

<u>ROLE DESCRIPTION</u>	
Role Title:	Volunteer Creative Writer
Role Purpose:	<p>To provide in-patient meaningful based creative writing group interventions with support from staff.</p> <p>To support staff with planning and evaluation of sessions prior to, and following group sessions.</p> <p>To assist NHS staff teams in engaging patients to explore creativity with writing stories/exercises to enhance their rehabilitation experience and to improve wellbeing.</p>
Hours:	Day and hours to suit you. As a guide we would like a fixed one or two 1 hour sessions plus preparation and discussion afterwards, per week (eg Every Wednesday 10-2.30pm)
Reports to:	Bennion Centre Occupational Therapy (Main contact)

What are the benefits of a creative writing role?

- Develop patient interest in meaningful activity to enhance recovery.
- Enable patients to explore thinking and to use writing as a means of expression.
- Supports patients to develop their health and well-being.
- To provide consistency in the running of groups.

What is the benefit of this volunteer activity for me as a volunteer?

- Opportunity to teach an activity that you are passionate about.
- Give something of value to those that are struggling with mental health.
- Opportunity to spend time doing something you can feel proud of.
- Improve your confidence.
- Opportunity to meet new people.
- Open up further work opportunities with references supplied about your time volunteering.
- The volunteering team support through the application process.
- Training provided with certificates
- Staff handbook.
- A benefits booklet, like staff booklet but with some differences.
- Named supervisor/contact on site.
- Polo shirt/volunteer lanyard.
- Induction pack in a NHS Volunteer cloth bag.
- Quarterly Volunteer Vision enewsletter.
- Birthday card.
- Free travel on the hospital hopper bus.

Tasks

- Attend weekly organised group.
- Assist with the planning of the group and involvement in rolling group activities as planned in advance.
- Assist with supporting patients within the group.
- Assist with the evaluation of the individual patient performance following activity.

TRAINING

Volunteer Induction is compulsory for all volunteers. Local induction will be provided by Therapy Staff.

PLACEMENT LOCATION

Placement Area	Brief Description
The Bennion Centre, Glenfield Hospital	The Bennion Centre has 2 wards (men's and women's) of 48 beds catering for Mental Health Services for Older People (MSOP). The general patient population is elderly and can be acutely unwell with mental health conditions, and some may also have dementia. There is provision for physical health care and good therapeutic treatment and activities. Wards for people with dementia have dementia-friendly elements.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

<u>Volunteer Specification</u>		Weighting: 3 Essential 2 Important 1 Desirable
Experience		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Language enthusiasm- editor, teacher, author or poet. Experience of working with people (for example in a voluntary or paid role) 	3	1
Knowledge		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of word games, explorative and descriptive vocabulary. Awareness of dementia Awareness of the principles of confidentiality and good clinical governance. Awareness of Equality and Valuing Diversity Principles. Understanding of Confidentiality and Data Protection Act. 	3	1 2 2 2
Skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate clearly. Ability to manage people, to establish and maintain appropriate boundaries. Ability to evaluate patients work and appraise. 	3	3 3
Motivation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in volunteering Enthusiasm for working with people and supporting people to improve their health and well-being. 	3	3
Special Aptitudes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good interpersonal skills 	3	
Circumstances/Flexibility		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to volunteer from 10am - 3pm on a Wednesday on a weekly basis (This may be able to be changed to suit a different day). 	3	
Qualifications		
Qualifications are not necessary for this volunteer role but you may be asked to provide evidence of your skills and experiences.		

DBS

This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS (CRB) check.