



## **Volunteer Befriender Role Description**

### **Purpose of role**

**To offer regular one to one befriending to older clients in their own homes, working within the boundaries laid down by West Norfolk Befriending.**

### **Desirable qualities**

- Listening skills.
- Enjoyment of social contact.
- Ability to motivate/encourage others.
- Sense of humour.
- Honesty and reliability.
- Patience and understanding.
- Ability to work within the boundaries laid down by West Norfolk Befriending.

### **Key responsibilities**

- Willingness to volunteer for a minimum of one year.
- Attend initial induction training and on-going training/socials/regular support sessions.
- Respect client's confidentiality at all times.
- Establish and maintain appropriate boundaries.
- Spend time with client and engage in activities that are mutually agreed upon.
- Inform the manager of any concerns about the client.
- Respect different cultural values and work in a non-discriminatory manner.
- To be understanding rather than judgmental about a client's situation and circumstances.

### **Training**

- Initial induction training.
- Ongoing training.
- Regular monthly support sessions.

### **Benefits**

- Opportunities to meet new people.
- Free training and support.
- Increased confidence.
- Giving something back.
- Supporting the local community.