



**THE BLOOM GROUP**  
Community. Services. Together.



**Cottage**  
Care. Compassion. Together.

**May's Place**  
Care. Compassion. Together.

## **THE BLOOM GROUP HOSPICE SERVICES: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

### **Position description:**

We have two hospices, May's Place and Cottage Hospice, where through a compassionate, supportive, and most importantly loving environment we provide end-of-life care. We provide 24-hour nursing, psychosocial, and spiritual care where families can rest assured there is support for their loved ones, enabling family members to feel more at peace and focus on sharing this time with their loved ones.

May's Place is the only hospice in Downtown Eastside and was Western Canada's first free-standing hospice, providing focus and support to individuals with mental illness and addiction.

Cottage Hospice is a regional hospice in a beautiful heritage building from 1924 that serves residents throughout the city of Vancouver. The building is a beloved landmark of the Burrard View Community and was honoured in 2011 by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation as part of its "Places That Matter Plaque Project".

### **What is hospice care?**

Hospice care refers to the physical, emotional and spiritual care offered to those who are in the final phases of life due to terminal illness. Hospice is usually appropriate when a person has a life expectancy of three months or less and when medical treatment is no longer an option.

For us, that means compassionate comfort-care of the person as a whole, not only treatment of the disease. We aim to alleviate symptoms, maximize quality of life and provide a warm and home-like environment for residents and their loved ones.

### **Relevant Volunteer Skills:**

- Data entry
- Reception, Customer Service
- Music, Arts & Crafts
- Writing, Editing
- Crisis, Grief
- Animals, Pets
- Event Planning, Coordination, Committee
- Organizational Planning, Fundraising
- Serving Meals & Food Hampers
- Group Leader, Host, Facilitator
- Warehousing, Yardwork, Handyperson

### **General Responsibilities for all Volunteers:**

- Volunteers should have a flexible schedule and dependable transportation.
- Volunteers must be friendly, compassionate and possess a pleasant personality.
- Volunteers must be able to communicate well with others.
- Office experience or knowledge of office equipment and of general office procedures is preferable for office volunteers but is not required.
- Volunteers must complete the volunteer training program and complete the required personnel information prior to providing services
- Document all services provided on the Volunteer Documentation Sheet
- Turn in hours served in volunteer capacity to Volunteer Coordinator all though our management system
- Report any concerns or significant findings to the Volunteer Coordinator or other responsible staff person
- Participate in Hospice activities and fundraisers when available to do so
- Participate in continual educational opportunities as offered by Hospice Services
- Participate in an annual performance evaluation with the Volunteer Coordinator

### **Specific Volunteer Roles:**

- -End of Life Vigil Volunteers: Provide patients with respectful compassionate presence at end of life.
- -Healing Touch Volunteers (Certified): <http://healingtouchcanada.net/>
- -Bereavement Volunteers: Provide emotional and practical support to families who have lost a loved one.
- -Patient/Family Support Volunteers: Enhance the quality of life for, patients and their families in hospice.
- -Clerical/Administrative Volunteer: Provide assistance with general administration to hospice staff.
- -Pet Therapy Volunteers: Enhance quality of life for patients and families through pet visits.
- -Special Events Volunteers: Enhance the patient and family experience in the hospice with special décor, food and events.
- -Crafter/Artisan Volunteers: Create comfort items for patients and/or family members through your ability to sew, knit or crochet.

### **What is Your Specialty or Talent?**

We can also create volunteer opportunities, based on a volunteer's skills, talent and expertise – such as music, gardening, writing, or photography. If you have the enthusiasm, we have a place for you!

### **Role is suitable for:**

- Adult
- Senior
- Groups
- English as a second language (ESL)

**Qualifications:**

- Provide a recent (conducted within the last two years) Vulnerable Sector Police Check (this can be obtained through our organization free of cost)
- Provide two (2) letters of reference (list references on the application form)
- Successful interview with Volunteer Coordinator
- Complete 20+ hours of Hospice Volunteer Training (with us, on June 22,23,24th 2018: see below!)

**Training and Orientation:**

- Volunteers must complete the Canadian Association of Palliative Care Volunteer Training Program, an orientation to The Bloom Group Hospice Services, and facilities, training for the special requirements of their role, and submit required personal information prior to beginning their volunteer assignment.

**Apply here:**

<http://bttr.im/r39bw>

**Contact person:**

Diana Pineda

Volunteer Coordinator, Hospice Services

Phone: 604-606-0317

Email: [volunteers@thebloomgroup.org](mailto:volunteers@thebloomgroup.org)