



Neighbours Connect Southmead

Volunteer with us

About Neighbours Connect Southmead

Neighbours Connect Southmead is a project run by Southmead Development Trust, to tackle loneliness and isolation. The project aims to develop greater connectedness by matching volunteers with isolated members of the community, to spend time together and take part in activities together.

Who runs Neighbours Connect Southmead?

Neighbours Connect Southmead is a project run by Southmead Development Trust. We run several local centres, including the Greenway Centre, which is a community hub with a café, gym, snooker hall and offers many clubs and classes.

What kind of activities will volunteers do?

- Befriending – meeting with someone in their own home or out in the community
- Taking part in an activity together – playing cards, pool, knitting etc
- Support to attend appointments; hospital, GP dentist etc
- Support to go shopping
- Support to take part in volunteering opportunities
- Driving someone to an appointment or activity that wouldn't be able to get to alone

What skills and experience do you need?

We value all kinds of experience that our volunteers bring to the project. The project supports people who are the most isolated in the community – this might be because of age, disability or circumstance. Volunteers must enjoy establishing relationships with people, be good communicators and understand the importance of establishing positive, helpful boundaries.

What's the time commitment?

Between 20 minutes and 2 hours – you decide how much time and what will suit you!

How will we match you?

When you start with Neighbours Connect Southmead, we will work with you to gain an understanding of your interests, your experience and what you want to gain from the role. We will then match you with someone who fits. For example, you may be a chess enthusiastic and therefore matched with someone else who is a keen player!

How will I be supported?

You will receive regular and ongoing support from the Volunteer Coordinator at Southmead Development Trust. You will be fully inducted and trained at the start, with opportunities for ongoing training.

What can I gain from the role?

Whatever your reasons for volunteering, we'll support you to make sure you get what you want from the role. Volunteers are supported to develop their experience, skills and confidence. References will be provided after 4 months of volunteering.

Get in touch with us to find out more:

Volunteer Coordinator - Letty Anderton

[Email - lettyanderton@southmead.org](mailto:lettyanderton@southmead.org), telephone – 0117 950 3335

Greenway Centre, Southmead Development Trust, Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol, BS10 5PY