

# Hospital Volunteer

“Support for our partners when they need it most”

## What is a Hospital Volunteer?

Hospital Volunteers support the work of our Independent Mental Health Advocates (IMHAs) by providing crucial 1:1 support to patients at one of the region's mental health hospitals.

The role of the IMHA is to provide an additional safeguard for patients who are subject to the Mental Health Act 1983. They support patients to exercise their rights and ensure they can participate in the decisions that are made about their care and treatment. They help qualifying patients to obtain relevant information and to understand their position including their rights and aspects of their treatment.

## What will I do?

You'll be allocated a Community Meeting and a ward to attend at one of our local mental health sites (currently Fulbourn in Cambridge and Edith Cavell in Peterborough). You'll visit once a week for approximately an hour. You'll provide information about advocacy services and you may help patients who want to access one of our Independent Mental Health Advocates (IMHA). You may speak to patients who need issues raising with ward staff, such as if they would like to see a doctor, or concerns about their medication. At the end of the session the Volunteer Coordinator will call to check everything has gone ok.

You will write up notes and send these to the Volunteer Co-ordinator.

## What can I expect from TVCP?

The opportunity to make a positive difference to people with mental health needs.

The opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people and gain experience in your chosen volunteering role/s.

Volunteer induction training and training specific to any volunteering role you undertake.

1:1 Support from TVCP staff including regular feedback.

A reference if you complete over six months of Volunteering.

## What will Total Voice expect of me?

To complete the recruitment process including having a current DBS (this can be arranged through TVCP).

To complete all necessary training.

To perform your role in a way that is consistent with VoiceAbility's values of being: Passionate, Empowering, Collaborative, Honest and Resourceful.

Understand and sign the Volunteering Agreement.