

# VOLUNTEERING NEWS

## Essential Volunteer Training

In order to volunteer in SHSCT, we have two essential training courses for all volunteers to complete. Thank you to all of you who have been completing the training.

In order to reach every volunteer, in a training method which suits them, we offer our courses via Zoom, online and face to face.

We have developed and included a training calendar to ensure you all have the opportunity to complete your Safeguarding and Induction E-Learning training.

Please look for the method of learning and format which suits you and contact our central admin (contact on next page) to book your place.

## Reinstating Volunteer Roles Figures and new roles—updated

As from the end of November we have currently 79 ACTIVE volunteers reinstated at present.

Over the last 6 months the volunteering service has been busy reinstating, and actively recruiting new volunteers into a variety of roles. From our last newsletter we have roles returned in Macmillan Information and Support, Pets as Therapy, and Spiritual Support. We have expanded our Here to Help service and have some activity support and entertainment roles returned.

We are still working on getting other roles such as Meal Time Support reinstated.

We hope to expand the roles available and provide further opportunities for our volunteers to return too over the coming weeks and months.

## Macmillan information and Support



We are delighted to welcome back the Macmillan Information and Support volunteers to both Craigavon Area Hospital & Daisy Hill Hospital's Macmillan Hub. We have a mixture of returning and brand new volunteers onto the service. Welcome back!



## Breastfeeding Peer Support Volunteer Celebration Event



A celebration event was held this month to thank our volunteers who work as Breastfeeding Peer Support Workers. The celebration, at South Lake Leisure Centre in Craigavon, was for existing volunteers supporting breastfeeding mothers over the last year. Breastfeeding Peer Support Workers are local mums who have breastfed their own children and who, with specialised training, encourage and support other new mothers. By sharing their own skills and experiences, peer mums can help breastfeeding mothers to overcome many problems with breastfeeding and encourage them to discuss any concerns they may have. The volunteers spent the morning completing lots of practical scenario-based training sessions, alongside some refresher safeguarding training specific to their role. The afternoon was finished with a celebration cake, goodie bags and all BFPS volunteers received thank you cards with individual service user feedback.

## Supporting Diversity In Volunteering

Khaleda started volunteering within our 'Here to Help' team in CAH. Khaleda had decided to volunteer because she wanted to 'give back' to her local community who have welcomed her and her family into the Craigavon area. "The reason I volunteer is to be an active and useful member of my community". Khaleda also said she would 'highly recommend' volunteering within the Southern Trust to her family and friends. Recognising her Syrian heritage, Khaleda feels that the Trust offers genuine opportunities to all sections of the community and ethnic minority backgrounds. Khaleda continued "I personally think equality and inclusivity are an important component in the delivery of quality care services within SHSCT. Everyone within volunteering is treated fairly, equally and with dignity and respect".



## Spiritual Support Volunteers return

We welcome back our spiritual support volunteers in both CAH and DHH. Our Spiritual Support volunteers were really missed during the COVID pandemic and both staff and service users are delighted at their return.

### Volunteer Coordinators

**Aine Mulholland**, Craigavon & Banbridge, 028 3756 3950

**Kate Johnston** Armagh & Dungannon, 028 3756 4498

**Karen McCabe** Newry & Mourne, 028 3756 6295

**Centralised Admin:** [volunteer.service@southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:volunteer.service@southerntrust.hscni.net)  
Or 028 37563946