

About us

Since 1991 Arohanui Hospice in Palmerston North has been providing specialist palliative care for patients who have a life-limiting illness. Care provided by Arohanui Hospice enables patients to achieve the best possible quality of life, and provides support to their families.

Care is free of charge and provided wherever people need it – at the hospice inpatient unit, at home or at an alternative comfortable environment.

The services provided include support of the patient in the community, inpatient care, carer support, 24-hour advice, a pharmacist, outpatient clinics, day procedures, an activities-based day programme, social work services, family support, pastoral and bereavement support.

The majority of patients cared for each year by Arohanui Hospice have cancer. However, we also care for people with non-malignant conditions such as motor neurone disease, respiratory disease and heart disease.

Volunteers fulfil many important roles at Arohanui Hospice and they are regarded as highly valued members of the hospice team.

There are a variety of roles for volunteers, some working with patients while others work behind the scenes. There are duties during the day, in the evenings, on weekdays and in the weekends.

The type and frequency of volunteer role that someone is assigned to will depend on their interests, their own personal and work commitments and what vacancies are available. We aim to fit in with people's busy lives as much as possible.

There are so many ways to help, which enable Arohanui Hospice to support patients and their families in our community.

Volunteer roles include:

Housekeeping

This involves working at the hospice from 9am to 11.30am on a weekday or weekend morning, cleaning the patient and public areas of the hospice and serving morning tea to patients.



Laundry

This involves working in the hospice laundry from 10am to 1pm on a weekday or weekend, doing laundry from the inpatient unit, folding or ironing it and putting it away in our linen cupboards.

Evening Duty

Working in the evening involves two hours of work between 4.30 and 7.30pm (start and finish times to suit). One hour is spent in the laundry bringing in and folding washing and one hour in the kitchen, washing dishes from the evening meal and cleaning up in readiness for breakfast the following day.



Kitchen

Volunteers assist in the kitchen with meal preparation, dishes and cleaning.

There are various week day and weekend shifts.



Reception

On weekdays from 9am to 1pm we have a reception volunteer assisting our receptionist, greeting visitors and helping to operate our phone system.



Day Stay/Creative Living

Volunteers assist our day stay co-ordinators to deliver our day programme in Palmerston North and Levin. This involves working alongside patients on various crafts and other activities, and helping to serve morning tea and lunch to day patients. The day stay/creative living programme runs in Palmerston North on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and in Levin on Wednesdays.



Biography Service

Volunteers help record and document a patient's life story. Training is given.

Flowers

Volunteers bring in flower arrangements (at their own cost) to add colour to our reception area once or twice a year on a roster.





Gardening

Volunteers keep our gardens looking lovely, coming in when it suits them (weekdays or weekends) when the weather is fine. Typically volunteers are assigned a particular "patch" of the hospice grounds, for which they take responsibility.

Hospice shop

Volunteers work in our hospice shops, either in Palmerston North, Feilding, Levin or Otaki, on morning or afternoon shifts from Monday to Saturday (and Sunday in Otaki). Volunteers work under the guidance of our shop manager.



Fundraising

Volunteers assist our fundraising team to organise events or with administrative and data entry work. Volunteers are also involved with our Farming for Hospice programme.



Administration

Volunteers assist with one-off administration tasks, such as envelope stuffing, preparing education or patient packs, or other administration duties.

Memorial services

Volunteers assist with our quarterly memorial services held for the families of hospice patients who have died in our care.



Become a volunteer with Arohanui Hospice today and help us to help hundreds of patients and their families.

**Call the
Volunteer Co-ordinator
on 06 356 6606
for further details.**

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