



## **East Cheshire Hospice Community Chaplain Volunteer - Spiritual & Pastoral care of patients at home**

Community Chaplaincy Volunteers support the Lead Chaplain by visiting patients and their families in their homes. The role is centred on compassionate presence and attentive listening; this may include prayer and/or helping individuals connect with a church or other faith community.

This is an 'on-call' ministry, responding as and when our Hospice@Home Teams identify patients in need of spiritual care beyond what they are able to provide. There may also be opportunities to take part in worship events at the Hospice, or at other venues, should you wish to do so.

Some experience of pastoral care is essential for this role, and additional training will be provided in key areas. Chaplaincy volunteers need to feel able to talk openly and sensitively about death and dying, and be willing to offer prayer with patients when this is requested. The purpose of this service is not to convert people, but to walk alongside individuals with compassion, respect, and dignity at the end of life.

We are looking for caring, non-judgmental individuals who respect and support people of all faiths and none. This is a community-based role, typically within the area where you live, while remaining closely connected to the Chaplaincy Team based at East Cheshire Hospice in Macclesfield. Team meetings take place quarterly and include group supervision and opportunities to share experiences. Support is also available from the Lead Chaplain between meetings as needed.

There is no personal care involved, and volunteers will not be required to undertake any moving or handling of patients. Applicants must be 18 years of age or over. All applicants will be shortlisted and interviewed as part of the recruitment process. All Chaplaincy volunteers are subject to an enhanced DBS check.

If you have experienced a recent close bereavement (within the last year), or feel you are still in the early stages of grieving, we would ask you to wait before applying to join this team. While the work is warm, supportive, and often shared with moments of care and humour, it can also be emotionally challenging. If you are unsure whether now is the right time, please do get in touch — we are always happy to talk this through with you.

### **Perks and Benefits**

You'll be part of a caring and supportive team, working both within the Hospice and out in the community to support patients and their families. Many volunteers find this role deeply rewarding and meaningful. Volunteering can also offer personal benefits, including opportunities for connection, fulfilment, and learning, and may have a positive impact on your own wellbeing.

### **Essentials Skills and Requirements**

- Experience of pastoral care
- Strong listening skills
- Empathy, compassion and spiritual awareness
- Work well as part of a team
- A full driving licence and access to your own vehicle
- Access to a mobile phone you can take with you to home visits

For further information, please email [marion.tugwood@echospice.org.uk](mailto:marion.tugwood@echospice.org.uk), or call 01625 664981

