

Befriending Volunteer Role Description

Role Title:	Our Neighbourhood Befriender
Hours:	Flexible
Accountable to:	Our Neighbourhood Coordinator
Base:	Scarborough Community
Aim of role:	To providing social and emotional support to people aged 18+ in Scarborough who are feeling isolated or lonely

Background

'Our Neighbourhood' is a new and exciting partnership between three locally based charities, joining forces to bring something fresh to Scarborough central. Our Neighbourhood has been designed to

- Help prevent, reduce or delay people's need for statutory social care
- Build resilience of both our communities and residents so that people can live the life they want, where they want, supported by the resources available in their own community
- Build communities, places and spaces which offer people somewhere or someone to turn to when they are facing difficult times, and to support them to find solutions to their challenges
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Main Duties

- To provide one to one companionship and support to adults feeling isolated and lonely
- To accompany and provide support and encouragement to people accessing community services or trying out a new hobby/activity
- To be a caring, non-judgemental listener for people who may not have others they feel comfortable talking to
- Help us identify others who might enjoy volunteering and support your clients to start that journey from befriended to befriender
- To stay connected with the organisation and feedback any concerns or worries you may have about your befriender or your role

Time Commitment

- Whatever you could commit to but on a regular basis. Many matches will meet weekly or fortnightly for 1-2 hours

Who are we looking for?



People who befriend come from all walks of life with a range of interests and personalities.... that's exactly what's needed as people seeking support also have a range of interests and personalities! Mostly we need people who:

- Have empathy and compassion
- Enjoying spending time with others, talking and listening
- Are friendly and approachable
- Have an understanding of confidentiality
- Have good communication skills
- Are reliable

Why volunteer with us?

Most importantly, you will make a difference to someone's life but there's many other reasons to volunteer with us!

- You will be given induction training to cover everything you need to know for the role to be done safely and enjoyably. You'll also be offered places on other training (not compulsory) if you are interested in developing further skills and knowledge
- You will receive ongoing support throughout your volunteering with a dedicated coordinator
- Boost your confidence and develop new skills
- The opportunity of meeting new people and working as part of a dedicated team. You'll have opportunities to meet up with other volunteers and members of the wider team for peer support and social/thank you events
- Valuable experience of volunteering that you can add to your CV and we can provide references for employment or education applications
- Out of pocket expenses (agreed beforehand) reimbursed

Application Procedure

- Application Form
- Informal interview
- Induction training
- References (2) and DBS

For an informal chat, contact our office:

Telephone: 01723 339838

Email: info@swrmind.org.uk