Volunteering with Do Care

Volunteering can present the chance to use your unique skills and abilities which actively involve you in the community. Everyone has life experiences and skills that can be used to provide social interaction for a lonely resident in our local community.

This is an opportunity for volunteers to utilise their own skills of listening, talking and sharing, brightening up someone else’s life, bringing that community connection to them and making the resident feel valued and cared about. The volunteer needs to be non-judgemental and accepting of diversity in lifestyles, culture and religious views. This is a very rewarding experience for volunteers.

Do Care recruits, trains and matches volunteers up with people who have similar interests or the same cultural background.

Volunteers need to make a commitment of a minimum of six months.

Do you know someone who is isolated and would benefit from a Do Care visitor?

Are you interested in becoming a Do Care volunteer?

For more information about how to register for a Do Care visitor, or if you would like the opportunity to volunteer to be a Do Care visitor, please see contact details below:

Do Care (Wangaratta)

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Supported by Victorian Dept. of Health and Human Services
About Do Care (Wangaratta)
Do Care is a free service available to residents in the Rural City of Wangaratta to provide friendship and companionship to isolated members of our community. Do Care is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Do Care is available to:
- Frail aged people
- People with a disability who are socially isolated and live at home
- Unpaid Carers

Once matched with a resident, the volunteer will then visit on a regular basis (an hour a week). These regular visits can enrich the residents’ life and reduce their isolation and feeling of loneliness.

Who are Do Care visitors?
A Do Care visitor is a person who can visit and befriend an elderly person in their own home to provide conversation, companionship and social interaction.

A Do Care visitor will have a genuine appreciation of the older members of our community and an interest in what can be shared together. The visitor will have some spare time and be prepared to make a regular, and ongoing commitment.

What skills do Do Care visitors need?
The most important qualities of Do Care visitors are:
- understanding and respect for the elderly
- to be reliable and resilient
- to have good listening skills
- to be confident in visiting independently
- to demonstrate good judgement
- clear police check

What a Do Care Visitor can and can’t do
What a Do Care visitor can do:
- Sit and chat, sharing stories and reminiscing over a cup of tea or coffee
- Go for a short walk
- Play a board or card game
- Mutual activities that can be enjoyed by both people

What Do Care visitors cannot do:
- carry out nursing duties or similar, or give out medical advice
- undertake household related tasks
- accept payment for any work undertaken within the Do Care role
- interfere in family situations
- become involved in the financial affairs of the resident
- accept or give gifts

In addition, there are specified role prohibitions for visitors which are clearly defined to each volunteer. A police check is conducted and a volunteer agreement stating boundaries is also signed.

Frequently Asked Questions
Do I qualify to receive a Do Care visitor in my own home?
If you are eligible for Home and Community Care (HACC) assistance, then YES you do qualify to have a person visit you in your home.

How much does it cost?
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, it’s FREE - providing you are eligible for Home and Community Care (HACC) assistance.

What is Home and Community Care (HACC) assistance?
Home and Community Care assistance are services coordinated and provided to meet your specific care needs. HACC provides services that can help you to stay at home, give you choice and flexibility in the way that care and support is provided to you.

How long will I have to wait to have a visitor?
We can’t give you a set date or time, it depends on a few factors,
- Where you live
- If we have any visitors in your area
We will contact you regularly to keep you informed.

Can I refer myself?
Yes, simply by calling the number on the back of this brochure you can get your name on our waiting list. Family, neighbours, friends and Service Providers can also refer a person to our service.

www.thecentre.vic

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