Dementia Activity Volunteer

A Dementia Activity Volunteer is a volunteer who will deliver diversion activities for patients with dementia, based around a chosen area of interest. Diversional activities could include but is not limited to, reminiscence, arts and crafts, music, drama, games, reading, personal care including health and beauty and other activities and interests that the Volunteer may have and can bring to the role.

Equally it could be simply talking with a patient on the ward. Volunteers who are recruited to this role will receive a package of training before commencing in the role. However, volunteers should have knowledge or experience of caring for someone with dementia and be confident in carrying out our diversion activities.

The timing of this role are flexible and in agreement with the ward.

Role Description
Tasks to be undertaken

1. Deliver agreed activities for patients with dementia based around your chosen interest. An activity session could be either with an individual patient or a number of patients. You will work closely with ward staff and your activities will be part of an overall programme of activities delivered to the wards.

2. Liaise with staff to identify appropriate patients with dementia and/or confusion on the ward that would benefit from engaging with activities.


4. To provide dining company to the patient during meal times if Volunteer is available on the ward at this time.

5. To encourage patients to eat and drink or to assist with making menu choices.

6. To identify and take part in relevant training and development courses relevant to the Dementia Volunteer role.

7. To feedback to your Volunteer Supervisor on the ward about your role and the services we provide to enable us to use your feedback, where we can to improve.
Person Specification

It is expected that the Dementia Activity Volunteer will be able:

1. To organise and lead an activity for patients with confidence.
2. To communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
3. To work with the minimum of supervision after suitable training has been undertaken
4. To use their own initiative as the need arises within agreed areas.
5. To present a professional approach to patients, carers, nursing and other staff.
6. To be polite and punctual at all times.
7. To commit to a regular time contribution to deliver activities
8. To commit to Volunteering with the Trust for a minimum of six months
9. To ensure absolute confidentiality of information obtained through contact with York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.
10. Demonstrate our Trust values.

We will support you by:

1. Delivering a Trust Induction Day which will provide mandatory training prior to commencement of Volunteering.
2. Delivering a half day Dementia Awareness and Activity training session prior to commencement.
3. Providing access to the E-Learning Dementia Higher Level course
4. Providing Dining Companion training
5. Providing supervision from the ward team on a daily basis and regular review meetings with your named volunteer supervisor on the ward.
6. Access and contact with the Volunteer Services team.
7. Other training that may be identified by you, the Volunteer Service or ward staff.
8. Listening to your feedback about your role and the services we provide and using it, where we can, to improve.
9. Ensuring you know who to speak to if you need to raise any immediate concerns on matters of safety, conduct or patient care.

Trust Key Values:

The ultimate objective of the Trust is: ‘To be trusted to deliver safe, effective and sustainable healthcare within our communities’. The Trust requires all volunteers to demonstrate the following Trust Values:

- caring about what we do
- respecting and valuing each other
- listening in order to improve
- always doing what we can to be helpful.
ROLE RISK PROFILE

Role: Volunteer Activity Co-ordinator (Dementia)

VOLUNTEER

### Details of risk level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The job profile is predominantly nursing</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Low</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There is potential exposure to</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) Violence / verbal abuse</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Blood / body fluids</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<td>The job involves contact with</td>
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<tr>
<td>a) Clinical / hands on patient / client care</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) Moving &amp; handling of patients / loads</td>
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<td>c) Food preparation and handling</td>
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<td>d) Immuno-compromised patients</td>
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</tbody>
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### Control Measures

- Volunteers will sign a Volunteer Agreement before starting to volunteer that covers confidentiality, safeguarding, infection prevention and expected behaviours
- Volunteers will undertake a local induction and be supervised at all times whilst on placement.

*I have read the role description and fully understand what is expected of me whilst I am in service as a Volunteer.*

Signed by ..........................        Print Name ..........................

Date ..........................