

☀️ **May is Heroes for Hospice Month** ☀️

Over the next four weeks, we'll be sharing how you can be a hero for Hospice — and we're starting with something truly special... volunteering.

Because quite simply — we couldn't do what we do without our volunteers.

“Be part of something that truly matters.”

At Franklin Hospice, we walk alongside people and their families through one of life's most important journeys. But hospice care isn't just clinical — it's human, holistic, and deeply personal.

And that's where you come in.

Our volunteers bring comfort, connection, and dignity into people's lives every single day.

For patients and their families, it's not just about support — it's about feeling seen, held, and less alone.

They help us deliver truly wrap-around care — supporting not just the patient, but the whole whānau.

What you could offer

We are building a community of skilled and compassionate volunteers who can visit patients in their homes and bring comfort, connection, and moments of joy. You might be:

Wellbeing & personal care

- A nail technician
- A hairdresser
- A massage therapist, or open to training in aromatherapy

Gentle movement & mindfulness

- Meditation instructor
- Tai chi, yoga, or pilates instructor

Emotional & practical support

- A counsellor or psychologist
- A dietitian
- Someone who can simply sit, listen, and share a cup of tea
- Someone able to help record a patient's life story
- Someone who can assist with transport or practical help at home

Animal companionship

- A calm, well-trained pet and a willingness to share them (All animals go through a careful assessment process)

Connection & creativity

- Artists, musicians, or storytellers
- Someone to run a relaxed “paint & sip” session
- Someone to lead a book club

What it involves

- Visiting patients in their homes or in our care settings
- Offering your time or skill in a gentle, respectful way
- Working alongside our clinical and support teams
- Being part of a trusted, well-supported volunteer network

You’ll receive guidance, onboarding, and ongoing support — along with clear boundaries and expectations.

Who we’re looking for

You don’t need to be perfect — but you do need to be:

- Kind and emotionally aware
- Respectful of people’s homes, beliefs, and journeys
- Reliable and able to commit to regular or semi-regular visits
- Willing to be part of a team delivering compassionate care
- Able to pass a police check and attend training

The impact

This isn’t just volunteering. It’s:

- Helping someone feel human again
- Giving families a moment to breathe
- Bringing light into very real, very tender spaces

And often... it’s something that stays with you for life.

Join us

If you feel called to contribute your time, your skills, or simply your presence — we would love to hear from you.

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Together, we can create a hospice experience that is not just about care — but about connection, dignity, and living well, right to the end. 