Volunteer role description

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| **Role Title** |
| Companions in the Community Surrey, supporting those in their last year of life in care homes and nursing homes |
| **Location** | How often |
| Community Based, Surrey | Approximately 3 hours per week |
| **How long**  | Minimum age  |
| Initially the Service is a 3-month pilot, however we hope it will continue past this. | 18 |
| **Disclosure checks** | Is driving essential for the role? |
| Yes | Preferred but do contact us if not |

**Service Overview**

Marie Curie is piloting a Companions in the Community Service to support those in their last year of life in care/nursing homes.

The Service will complement the support already provided by the Nursing Team, and local community service, providing end of life expertise to patients and their circle of support. Whilst clinical and care professionals provide hugely important services, we want to ensure that those who have a life limiting condition and/or experiencing health decline have all the support they need to help navigate the practical and emotional journey.

Companions will be trained in a variety of end-of-life support needs, to allow the person to choose what they need, when they need it. This volunteer role will involve regularly attending the care home, pro-actively engaging with residents, hosting Life-Café’s ,having ‘what’s important to you conversations’ and being with those who are actively dying, where required.

The role will be based within a nursing home or care home in Surrey and the Patient will be offered Companion support. Once the person has been identified, Marie Curie will arrange to visit the person in their care or nursing home. In the initial session we will explain more about the service and provide the individual, and their support network, to decide what support they feel they would like.

Support provided could be a one-off activity such as completing an Advance Care Plan or supporting them to access Carer’s Support Allowance, or it could be a going engagement providing different aspects of support over a longer period of time.

**What we are looking for:**

* Individuals who are willing to support others during death, dying and bereavement.
* Individuals who live within the Surrey community.
* Individuals who are interested in supporting people face to face in care homes.
* Access to IT equipment and basic IT skills e.g. typing on word and email attachments
* Passionate individuals who are keen to support us in making this pilot a success, to benefit the people we support and Surrey Team.
* Patience, empathy, and emotional awareness
* Excellent active listening skills and an ability to build a rapport with others.
* Commitment and reliability
* Inclusive and respectful values
* Willingness to learn and operate within Marie Curie processes and boundaries.

**What’s in it for you:**

* Opportunity to be involved with a national leader in end-of-life care.
* Comprehensive training and induction
* A supportive and empowering team environment
* 1:1 Wellbeing Support Sessions
* Resilience Based Group Supervision
* Access to other volunteering opportunities within Marie Curie
* Continuous personal development
* Buddying and shadow, sessions where required.

**What happens next?**

If this sounds like the role for you, click the ‘Apply Now’ button below to complete the application form. One of our team will be in contact with you and arrange a Teams or face-to-face meetings with you to discuss the role more, get to know you and answer any questions**.**

Following safe recruitment principles, this role will be subject to receiving a satisfactory Enhanced criminal record check, as well as the completion of 2x References and Mandatory Training.

If you are interested in this role but have some questions, or would like to discuss it further before applying contact XXXXX, Volunteer Service Coordinator, on XXXXXXX or email: XXXX@mariecurie.org.uk

**For internal use only**

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