Current vacancies

To apply please go to https://www.keech.org.uk/support-us/volunteer
or contact us at volunteering@keech.org.uk or call 01582 497829.

Retail Volunteers

Our fun and friendly team of retail staff and volunteers support Keech Hospice Care by raising £1.4 million each year. We have 32 shops across Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Milton Keynes. Many of our shops are looking for volunteers to assist in many different ways including:

- To welcome, assist and serve our customers in a warm and friendly way
- To assist with sorting, steaming, hanging, pricing and displaying stock
- Dealing with customer purchases and gift aid.
- PAT (Portable Appliance Testing) testing (training will be given)
- eBay Shop Volunteers: to help with desktop research and management of our eBay shop. Knowledge of antiques, collectables, coins, stamps or specialised items desirable.

Keech Hospice Care Shops in Bedfordshire

24 Allhallows, Bedford, MK40 1LJ (01234 364720)
58 Birdsfoot Lane, Luton, LU3 2DQ (01582 599496)
9 Ashton Square, Dunstable, LU6 3SN (01582 476411)
1 Cowlgrove Parade, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, MK45 1AJ (01525 721316)
59 Katherine Drive, Dunstable, LU5 4NP (01582 477280)
Unit 3, Roman Gate, Great Denham, MK40 4FU (01234 327863)
249 Bedford Road, Kempston, MK42 8BP (01234 856500)
174 Marsh Road, Leagrave, Luton, LU3 2QL (01582 494837)
12-14 Park Street, Luton, LU1 3EP (01582 481130)
3 Market Square, Sandy, SG19 1HT (01767 691304)
652-654 Hitchin Road, Stopsley, Luton, LU2 7XH (01582 732803)
31 Sundon Park Parade, Sundon Park, Luton, LU3 3BJ 01582 579966)
Unit 8F Britannia Estate, Leagrave Road, Luton, LU3 1RJ (01582 480062) Warehouse
(01582 411180) Shop

Keech Hospice Care Shops in Milton Keynes

170 Queensway, Bletchley, Bucks HP2 2SW (01908 370836)
28 High Street, Newport Pagnell, Bucks MK16 8AQ (01908 216565)

Keech Hospice Care Shops in Hertfordshire

35-37 Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 2AB (01442 863893)
7 Witton House, 24-38 Lower Road, Chorleywood, Rickmansworth, WD3 5LB (01923 283023)
130 The Gossamers, Watford, WD25 9AD (01923 671768)
12-13 Bowers Parade, High Street, Harpenden, AL5 2SH (01582 760450)
15 Bowers Parade, High Street, Harpenden, AL5 SH (01582 462578)
167 The Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1BH (01442 257050)
12 The Queen's Square, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 4ES (01442 768963)
11 Maidenhead Street, Hertford, SG14 1DW (01992 503670)
18 Churchyard, Hitchin, SG5 1HP (01462 441171)
81 High Street, Hoddesdon, EN11 8TL (01992 462041)
18 How Wood, Park Street, St Albans, AL2 2P (01727 875532)
285 Watling Street, Radlett, WD7 7LA (01923 854576)
21 High Street, St Albans, AL3 4EH (01727 895790)
7 Queensway, Stevenage, SG1 1DA (01438 314598)
46 High Street, Watford, WD17 2BS (01923 819812)
135 High Street, Waltham Cross, EN8 7AP (01992 643251)
19-21 Cole Green Lane, Welwyn Garden City, (01707 376315)

Volunteer Lifeguards/Volunteer Poolside Assistants

Volunteer Poolside Assistants – Minimum age 16

- We're looking for volunteer poolside assistants to provide supervision of pool users.
- Volunteers will be responsible for the safety of all pool users and to ensure that pool rules are enforced.
- Duties include observing pool users for signs of danger, getting buoyancy aids/equipment and sweeping away puddles to prevent slipping.

Volunteer Lifeguards in the Hydrotherapy Pool – Minimum age 16

- We're looking for qualified lifeguards. However, full training can be provided for those who do not have the NLPQ. Volunteers must be confident swimmers; able to swim 50 metres in less than a minute. 5 day training courses take place at Lewsey or Inspire swimming pools during school holidays.
- Volunteers must be reliable, honest and trustworthy.
- Excellent communication skills, able to volunteer as part of a team and able to follow instructions.

Applicants must have availability weekdays between either 10.00 am – 1.00 pm or 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm and can give a regular commitment. Both opportunities are based at our hydrotherapy pool at the hospice in Luton. We are also looking for people on an adhoc basis for holiday times. Training will be given.

Volunteer Assistant Pool - aids

Minimum age 18

We're looking for a volunteer to support a member of our care staff, who will be in the pool with a patient. You will remain at poolside and not be in the pool itself. Duties include:

- Adhering to health and safety requirements at all times.
- Following instructions from a key member of staff, passing relevant aids or equipment safely.
- Volunteers must be reliable, honest and trustworthy.
- Volunteers must have excellent communication skills, able to volunteer as part of a team and follow instructions.

Applicants must have availability regularly on a Wednesday morning between 10.00am and 1.00pm. This role is based at our hydrotherapy pool at the hospice in Luton. Training will be given.

Volunteer Complementary Therapists

Our friendly team of staff and volunteers provide complementary therapy to hospice patients and their carers Tuesday – Friday each week. Volunteer requirements:

- Excellent communication skills to communicate with patients, carers and families.
- Good listening skills, sensitive, tactful and emotionally mature.
- Must be a member of a professional association which undertakes a programme of Continued Professional Development.
- Two-year post-qualification experience.
- Attend our volunteer meetings held throughout the year, volunteers would be expected to attend at least two meetings.

  Minimum age 18

Volunteer Bereavement Support Visitors
Opportunities available throughout the week in the Luton area

Volunteer support-visitors provide bereavement support to their clients according to the philosophy of the Hospice Bereavement Support Service, acting always in such a manner as to justify trust and confidence and to safeguard the interests of the client. Volunteer requirements:

- Visit bereaved people referred by the Bereavement Service with the aim of establishing, within accepted boundaries and agreed time contracts, a supportive and caring relationship that will enable the bereaved to experience the natural process of grieving.
- May assist at memorial events at both the hospice and local venues.
- May assist at support groups.
- Must have excellent communication skills to befriend adults with life-limiting illness and their families in their own homes.
- Minimum age 18. Full training is provided.

Befriending Volunteers

Befriending volunteers provide additional support to patients experiencing a life limiting illness, and those that live with them, we provide care and support where it matters – in the home. In the course of complementing the statutory services befriending volunteers provide time, emotional support and practical help to enable people to continue living with dignity, respect and companionship. Volunteer requirements|:

- Supporting adult patients and their families in their own homes.
- Excellent communication skills to befriend adults with life limiting illnesses and their families in their own homes.
- Minimum age 18. Full training is provided.

Palliative Care Volunteer Drivers

Volunteer drivers transport adult patients to and from our Keech Palliative Care Centre in Luton:

  - our adult patients live in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Milton Keynes
  - our children live in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Milton Keynes

- Most opportunities are Monday to Friday, between the hours 9.00 am and 4.30 pm; occasionally we require drivers of an evening and at weekends.
- Volunteer drivers assist patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families/carers to access services provided by the hospice by the provision of transport.
- Volunteer drivers must drive and act in accordance with the Highway Code and legislation relating to driving a vehicle, ensuring the safety and comfort of patients during journeys.
- Volunteer drivers can use either their own vehicle or a hospice fleet vehicle.
- Training is provided and mileage expenses reimbursed. Minimum age 18

Independence and Wellbeing Volunteers

The Independence and Wellbeing Service supports and educates patients to self-manage their condition and improve their well-being. Patients participate in walking, exercise and movement therapy sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Volunteer requirements:

- Volunteers and staff support patients in the self-management of their condition to improve their well-being and quality of life.
- To assist the Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist in the running and setting up of palliative rehabilitation and wellbeing groups.
- Excellent communication skills to communicate with patients, carers and families.
- Minimum age 16. Training provided.

Catering Volunteers

Working alongside the catering team and assist with preparing meals for patients, relatives, staff and volunteers. Currently we have opportunities for catering volunteers on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday (mornings up to 2.30pm). Volunteer tasks include:

- Assisting with food and drink preparation
- Assisting with serving food, refreshments and/or delivering suppers
- Adopt a clean as you go policy
- Provide a high standard within the kitchen
- Correctly implement all procedures relating to hygiene, fire and health and safety
- Maintain cleanliness and adopt a clean as you go policy
- Minimum age 16. Training provided

Volunteers would need to have a high standard of hygiene and work well as part of a team. If you can spare, even just a few hours and are interested in this role, please do contact us.

Volunteer Drivers and Driver's Mate

We are looking for volunteers to help on our fleet of retail vans. Tasks may include:

- Collect donated items from hospice shops for delivery to the warehouse
- Collect from donor's homes for delivery to the warehouse
- Ensure safe transportation of donated items
- Carry-out daily routine maintenance checks on the van (tyres, oil, water etc)
- Drive in a competent manner at all times
- Clean driving licence essential (only necessary for volunteer drivers)
  Minimum age 18

Fundraising Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to join our friendly team to support the Fundraising Department in organising and running events and activities. Tasks may include:

- Helping to set-up and run a stall at a fundraising event; including handling cash
- Office administration
- House-to-house, street or store collections
- Setting-up/breaking-down display stands at events
- Marshalling or car parking stewards
- Collecting cheques or giving presentations to local groups - training is provided
- Delivering/collecting goods or collection boxes

- 2019 events include:
  - Firewalk / Legowalk — 17 February 2019
  - Bedfordshire's biggest afternoon tea — 24 March 2019
  - Bubble Rush — 16 June
  - Santa Run Bedford Embankment — 1 December
  - Smiley Sam — 28 November – 24 December
  - Keech Christmas Market — 23 and 24 November
  - A Christmas Carol Concert — 9 December
  - Light up a life — 2 December

Go to www.keech.org.uk for up to date information on events.