|  |
| --- |
| Role: Antenatal Support Volunteer |
| Purpose:  We were the first maternity unit in London to achieve full accreditation by UNICEF as a baby friendly hospital. As a volunteer you will support a busy antenatal department at West Middlesex University Hospital. This is a befriending role at our antenatal ward and the day assessment unit. You will support expectant mothers and signpost them to our wide range of antenatal services and resources. You will also receive UNICEF-accredited training in infant breastfeeding. |
| Duties (what you will be doing):   * Spend time talking to expectant mothers about how they are feeling * Make them aware of the range of resources and classes that are available through the Trust * Help them to book classes * Fetch refreshments * Refer some individuals on to clinic team if they are experiencing certain issues (you will receive training for this) * Talk with women about how they are feeling about becoming a mother, comforting and caring for their babies |
| Boundaries (what you won’t be doing):   * No clinical care of patients * No parenting |
| Time commitment:   * Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays from 9 am to 4 pm (volunteers must do a shift of at least 3 hours during these times) * Volunteers must commit to at least one shift per week for a minimum of six months |
| Location:  West Middlesex University Hospital,  Queen Mary Maternity Unit,  Twickenham Rd, Isleworth TW7 6AF |
| Requirements of the role:  Age: You must be 16 years or older to volunteer in this role  Accessibility: This role is accessible for wheelchair users or people with other mobility issues  As a volunteer you will embody the Trust’s values:   * Putting patients first * Responsive to, and supportive of, patients and staff * Open, welcoming and honest * Unfailingly kind, treating everyone with respect, compassion and dignity * Determined to develop our skills and continuously improve the quality of care   Skills and other requirements:   * You must be self-motivated; with an ability to think on your feet and work independently * You must be punctual and dependable * You must have a professional and friendly demeanour * If you speak an additional language other than English please let us know so that we might pair you with an expectant mother who speaks that language also * Open to male and female volunteers * You do not need to have been a parent to apply for this role   Pre-placement checks and training:   * This role requires an enhanced criminal record (DBS) check and a pre-placement induction * This role requires that you have certain immunisations – we will discuss this with you when you apply * You will receive a core volunteering induction * You will also receive a local induction in the antenatal department. This will include training on child safeguarding as well as on communication, signposting and escalating certain issues * Volunteers will also participate in an infant feeding course. This is a 2 day course accredited by UNICEF’s Baby Friendly Initiative. You will receive a certificate on completion of this course. Note: participation in this course is a requirement for all volunteers |
| Supervisor:  Katie Hotchkiss, Infant Feeding Coordinator  Your supervisor will be responsible for supporting you in your day-to-day volunteering. You can schedule your shifts with them, discuss any issues, and let them know if you are unable to attend on a particular shift. |
| Personal development:  This role will provide with an insight into a busy department in the hospital. You will also develop communication skills and a high level of empathy and understanding. You will receive accredited training and also comprehensive pre-placement training. |