

Job Description

Patient Engagement Worker (casual work)

NHS Community Hospital Gardens

For 50 years, Cyrenians (a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered charity number SC011052) has served those on the edge; working with the homeless and vulnerable to transform their lives.

Our Vision is an inclusive society in which we all have the opportunities to live valued and fulfilled lives. We work to make that vision a reality though our Mission to support people excluded from family, home, work or community on their life journey.

We aim to offer consistently excellent service across all locations and in all our activities. Our way of working is built on our four core values:

Compassion: We believe that everyone should have the chance to change, no matter how long that might take.

Respect: We believe in tolerance, acceptance, valuing diversity and treating each other as equals.

Integrity: We are committed to the highest quality of work, grounded in honesty, generosity, sincerity and professionalism.

Innovation: We are willing to take risks, challenge convention and be very creative in our search for new ways of working, in particular by taking account of the environmental impact of our decisions.

1 General

NHS Community Gardens

Cyrenians NHS Community Gardens

Cyrenians has worked with NHS Lothian to establish two hospital community gardens: the Royal Edinburgh Community Gardens in 2010, and the Midlothian Community Hospital Garden which was launched in 2012.

The hospital garden sites are owned by NHS Lothian. The original vision for the initiative came from the then Chairman of NHS Lothian, Dr Charles Winstanley, in 2010, with the establishment of the Royal Edinburgh Community Gardens. He formed the NHS Community Gardens Steering Group – involving NHS Officers and third sector stakeholders – who put together the vision and development brief for NHS Community Gardens. Cyrenians was selected as the managing agency in December 2009 and is accountable to the Steering Group, which is chaired by Shulah Allan, Vice Chair of NHS Lothian. The Steering Group also includes the Belhaven Community Hospital Garden, managed by Sustaining Dunbar.

Cyrenians NHS Community Gardens are projects that offer hospital patients, staff and visitors, as well as people and groups from the local community, the chance to take part in a range of activities in the garden and on hospital wards. These activities include gardening, landscaping, producing food to share and for sale, increasing the bio-diversity of the garden, therapeutic learning programmes and social events, such as Open Days, hospital fetes etc. The vision is to create a great place for communities to grow together, with a particular emphasis on including people who might face barriers to being involved in activities such as this due to a range of complex needs.

Both gardens are located within hospital sites, supporting people with a range of complex mental health issues, dementia, learning disabilities and physical health conditions.

The purpose of the Patient engagement role is to deliver opportunities that allow patients to benefit from the therapeutic aspects of gardening, wildlife and the outdoors. This encompasses a broad spectrum of nature-based and gardening activities focusing on wellbeing and designed to support the treatment and recovery of those attending. The role involves leading workshops primarily on wards, and also in the gardens, and other locations within NHS grounds, allowing us to support patients with a variety of physical and mental health support needs or learning disabilities.

Main outcomes for the patient engagement worker are:

- Activities offered to patients are planned and delivered to a high standard;
- Patients are supported to attend and engage in the programme;
- Feedback forms are completed by attendees, and attendance reported;

2 Tasks and Responsibilities

- Deliver a range of therapeutic workshops with groups of patients on hospital wards, in the gardens, and other venues on the hospital grounds
- Help plan activities designed to engage patients attending sessions, both in the gardens and at other venues
- Where appropriate source materials for activities
- Work closely with patient engagement volunteers to deliver sessions
- Contribute to risk assessments to ensure a safe working environment is maintained and that health and safety policies/procedures are strictly adhered to
- Establish and maintain links with the hospital community
- Ensure that all patients and NHS staff are aware of all Health and Safety procedures
- Contribute to shared evaluative process with volunteers, NHS staff/occupational therapists when required
- Record participation of patients, including qualitative evaluations with patients and inputting of attendance figures from each session

- Liaise regularly with patient engagement team, gardens coordinator, service manager and project lead to help implement any required changes to the programme
- Attend any relevant training to support delivery of programme

3 Person Specification

Attributes, skills and experience	
The ability to plan and lead group work sessions	Essential
Proven organisational skills and the ability to work unsupervised	Essential
Excellent people skills	Essential
Good awareness of personal boundaries	Essential
Experience of working with vulnerable individuals and groups	Essential
Ability to follow good practise in risk management, support others to work safely, and implement risk assessment procedures	Essential
Proven gardening, and food growing skills and experience	Desirable
Experience of delivering arts and crafts activities with groups	Desirable
Experience of working with and supporting volunteers	Desirable
Experience of partnership working	Desirable
Understanding and awareness of mental health policy and NHS ways of working	Desirable
Qualifications and training	
Relevant qualification/training in any of the following: Horticulture, art therapy, occupational therapy, Forest Schools, Herbology, biodiversity, Cooking outdoors, John Muir, Social Care	Desirable
Accredited first aid certificate or willingness to undertake	Essential
Values and attributes	
Committed to supporting those who face disadvantage or stigma	Essential
Able to demonstrate Cyrenians values of respect, integrity compassion and innovation	Essential
Organised, flexible and "can do" attitude	Essential
Committed and enthusiastic, able to bring about change	Essential

4 Terms & Conditions

Reporting Manager: Gardens Manager
 Workplace: Edinburgh/Midlothian
 Working Hours: Casual work. Hours will be offered as and when they are available. There is no expectation that a Casual Worker will accept all hours that are offered. A Casual Worker is not an employee.

Salary: £13.81 per hour. This is an hourly rate of £11.95, plus an additional payment of £1.86 per hour to reflect any entitlement to annual leave.

Disclosure: PVG scheme membership required

5 Application deadline and Interview dates

Closing date: Monday 13th May 2019 at 12.00 noon.

Interview date: Date to be confirmed

Second stage: Date to be confirmed

Please refer to the Recruitment Information leaflet for further information on completing and submitting your application form.

Further information can be found at www.cyrenians.scot