

Sheffield Carers Centre

Volunteers: Frequently Asked Questions

What can you expect?

If you are interested in volunteering with us we will send you a volunteer application pack which includes an application form and more detailed information about our volunteer roles. When we receive your completed application form, we will invite you to an informal meeting with the Volunteer Coordinator and another member of the staff team who will be your supervisor if you choose to volunteer with us. So you'll get to know the members of staff you'll be volunteering with straight away. It's a relaxed and friendly meeting, which gives us a chance to find out a bit more about why you want to volunteer, and to answer any questions you might have about the role and the volunteer experience. At present, these meetings are held on Zoom due to our offices not being fully open following the Covid restrictions. If you are still interested in the volunteer role after finding out more at the meeting, the next step is for us to send for references, and on receipt of these we will invite you to your volunteering training sessions.

Do I need a DBS check?

The volunteer roles at Sheffield Carers Centre do not require a DBS check.

What is involved in the training?

All volunteers attend 2 training sessions. The first is around 1.5 hours long, delivered by the Volunteer Coordinator, and you will usually attend with a small group of other new volunteers. This is a general volunteer induction session and explains in more detail the support provided by Sheffield Carers Centre, as well as covering Volunteer Boundaries, Confidentiality, Safeguarding and Data Protection. The second training session lasts for about 1 hour and will be delivered by a member of the staff team who will be your supervisor during your volunteering. This session gives you more in-depth information and training in your chosen volunteer role. There will also be further optional training opportunities throughout your volunteering to develop your skills and interests. At present, all our training is carried out virtually on Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

What support will there be for me as a volunteer?

After your training you'll be ready to start volunteering, but we don't just leave you to it! You'll get regular check ins from the Volunteer Coordinator to make sure you feel happy in your new role, and there'll be support on hand whenever you need it from your Supervisor who will be your main point of contact within the staff team. We also have monthly volunteer meetings on Zoom so you'll get chance to meet our other volunteers and see how they're getting on too.

Who can volunteer?

We welcome enquiries from anyone over the age of 18 and from all sectors of the community. The carers we support are all within the Sheffield city boundary, although some of our volunteers live outside of the city boundary and have chosen to volunteer within Sheffield.

For more information please contact our Volunteer Coordinator:

Sarah Knightley: Tel: 0114 278 8942 Email: Volunteers@sheffieldcarers.org.uk