

# **FACILITIES TEAM: HOSPICE GARDEN VOLUNTEER**

## **ROLE BRIEF**



## **WHY VOLUNTEERING WITH NORTH DEVON HOSPICE IS AWESOME:**

Time is the most precious thing you can give. You want to make sure it makes a difference. By giving your time as a volunteer for North Devon Hospice, we guarantee you will be having a positive impact on someone's life, when it matters most.

You might volunteer in a team working directly with the patients and families we care for, or with our support teams who help make that care possible. Either way, you will making sure that someone facing a life-limiting illness like cancer does not have to face it alone. Thank you.

## **THE AIM OF THE ROLE:**

To help develop and maintain the gardens and grounds at the main hospice site, Deer Park, Barnstaple or at our outreach centre, The Long House, Holsworthy. Our gardens are vital for the wellbeing of our patients, staff and all our visitors.

## **WHAT'S INVOLVED?**

From our kitchen garden, herbaceous borders, rose garden, two large ponds and cherry orchard to every area in between, there is a wealth of plants and spaces to maintain across our 5 acres of grounds.

Tasks such as grass cutting, watering & feeding plants, trees and shrubs, hand weeding, hoeing, staking, deadheading, cutting back, digging over, mulching, and manuring in the flower, shrub and vegetable borders as well as maintaining good access e.g., maintenance of paths, signposting, boundaries, drainage, and litter picking.

Cleaning and maintaining garden furniture as well as cleaning and maintenance of the garden shed and equipment and undertaking any other tasks as requested or appropriate within the nature of the role.

### **HOURS REQUIRED:**

The team usually meets on Monday's. Either for a morning, an afternoon or as much time as you have available. Start times to be agreed in advance. Commitment to a regular shift, or shifts is preferable.

### **WHAT THE HOSPICE OFFERS:**

- A safe, welcoming and supportive environment
- You will be part of a dedicated and friendly team
- The opportunity to utilise existing skills or develop & learn new skills
- The opportunity to meet new people
- The knowledge you are directly contributing to the care & support offered to our patients and their families we care for
- An induction & full guidance given on all aspects of the role
- The opportunity to enhance your personal fitness and wellbeing
- The opportunity to gain hands-on horticultural experience
- Reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses
- Regular events throughout the year to meet other volunteers across the organisation and for us to thank you for your contribution
- Recognition scheme to celebrate your length of service with NDH

### **WHAT YOU CAN OFFER US:**

- An ability to work as part of a team with people of wide-ranging ages and abilities
- An ability to work unsupervised at times and to work within set boundaries
- An ability to work in a flexible and approachable manner
- Enthusiasm for outside practical horticultural work is essential although no previous experience required
- An approachable and friendly manner and a willingness to engage with patients and visitors who visit the gardens and be sensitive to the hospice environment

- Good personal hygiene and a willingness to follow strict infection control measures
- Be able to maintain confidentiality
- An ability to work safely and to not endanger yourself or others, using common sense to maintain a safe working environment
- A willingness to undertake training and to follow NDH policies and guidelines