

# VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION



**VOLUNTEER TITLE: Bereavement Support Volunteer**

**VOLUNTEER LINK: Brenda Clayton**

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## **Aims:**

Coping with bereavement involves painful feelings, coming to terms with loss and making adjustments in life. We are looking for volunteers to provide support to people experiencing bereavement, helping them to explore their feelings and promoting healthy grief in a safe and supportive environment.

## **When / Where:**

Face to Face support is Monday – Friday between core office hours 09.00-17.00 on-site at St Oswald's Hospice.

Remote support via telephone or Teams is offered throughout the week as agreed with client and volunteer.

We are looking for a commitment of a around 6 months to ensure that those we support are given consistency with support

## **Main Tasks:**

You will be matched with a bereaved person for one to one support where your role will include some of, but is not restricted to, the following tasks:

- Provide bereavement support either in the hospice, over the phone or vial TEAMS
- Provide short term confidential emotional support to clients
- Actively listen to clients and explore their feelings around their loss with empathy
- Pass on appropriate information to the Bereavement team
- Keep to hospice record keeping procedures
- Help with other related tasks when necessary

NB: This role is not giving advice or telling individuals what to do, but recognising the value of being alongside and supporting people in their grief.

## **Personal Qualities:**

Someone who is:

- able to provide emotional/psychological support
- understanding of loss, grief and bereavement and how this impacts on individuals.
- patient, kind and a good listener.
- able to show respect, empathy, genuineness.
- has a good level of self-awareness

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**[www.stoswaldsuk.org](http://www.stoswaldsuk.org)**

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NB: It is important that you do not have unresolved bereavement issues

### Essential Processes/ Training (Internal Info):

- Recruitment Pathway *[On-site]*
- Minimum age *[18+]*
- DBS check required *[Enhanced Children and Adults]*
- Health & Safety Training Online *[non clinical]*
- Health & Safety Training *[on-site]*
- Additional training specific to role
  - *An Overview of Care at St Oswald's*
  - *Bereavement Support Volunteer training.*
- Smartcard Required *[No]*
- Home Working Risk Assessment *[if applicable]*