



Request the Arts Volunteers

Position Overview

Founded in 1978, Arts & Health at Duke is a nonprofit organization that operates to provide comfort, solace and healing to Duke patients, staff and visitors. Its programs cover a wide variety of disciplines, including visual, literary and performance arts. One of the oldest and most comprehensive hospital arts programs in the United States, Arts & Health at Duke is a recognized leader in the international arts in health care movement. The Arts & Health at Duke volunteer program was created to enable student artists to assist in improving the quality of stay for patients and their families in the Duke Medical Center through the arts and humanities.

TITLE

Request an Artist volunteer

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Request The Arts volunteers assemble and deliver craft kits to DUMC patients on request.

INITIAL IMPACT

The purpose of this program is to provide a creative outlet through art making activities to in-patients on a request basis. Art kits provided to patients helps to reduce stress and feelings of isolation, and provide an increased sense of well-being. Working with the kits can also offer an opportunity for reflection and introspection, providing both the patient and caregiver with distractions from the hospital setting.

SUSTAINED OUTCOMES

Patients should experience improvements in quality of life. Some patients and caregivers may reconnect with their own skills and experience in crafts and art-making activities during their time in the hospital.

TRAINING

- Completion of a Duke volunteer application
- Completion of a Duke volunteer orientation
- A unit orientation with the Literary Arts Coordinator





SUPPORT

The Literary Arts Coordinator will provide support and guidance for volunteers in this position.

COMMITMENT

A minimum of one year, or one academic year for students. Volunteers are expected to serve a minimum of 8 hours per month. Volunteer service may occur Monday-Friday. No evening hours are available.

LOCATION

Kits are assembled in room 295, Baker House, South Clinics, 200 Trent Drive, Durham, NC. Kits will be distributed to Duke Hospital North, 2301 Erwin Road, Durham, NC.

QUALIFICATIONS

Volunteers should be at least 18 years old and have an interest in the arts. Volunteers should be comfortable working within a hospital setting. Email access is important for receiving schedules and important program updates.

SKILLS

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are required. The ability to listen and to empathize is extremely important. An interest and experience in crafts is required.

BENEFITS

Volunteers will experience direct contact with patients and their caregivers who are coming for care on various units in Duke North. Volunteers will benefit from serving in a friendly, busy, healthcare environment where encounters with the arts offer a positive distraction and an opportunity for self care during a time that can be stressful and difficult.

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