



Integrated Health
Care Centre
Registered Charity No.1008228



Could you be a Befriender?

Are you a good listener who is approachable and loves spending time with others?

The Rosendale Befriending Service

The Rosendale Befriending Service aims to reduce social isolation for people and, if applicable, their partners or carers by arranging for a Volunteer Befriender to visit their home and provide some company. The service is for people who are registered with a Rosendale GP Practice and are elderly or have serious health problems.

Recruitment & Training

Volunteer Befrienders are carefully selected and care is taken to match the needs of the Befriended.

All volunteers undergo an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check and provide the names of two referees. All volunteers benefit from induction and training.

The Volunteer Befriender Role

Volunteer Befrienders visit their Befriendee on a regular basis to provide some social interaction. This may involve just chatting over a cup of tea but could also include help with hobbies and interests. In some cases they may simply be required to sit in the home while their carer goes out for a break or an appointment.



Volunteers give us their valuable time freely so are expected to claim travel costs and other approved expenses.

The Befriending Coordinator has regular contact with the Volunteer Befrienders and Befriendees to review progress and discuss identified needs, gaps in services, training requirements and any ideas for development of The Rossendale Befriending Service.

Befrienders are not expected to provide personal care but may be asked to carry out small errands. They would be encouraged, with the support of the Coordinator, to enable the Befriendee to access other activities and sources of social support in their local area. For example, if somebody was struggling to attend a group or go shopping the Befriender may help them to organise community transport and go with them to build up their confidence in using the service.

Befriending is flexible to suit the needs of the Volunteer Befriender and Befriendee and can be carried out from Monday to Sunday during daytimes and evenings. We ask that volunteers can commit their time for at least 6 months and that they are reliable and trustworthy.

For an informal chat or to request an application form please contact:

Justin Packman, Befriending Coordinator
on 01706 253648 or 07528 753 085;
or email
justin.packman@rossendalehospice.org

Rossendale Hospice, New Cribden House, Rossendale PHCC 161 Bacup Road, Rawtenstall BB4 7PL.

Telephone: 01706 253633
www.rossendalehospice.org

Rossendale Hospice is a charity. We rely heavily on generous donations from the people of Rossendale as we receive only a small proportion of funding to run our services from statutory sources like the NHS or Social Services.