

Palliative Care Volunteers

Calvary Mater Newcastle has a long and proud history of Palliative Care volunteering. Volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and bring with them a clear desire to support patients and their families. They bring with them a ready smile and a willingness to be involved.

They respond at a very human level, whether it's , sitting with someone who is restless, taping someone's life story, answering a busy phone, baking the world's best pikelets, taking the drinks trolley around each afternoon or calling the bereaved to say 'hello'.

What is a Palliative Care Volunteer?

Volunteers are an important part of the Palliative Care team and work in the inpatient, Day Hospice and Bereavement Support Services. A palliative care volunteer is someone who:

- Has chosen to work in the area of palliative care
- Brings a wealth of life experience to their work as a volunteer
- Is a caring, learning and growing person
- Has completed an extensive education program to help them understand the special needs of people who require palliative care
- Has great respect for people with all their differences and life with all its challenges

Volunteers who choose to work in the Mercy Hospice are involved in all aspects of care. They can provide: Companionship and support for patients, their families and carers:

- Relief for main carers for short periods of time
- Bereavement support
- Practical assistance
- Support for staff
- Special project support for both patients and the Division of Palliative Care staff

How Will I Recognise a Palliative Care Volunteer?

Our volunteers will be wearing a round green badge that clearly states "VOLUNTEER" and their first name.

If you would like more information, please call (02) 4014 4714 (if your call is unanswered you can leave a message and someone will respond to your call promptly).