

**Volunteering Opportunity: Safer Ageing Volunteer**

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| **Organisation** | Hourglass  |
| **About the organisation**  | Hourglass is part of the well-established UK-wide charity, Hourglass (formerly Action on Elder Abuse), the onlyUK-wide charity dedicated to calling time on the harm, abuse and exploitation of older people. We’re dedicated to promoting safer ageing and a fairer society for all older people; delivering a range of support services from prevention and early intervention, right through to direct support and recovery. Hourglass are enhancing our community-led services to provide a range of support to help those who have experienced abuse or exploitation, as well as any older person who may be at risk. We’re therefore recruiting a team of volunteers to help us deliver frontline support to older people and others – can you help? |
| **Role title** | **Safer Ageing Volunteer** |
| **About the role** | **This role is key to the development and delivery of Hourglass Northern Ireland’s Safer Ageing work. Safer Ageing Volunteers will perform various functions, such as advocates, caseworkers, providing a listening ear, Helpline volunteers, or awareness raising, to name a few. The role can reflect the skills and interests of the volunteer, while fitting within the aims of the work.** |
| **Location** | Various (working from home with some work within the community). |
| **Responsible to**  | Community Response Co-ordinator |
| **Support from**  | Hourglass staff and volunteers |
| **Purpose of role** | To facilitate the development of strong and supportive relationships with and among older people through Hourglass Northern Island’s services |
| **Description of tasks** | Safer Ageing Volunteers may carry out the following roles:* Promoting the work of Hourglass Northern Ireland & raising awareness of issues around safer ageing and abuse of older people
* Making regular Safer Ageing phone calls or visits to older people.
* Acting as an advocate on behalf of an older person
* Providing casework support to older people (or others) concerned about the abuse of older people and/or safer ageing, e.g. making calls or referrals to other agencies, providing information and advice, researching support options etc.
* Other tasks may be undertaken in line with volunteer’s skills and interests, and the needs of the charity and those we serve.
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| **Time commitment** | Flexible (from 1 hour per week) |
| **Skills and qualifications** | * Ideally looking for someone with relatable & professional experience such as, but not limited to, those from a care, finance, education, legal, HR, engineering or professional services background
* demonstrate commitment to Hourglass’s ethos of “Safer Ageing, Stopping Abuse”.
* demonstrate an understanding of the experiences of and issues affecting older people
* are reliable and able to commit to the agreed hours, as well as initial training
* display patience, sensitivity, and resilience
* can maintain confidentiality and deal appropriately with sensitive issues
* have the ability to listen patiently and constructively, and provide advice and guidance in a non-judgemental manner
* can recognise and work within personal and organisational boundaries
* are prepared to join the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme, or are already a member. We can coordinate and counter-sign applications, and there is no charge for volunteers applying to the scheme.
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| **Training and support** | Full training and support will be given as appropriate, with further opportunities for learning and development. We will cover all out-of-pocket expenses, and arrange regular support meetings with other volunteers and staff. |
| **Benefits to the volunteer** | Our volunteers will join a dynamic organisation, helping us shape our work to empower older people to experience safer ageing. Benefits include:* access to a range of training courses and events
* one-to-one support, and support/networking with other volunteers
* building a network of friends and contacts in your local community
* give your time, talents and skills for the benefit of vulnerable older people & their families
* valuable experience of volunteering that you can add to your CV
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| **Offer of role is subject to** | * Minimum age 18 years +
* Informal interview
* Personal reference checks
* DBS/PVG/ Access NI criminal records checks (if required)
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**Further information:**

Please contact the Hourglass Team on:

volunteers@wearehourglass.org

**Applying for this position:**

If you’d like to apply for this position, please complete and return the application form to: volunteers@wearehourglass.org