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)	Name (Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)
Relationship:	Relationship:
Address:	Address:
Telephone:	Telephone:
Email:	Email:

Protecting Your Information

How we use your information

The information you provide on this application form will only be used to process your application as part of our recruitment and selection process and to create and manage your information on our volunteer records.

Other Information

Due to the nature of our work, we are exempt from the 1974 Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, and you are therefore required to declare if you have any criminal convictions whether or not they are 'spent'. Your declaration will be treated in strict confidence and will be considered only in relation to this application. Please provide any details on a supplementary sheet and attach to this form.

The Befriending service role requires you to undertake an enhanced criminal record check via the Disclosure & Barring Service.

Signature:

Date: