



VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION:

Care Home Befriender volunteer

Why get involved with the Royal British Legion (RBL)?

You don't need to be an RBL member or have links to the Armed Forces community to volunteer with us. You'll be joining the UK's leading Armed Forces charity, the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community through thick and thin – ensuring their unique contribution is never forgotten.

How will I make a difference as a *Care Home Befriender* volunteer?

In this role you will be supporting the Royal British Legion by contributing to the smooth operation of the Care Home's functions by visiting and providing companionship and friendship to residents, either on a one-to-one basis or in a group situation.

What will I be doing as a *Care Home Befriender* volunteer?

- Talking with residents and reminiscing either within a group or one-to-one, reporting any concerns observed to the relevant manager.
- Sharing and developing interests and/or skills. For example, supporting residents with their digital skills, arts, sports, puzzles and jigsaws.
- Reading to residents and supporting them with writing cards and/or letters to loved ones.
- Helping residents to join in activities and games.

If you speak a particular language or have a particular skill, such as craft, please let us know so that we can help match you with a resident.

What won't I be doing as a *Care Home Befriender* volunteer?

- Providing personal or nursing care to residents.
- Offering a counselling service to residents.
- Moving or transferring of residents who require assistance.
- Assisting residents with eating and drinking.

What skills and experience would I need, or could I develop?

- Be a good listener, effective communicator and enjoy conversation with a wide variety of people.
- Caring and patient, with a sensitive manner and a non-judgemental approach.
- An understanding of and empathy with the needs of older people.
- Committed to acting in line with Legion policies and procedures, including those relating to data protection; confidentiality; safeguarding; health and safety and equality and diversity.

- **This role is purely voluntary, and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract.**



What support will be available to me?

- An initial 2-day induction, followed by annual refresher training.
- A designated person to discuss your volunteering with.
- Training and opportunities for further development.
- A handbook to support your volunteering.
- Day to day support from a member of the team.

What else do I need to know?

Where: Volunteer role to be carried out in the home

Time commitment: A regular commitment of time, which will be agreed with your volunteer manager.

Training/Resources: Induction.
Annual in-house training courses.

Expenses: Reasonable out-of-pocket costs agreed in advance will be reimbursed.

Extra Information: The minimum age for Care Home Befriender volunteer is 18 years old. Two* satisfactory references and a criminal record (DBS) check are required.
*If you are already an RBL volunteer, we will only require one reference, from your RBL contact.

In order to comply with charity regulations, we reserve the right to carry out additional screening if we consider it appropriate to do so.

What are the benefits for me?

- Be part of a committed and friendly team.
- Excellent socialising opportunities.
- Develop and learn new skills in a care environment with excellent CV building.
- An opportunity to make a difference to the Armed Forces community within our care homes.

RBL values and behaviours' – does the following describe you?

- Passionate about supporting the Armed Forces community and honouring their contribution.
- A desire to provide great support in all that you do.
- Enjoy and thrive in working in teams and with others.
- An encourager, eager to share your knowledge and experience to help others.
- Committed to being the best you can and to learn and develop new and existing skills.

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