



Engage With Age Volunteer role description

Role title: HOPE occasional volunteer

Main purpose: to accompany HOPE day trips and outings

What is HOPE?

The HOPE project, which stands for Hubs for Older People's Engagement, was set up in April 2012 and received funding from the Big Lottery. The aims of the project are to reduce social isolation amongst older people, encourage participation and promote a sense of involvement and well-being. The project involves a partnership between Engage With Age and local Housing Associations which provide facilities and activities for older people from within the housing scheme itself and from the local neighbourhood.

HOPE Occasional Volunteer's role

A HOPE Occasional Volunteer will come along to the HOPE project day trips and outings to:

- provide support and companionship to new members
- accompany more vulnerable members
- ensure everyone attending the outing remains safe

Hub venues and frequency

The HOPE group outings can take place once a month or every few months, depending on the specific hub.

Outings will be organised by the Engage With Age HOPE staff along with the Housing Scheme Co-ordinator.

HOPE volunteer teams

As a HOPE occasional volunteer you will be working with residents of the housing scheme, assisting them where necessary during the outing. You will also work alongside the other HOPE volunteers in your specific hub.

We would encourage you to assist with as many outings as possible in order for you to build up a relationship with the residents and other volunteers.

Qualifications and experience

No specific qualifications or volunteer experience is required. The role may be ideal for you if you have:

- A willingness to engage older people in activities – those living in the housing scheme as well as people from the wider community
- An open mind - to try new activities and work with different individuals
- Good listening and communication skills
- Ability to be patient and caring
- Punctuality and reliability
- An understanding and commitment to confidentiality
- A commitment to teamwork with other volunteers and staff from Engage With Age and the housing scheme.
- A commitment to attend training and development workshops
- A desire to help others and in turn have fun too!

We would ask that you commit at least three months to the HOPE project but would encourage you to stay as long as you are able and wish to!

Support

The Volunteer co-ordinator will provide ongoing support through regular telephone contact, supervision meetings and occasional social events for volunteers.

How will Engage With Age support you?

You will be reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses, in accordance with Engage With Age's Volunteer Policy.

You will receive appropriate induction and ongoing training for your role in the HOPE project, as well as regular support from the Volunteer Co-ordinator.

ACCESS NI checks

Enhanced level checks to be carried out for this role.

We hope that you will find volunteering with Engage With Age a fulfilling, enjoyable and rewarding experience. Engage With Age values all volunteers and is committed to Equal Opportunities. We welcome and value your feedback on your experience as a volunteer with us at any time.