

An Introduction to VOLUNTEERING AT CAMPHILL DEVON COMMUNITY

Essential information about being a Volunteer
(also referred to as a Co-worker)
at Camphill Devon Community



“Everlasting memories with people that I will never forget...” (from a recent volunteer)

About Camphill Devon Community

Most of our services are based at Hapstead Village, which is in the South West of England, on the edge of Dartmoor National Park in Devon. The town of Buckfastleigh is 1.5 miles away, with larger towns of Newton Abbot and Totnes also close by, which have good national rail and coach links.

Hapstead is a beautiful place to live and work. Camphill Devon provides accommodation and support to adults with a learning disability. People are supported to live within a range of six houses at Hapstead. Volunteers work in the houses, and most volunteers live in the same house as they are working in, alongside the people we support. Volunteers work as part of a team with permanent staff and other volunteers. If you are coming from another country you will experience life in England and will have the fulfilling experience of meeting other volunteers from all over the world.

Camphill Devon is a registered charity. We support people in all aspects of their life and offer a community ethos where people are made stronger by caring about others and knowing that others care about them (this is one of our values).

Volunteering with Camphill Devon

Being a volunteer with Camphill Devon provides memories and achievements that will stay with each volunteer throughout their life. You will have the opportunity to support people with learning disabilities, share your skills and learn about providing care and support to people. You will work within a team, with staff and other volunteers from around the world. Volunteering with Camphill Devon is an opportunity to experience work, life and culture in England.

Your work will include providing personal care where needed, such as help with shaving, showering, bathing, toileting and laundry. You will also help with the running of the house, including cooking and cleaning. On each night of the week one of the volunteers will be the "sleep-in" person for the house. This means that you need to sleep in the house (as usual) and if there is a problem you will be the first person to respond. At night there is always a "Responsible Person" at Hapstead (usually a manager or an experienced member of staff) who you can contact if you need any support or guidance.

The work of a volunteer at Camphill Devon is mostly for the house and the people who live there. We also run a number of rural craft workshops, including pottery, woodcraft and land-based work and we are also keen for volunteers to share their own skills, interests and hobbies with the people that live here.

Volunteers also support people when they go to activities in the local towns, such as college, swimming and social events. Like all of us, people enjoy trips to the cinema, theatre, night clubs and other activities in the area, with support from volunteers. Sometimes volunteers may also support people when going on their holidays.

Volunteering and supporting the people that live at Hapstead Village is a privilege, and we often hear that this creates many opportunities and experiences that people take away with them, and remember fondly.

If you would like to find out more, or apply to be a volunteer with us please get in touch.

Please note, while the Covid-19 pandemic continues, as part of a care community working with vulnerable people all staff and volunteers are expected to follow our vaccination policy.

Care homes are seen to be at high risk as close contact cannot be avoided. Good quality PPE is provided and our policy is that everyone must use it as appropriate. The vaccination programme is an extension of our policy on PPE and risk assessments show that vaccination is a key control measure in preventing the spread of the virus and helping to protect everyone in our Camphill Devon Community.

It is our expectation that all staff and co-workers offered the vaccine will accept it.

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