



Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust

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Thank You Time for Volunteers



Peter McArdle began volunteering in June 2020; he explains it came about for a number of reasons, although mainly it was Peter's response to the widespread NHS appeal for Volunteers. Peter, like many others, choose to support the NHS at this important moment and selflessly stepped up to play their part.

In his view, this was a great way to help contribute to the emergency. He pointed out "after a volunteer role I had with a food bank was put on hold, I wanted to give my time to a useful service". The Volunteer Service certainly agree he did just that!

Peter as he mentioned his familiarity with the Royal Victoria Hospital services for many years his reason for volunteering was to help others "I wanted to give something back. My role is based at the main reception for 3 hours on a weekly rota. Many people, mainly those who are a bit lost or worrying they might be late for their appointments, often approach me. I am familiar with the layout of the hospital and this is something I can help with as a volunteer and am able to quickly direct patients and visitors. This is not a daunting role as reception staff take over if there is more support needed".

For him "there is always something to learn from everyone I meet, between their outlook on things and the mutual respect we have" and "I can see how valuable this role is with many people passing through who I can see are frail and vulnerable". As Peter says the reward is very meaningful and that "I don't expect any acknowledgement but I am very grateful for the many times I get told how helpful my role is".

We cannot say enough as a Volunteer Service on how much we appreciate all our volunteers except to say...

Thank you for the time you give.